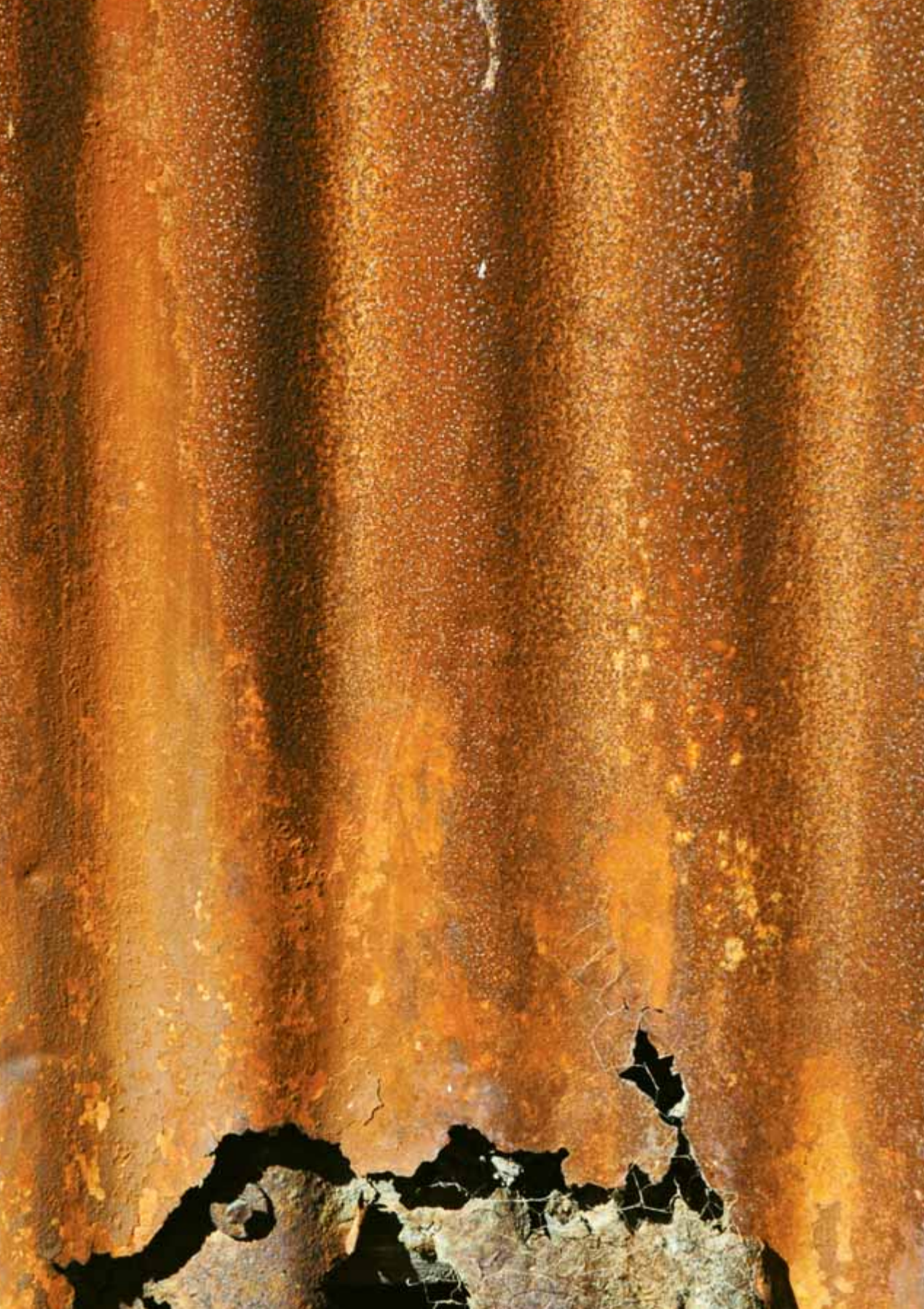


Partners for the Future





Mutual Interest

– Shared Responsibility

Democratic South Africa and Sweden established close relations as early as in the 1960s when Sweden responded to the struggle against apartheid with humanitarian and political support.

Later, democratic forces in South Africa were able to link up with Swedish civil society - student organisations, political parties, churches and unions. The people in both countries celebrated the historical years when Nelson Mandela was freed, democratic elections were held and apartheid dismantled. Now it was no longer necessary or appropriate that Sweden should support a political party; instead a regular development-cooperation agreement was signed with a new free country.

Building a democratic post-apartheid South Africa was an enormous challenge. The reconciliation process was combined with a massive effort to improve the lives of those who had been disadvantaged by the apartheid regime.

A new future is now taking place. Reforms have been implemented, the economy rebuilt, and Swedish-South African relations have moved towards a true partnership built on mutual interests and shared responsibility. The challenge is to establish a platform for long-term, equitable and sustainable cooperation between the two countries.

In 1999, Sweden and South Africa established a Bi-National Commission (BNC), co-chaired at the highest level. The objective of the Commission is to broaden and deepen the relations between the two countries. The work is shared between three committees, one dealing with political, one with economical and the third with social, cultural and developmental issues.

South Africa and Sweden with their mutual political will are, once again, breaking new ground. Today the two countries jointly set priorities and share ownership. Together, we are committed to continue the development of a broader partnership by involving other sectors and levels of the two societies. South Africa and Sweden have taken on a new challenge, this time as partners for peace, stability and the alleviation of poverty and suffering in South Africa and in the region.



Shaheed Rajie

Chief Director of International Development Cooperation,
National Treasury, South Africa



Anders Möllander

Swedish Ambassador
to South Africa



Building the Future Together

The South African and Swedish Governments are committed to addressing the needs of the poor while upholding democracy and human rights. These basic values have not changed since Sweden began supporting the ANC and other organisations of the anti-apartheid movement.

The basic values are the same, but the forms of cooperation have changed. First there was humanitarian support to the liberation movement, now cooperation is gradually evolving into a relationship built on equal political, commercial and cultural relations. The priorities are set jointly and the two countries share responsibility and ownership. The South African policy¹⁾ that regulates international cooperation states that: “The key development challenge is therefore to address South Africa’s developmental imbalances in a way that consolidates democracy, promotes growth, broadens economic participation, extends and deepens human development, reduces inequality and poverty, and fosters a stable society.” It goes on to state that although the size of development cooperation to South Africa is less than 1.5 percent of the annual budget it “plays a significant role in key development initiatives of Government”.

The principles and ideals of the South African Government’s policy to fight poverty are aligned with the Swedish Policy for Global Development, approved by the Swedish Parliament in December 2003.²⁾ The overall aim is to create conditions that will enable the poor to improve their lives.

The path towards a broader partnership began in the late 1990s’, when the countries agreed that traditional grants-based aid should be gradually phased out in favour of other forms of cooperation.

Several municipal twinning agreements have been entered into. Joint funds have been introduced in the areas of private sector development, research and culture. In addition to institutional partnerships within policing, tax collection, financial management and statistics, a Health Forum has been established. Other fora proposed include a Labour Market Forum and a Civil Society Forum.

One important aspect for Sweden is the endeavour to involve a broader section of the Swedish society in all development cooperation, which is one of the basic propositions of the Swedish Policy for Global Development. To achieve the goal of equitable and sustainable development, “Swedish society as a whole must be involved. Community organisations, popular

“The challenge is to address South Africa’s developmental imbalances in a way that consolidates democracy, promotes growth, broadens economic participation, extends and deepens human development, reduces inequality and poverty, and fosters a stable society.”

¹⁾ Policy Framework and Procedural Guidelines for the Management of Official Development Assistance: 1st Edition, October 2003.

²⁾ Government Bill 2002/3:122 Shared Responsibility: Sweden’s Policy for Global Development.



“Swedish society as a whole must be involved. Community organisations, popular movements and the private sector will be assigned a more important role.”

movements and the private sector will be assigned a more important role.”

In the Policy for Global Development responsibility is broadened and includes more institutions than the departments and ministries that traditionally handle development cooperation. Institutions such as the National Police Services, the Statistics Agencies, Tax Authorities and the universities are and will continue to be key players. From civil society a large number of NGOs are engaged, as are trade unions and private companies.

During the first ten years of the new democratic South Africa, Swedish investments have, in current figures, exceeded 1 billion SEK, roughly 0.8 billion ZAR.³⁾

The aim is now to continue setting up and extending partnerships within the public and private sectors, as well as between civil society organisations. New proposals will be judged against the criteria of whether they have the potential to result in sustainable and co-financed partnerships.

Given the magnitude of the pandemic, HIV/AIDS is given a special priority in the cooperation. Priority will be given to projects that address the problems of HIV/AIDS and gender-based violence.

Another important feature of the cooperation is the joint interest in supporting the less developed countries of the region. There have been some trilateral and regional initiatives and more are to follow.

³⁾ Exchange rates have varied during the time of cooperation. For simplicity the currency exchange rates used throughout the text is from September 2005.



Eight Models for a Broader Cooperation

The development of a broader cooperation allows partnerships to take many different forms. The underlying philosophy and core values of the development cooperation remain the same as before. There are many valid models for how any particular cooperation may be set up and put into effect. Here we briefly describe eight of these models.



Contract Financed Technical Cooperation (CFTC)

CFTC provides know-how in sectors where Sweden has a comparative advantage and which may result in long-term institutional cooperation. To be considered at all, the sector must be judged by the partner countries as of strategic importance for building institutional capacity.

The Swedish know-how is found in consultancy companies, universities and government agencies.

The know-how is applied in the form of advisory services, education and training or as technical support to authorities, organisations or institutions.



Financial Market Development

Financial Market Development shall include support to micro-credit institutions and other innovative means that may help the poor in housing and income generation. This model could also include financing facilities for investment in infrastructure and the private sector.



International Training Programmes

Sida has a long and successful history of arranging training in those fields where Swedish partner countries have a need and where Sweden claims relevant expertise. South Africa already sends a significant number of participants to these courses. In the future, jointly organised international courses for Africa will increasingly be held in South Africa.



Twinning

Twinning is defined as the mutually beneficial exchange between municipalities, and public institutions, based on peer education and knowledge transfer. Twinning agreements may include such activities as urban development, governance, business, culture, education, youth, sports and civil society.

Partnership Funds

The “Fund Model”, originally created for the business sector, has also been a very useful tool in the areas of research and culture. The Research Fund is a partnership between the Swedish and the South African National Research Councils. The fund has an exchange programme where researchers from Sweden and South Africa gain competence from each other. In the Swedish-South African Culture Partnership Programme cultural institutions from South Africa and Sweden form joint projects. The original fund model came from the Swedish South African Business Partnership Fund (SSBF). The aim of the fund was to promote economic development and job creation.



Tripartite Cooperation and Regional Programmes

South Africa and Sweden share a commitment to peace and stability in the region and supporting less developed African countries. New thinking might result in combined initiatives in the region – or even elsewhere. Institutions, organisations and business programmes could cooperate in tripartite programmes. The South African government established the African Renaissance Fund for the purpose of enhancing international cooperation with and on the African Continent. Sweden has allocated funds for joint financing with the African Renaissance Fund. Furthermore, Sweden supports a number of regional initiatives where South Africa is an important player.



Bilateral Fora

At the initiative of the South African-Swedish Bi-National Commission (BNC), a bilateral Health Forum has been set up to enhance cooperation in public health. Based on the positive experiences from the Health Forum other possibilities are being explored, such as a Labour Market Forum.



Civil Society

The Swedish government supports the Swedish civil-society organisations cooperating with South African non-governmental organisations (NGOs). Cooperation through the civil society is well-established and South Africa is Sweden's main partner in civil society cooperation. Support to the cooperation between the Swedish and South African civil societies will continue.



For more information on the cooperation:

The Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida): www.sida.se

The Embassy of Sweden in Pretoria:
www.swedenabroad.se/pretoria

Serving the people

The cooperation between the South African Police Service (SAPS) and the Swedish National Police Board began in 1999. One of the key focus areas of the cooperation is police training. At the Pretoria Training College trainees are confronted with real-life police situations at the role-play centre. The role-play presents police trainees an opportunity to experience real-life policing within the training environment. Scenarios, based on actual case studies, are set up and enacted at a copy of a bank, an apartment, a shop, a tavern and a police station. The mock bank robberies, domestic violence cases, tavern brawls, and the servicing of the public in a police station are monitored and filmed. Afterwards the class discuss how the trainees handle the situation.

“The role-play centres offer an opportunity for the recruits to train real-life police situations. Copies of a bank, an apartment, a shop, a tavern and a police station have been built, making it possible to train on bank robberies, domestic violence, a tavern brawl, and how to service the public in a police station.”

The latest building complex for the role-play centre include copies of informal settlements where police recruits can train community policing – one of the most difficult areas to work in.

Through the exchange of best practices and experiences, the South African Police Service embarked on a process to institutionalise the role-play methodology within basic training. This method forms the integral part of training within basic police training in Sweden.

The aim of the revised Basic Training Learning Programme that has been developed through the cooperation is to train competent police who are capable to police the general public. The young men and women that graduate from the training colleges are better trained to police the young South African democracy. The programme developed through this collaboration agreement is being implemented in eleven Basic Training Institutions of the South African Police Service.

One of the main reasons behind the successful cooperation between South African Police Service and the Swedish National Police was that the South Africans themselves specified their specific needs. Focus areas were then identified in cooperation with the Swedish Police Board. These include human rights, gender, human resources, capacity building and labour relations. Projects were then jointly developed and implemented.

The programme has so far yielded very positive results for both the SAPS and the Swedish National Police. Three areas were highlighted as strategic areas for the partnership namely Basic Training, Gender and Labour Relations.



Photo: Åsa Fridh/Swedish Embassy, Pretoria

SERVICE DELIVERY TO COUNTER POVERTY

The common priorities of Swedish and South African development policies are to consolidate democracy and reduce poverty, inequality and vulnerability. The ongoing cooperation mainly focuses on improved service delivery. Sweden and South Africa have been engaged together in support to: democratic governance – including public administration, the legal and social sectors and civil society – urban development, education, research, culture, private sector development and economic cooperation.

Public Sector Partners:

South African Police Services
Swedish National Police Board (Rikspolisstyrelsen)
South African Revenue Service
Swedish Tax Agency (Skatteverket)
Statistics South Africa
Statistics Sweden (Statistiska Centralbyrån)
Provincial Treasury, Eastern Cape, South Africa
Swedish Financial Management Authority
(Ekonomistyrningsverket)



GAINING RESEARCH COMPETENCE FROM EACH OTHER

Researchers in Sweden and South Africa are linking up in an exchange programme where they gain competence from each other. The research cooperation between South Africa and Sweden was officially initiated in 1999 when Sida signed an agreement with the Department of Science and Technology in South Africa. In 2000 a jointly funded research partnership was formed between South Africa's National Research Foundation (NRF) and the Sida Department for Research Cooperation (Sarec).

Applications jointly drafted by researchers from Sweden and South Africa are submitted to Sida and NRF

for review. If approved, Sida funds the Swedish researchers while the South Africans are funded by their government via the Department of Science and Technology. Swedish researchers become involved in the problems and challenges faced by their South African counterparts. In the Research Partnership Program (LINKS) both partners grow and generate new concepts and approaches.

For more information about the research partnership:
National Research Foundation: www.nrf.ac.za
Swedish Research Council, (Vetenskapsrådet): www.vr.se



Cities Meet Across the Globe

“It’s a sad situation for the homeless, but the increased capacity that has come out of the partnership with Göteborg has helped us speed up the delivery of houses.”

“People in Motherwell need bigger houses. There are families of six living in one single room,” says Mavis Kweyama, who heads a small construction company. She and her contracted workers are busy painting one of the 110 “subsidy houses” of the Sakhulunto Housing Exhibition.

The exhibition is in the centre of Motherwell, a township of more than 200,000 people. It was planned and built during apartheid to house the black community, many of whom would work in the white city of Port Elizabeth.

Nelson Mandela Bay Metro is the new municipality created from more than ten municipalities that earlier were strictly divided along racial lines.

The show houses, designed by one Swedish and one South African architect, are examples of what can be built on the limited budget provided to poor families by the subsidised housing programme. The houses are built close together making the installation of water, sanitation and electricity cost-

effective, and to create a sense of neighbourhood and security.

“It’s a sad situation for the homeless,” says Councillor Nancy Sihlwayi, Chair of the Housing and Land Portfolio and a member of the Management Committee of Göteborg – Nelson Mandela Bay Metro Partnership: “but the increased capacity that has come out of the partnership with Göteborg has helped us speed up the delivery of houses.”

The twinning cooperation between the two cities emerged from the urban development support to Nelson Mandela Bay Metro initiated by Sweden in 1997. The cities actually have much in common: both have deep seaports, car and truck industries as their largest industry, and both cities host universities. The cities are partners in waste management, culture exchange, a library project, design, cooperation between the universities, planning and transportation.

Buffalo City is likewise committed to improving poor people’s living conditions. With its Swedish twinning partner Gävle, it cooperates on several areas. One example of their partnership is how GIS (Geographical Information Systems) can facilitate to allocate the needs of the poor.

For Phil Farrant, Head of the GIS Department of Buffalo City, and his fellow metropolitan colleagues, the priority is poverty alleviation.

“Although Gävle and Buffalo City are far apart, we have exactly the same ideals and visions. They use the same database, the same software, so it’s very easy to work together,” says Phil Farrant.

GIS provides an immediate overview of what is happening in the area. Among other things GIS shows water resources, environmental hazards, the transportation situation and maintenance work in progress. All departments of Buffalo City use it when deciding on distribution of the resources.

“With GIS it will not just be the politicians who shout the loudest who get most resources but the areas that have the greatest needs.”

Although the priorities and challenges that Buffalo City and their Swedish partner Gävle face are very different, the cooperation has been a great success with both parties enjoying benefits.

When Gävle developed their GIS system, the technology was new and software had to be developed on an ad hoc-basis. Now, when revising their GIS strategy, Gävle utilises the experience gained by Buffalo City.



FACTS ON TWINNING

Municipal and provincial twinning has the potential to result in sustainable, co-financed partnerships. The cost sharing, preferably on an equal basis, shows how much the local governments value the partnership. The municipal programme is administered by the Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions (Sveriges Kommuner och Landsting, SALAR). One of the future challenges is to increase the ownership and participation of SALAR's South African counterparts on the national level.

Example of twinning partners:

Nelson Mandela Bay Metro – Göteborg

Buffalo City – Gävle

Sol Plaatje – Falun / Borlänge

Emthanjeni – Karlstad

Hibiscus Coast – Oskarshamn

North West Province – Kronobergs Län

*For more information on twinning partnerships visit:
Swedish Association for Local and Regional Authorities International Development Agency:*

www.salaida.se



Partners in Africa and the World

Free and democratic South Africa has been a very strong supporter of peace and stability on the entire African continent, be it in Ethiopia, Eritrea, Somalia, Sudan, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Burundi or the Democratic Republic of Congo. This is an extraordinary achievement for a country that until 1994 was a main instigator of instability in the region.

Under the leadership of its first two presidents, Nelson Mandela and Thabo Mbeki, South Africa has assumed a leading role. Sweden's development cooperation objectives tie in with the South African ambition to promote peace and stability in Africa.

South Africa is frequently asked to mediate in conflicts on the African continent. Although by far the richest country in Africa, it simply does not have the capacity to take on every task. Sweden and South Africa realised they shared common goals and interests: in 2000 Sweden and South Africa began working together on the question of conflict resolution, and in 2003 the Bi-National Commission (BNC) established a bilateral Working Group for Peace and Security.

There are several examples of Swedish and South African institutions and organisations bringing their experiences from the bilateral cooperation to other countries. The genocide in Rwanda left more than 800,000 people dead and more than a million refugees. Besides the scars and wounds, the new government had to rebuild all the national institutions. One of them was the police service.

In 2003 the recently formed Rwandan National Police requested support from Sweden. Six years of cooperation between the Swedish and the South African police provided a solid base for the two countries to work together in Rwanda. The situation in Rwanda was similar to that of South Africa where previous enemies now work together in a new police service.

In the cooperation with Rwanda, South Africa and Sweden assist in management improvement, community policing, crime investigation and accountability. The three police institutions work together to create a Rwandan police service based on human rights, the rule of law, good governance, gender equality and working together with and for the community.

In Kinshasa, the capital of the Democratic Republic of Congo, the government just didn't know how many civil

“There are several examples of Swedish and South African institutions and organisations bringing their experiences from the bilateral cooperation to other countries.”

servants there were. They suspected that salaries were paid out to people who either did not exist, or in any case were not present at the work place. A census of the civil servants was called for. It was carried out with joint financing by South Africa, Sweden and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Another example of tripartite cooperation is using the local government development experience, gained in the cooperation with the Northern Cape Province, to support capacity building at local government level in Rwanda.

As regards future cooperation, Sweden will increase its support to South African efforts to promote peace, stability and development. Sweden and South Africa will also continue to work together in the region with conflict prevention, HIV/ AIDS and human trafficking. Furthermore, Swedish companies and NGOs represented in South Africa are encouraged to extend their cooperation into neighbouring countries.

For more information on peace and security and foreign policy:

Department of Foreign Affairs, South Africa: www.dfa.gov.za

Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Sweden:

www.sweden.gov.se/foreign



Building Hope – Fighting HIV/AIDS

“I’ve seen changes. The guys and women now use condoms and there are also less STIs now compared to when we started,” says Monde Qunta, before heading off to talk to the truck drivers about HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted infections (STIs). He works as a coordinator for the Trucking Against Aids roadside clinic, located at a truck stop 20 kilometres east of Port Elizabeth.

Trucking Against Aids is a joint project set up and co-financed by road freight companies, trade unions and government. Without the 35,000 truck drivers employed by the road freight industry in South Africa the country would grind to a halt. At the same time, truck drivers belong to an extremely high-risk group when it comes to contracting and spreading HIV/AIDS.

“I’ve seen changes. The guys and women now use condoms and there are also less STIs now compared to when we started.”



“Come to the health clinic. You can check your blood pressure, get medicine for your flu or painkillers for your back. It’s for free man.”



Strong gusts of wind sway in over the Nelson Mandela Bay area. Some 50 trucks have parked for the night waiting to head on towards Johannesburg, East London, Durban or Cape Town. The sun has just set and the temperature is dropping fast. It is going to be a cold night in the Eastern Cape. But for Monde, or Doctor Condom as he is known by the drivers, it is just another Monday night “saving truckers lives.” Heaving himself up to the cab of a big truck he taps on the side window:

“Come to the health clinic. You can check your blood pressure, get medicine for your flu or painkillers for your back. It’s for free man.”

The truck driver opens the door and grins. Monde takes a pamphlet from his pocket. “Do you know about STIs? Come around the clinic and watch a video,” he says. Before he jumps down from the truck he hands the driver a pack of condoms.

“Just in case man. Just in case.”

On the way back to the clinic two young girls appear, one wearing a tight t-shirt with “Sexy Girl” printed on the front. Monde knows all the sex workers who come to the Truckers Inn. But these girls are new. “Do you know me? I’m at the clinic. Come by later,” Monde says.

Ten minutes later the girls show up at the clinic. They are shy of coming in, but both accept the condoms that Monde offers them.

In the other room of the roadside clinic, nurse Zukisa Mcopela’s door is open. She explains that it is hard to get the drivers to test for HIV: “They worry about what they will do to themselves on the road home if they test positive.”

At the roadside clinics the drivers are encouraged to test and to go for voluntary counselling and for information on HIV/AIDS. Since the start of the project, the clinics have received more than 40,000 visitors, 42 per cent of whom tested positive for STIs. A very encouraging trend is that the roadside clinics have noted a reduction in the numbers of STIs.

Trucking Against AIDS is just one of many HIV/AIDS projects that Sweden supports in South Africa. The Aids Law Project (ALP), Treatment Action Campaign (TAC), the AIDS Consortium and AIDS Legal Network are a few other organisations that have struggled to raise awareness of HIV/AIDS, not only in South Africa, but throughout the world.



FACTS ON HIV/AIDS IN SOUTH AFRICA

In 2005 some 300,000 South Africans will die due to HIV/AIDS. According to UNAIDS 2003 statistics, about 5.6 million South African's were living with HIV and AIDS – nearly 13 per cent of the population. Only Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia and Swaziland have higher percentages. HIV prevalence among pregnant women tested had risen to 27.9 per cent in 2003, from 26.5 per cent in 2002 and 25 per cent in 2001. Of an

estimated 40 million people living with HIV/AIDS in the world, 14 per cent live in South Africa.

The government of South Africa has committed itself to provide antiretroviral (ARV) therapy to everyone who is in need of treatment.

The HIV/AIDS pandemic is the most serious threat to the development of South Africa and is given a special priority in Swedish South African cooperation.

Breaking the Cycle of Violence



“Working with women who have suffered abuse is a long process. The most difficult thing is to take away the blame and the shame. Only then can the cycle of violence be broken. It’s about empowering the woman.”

“Working with women who have suffered abuse is a long process. The most difficult thing is to take away the blame and the shame. Only then can the cycle of violence be broken. It’s about empowering the woman,” says Lesley Ann Foster, founding director of the Masimanyane Women’s Support Centre.

Lesley Ann Foster is driven by a strong desire to bring about change in South Africa where women are raped and killed in numbers unequalled in any other country not at war.

Masimanyane, which means ‘Let’s support each other’, is a response to violence against women who have been raped, suffered domestic violence or been “trafficked”. Legal aid and counselling to victims are the core functions of Masimanyane, but they are also involved in shaping policies and laws on gender violence and human rights, public education, prevention work among young people and a programme on men for change.

Her own life mirrors a South Africa emerging from racism, poverty and violence. A year after the first democratic elections, Lesley Ann Foster was struggling to end a marriage where she had been beaten and abused. She searched for an organisation or institution that could give her legal advice and counselling. She found nothing, but she did meet many other women in the same situation:

“It was such an amazing moment to start Masimanyane. It was just at the start of the new democracy so we came in at the right time. We were able to shape the laws as we went along”.

From East London, Masimanyane has grown to become one of the leading advocates for women’s rights in South Africa. Even President Thabo Mbeki and UN Secretary General Kofi Annan have requested Lesley Ann Foster’s advice and expertise.

HIV/AIDS and violence against women are strongly interconnected and are rooted in rigid traditional gender roles and fuelled by the legacies of apartheid – high unemployment and inadequate social services. The programme ‘Men as Partners,’ (MAP) encourages men to take an active stand against domestic violence and to combat HIV/AIDS. MAP strives to get more men involved in HIV/AIDS prevention work and to get them to understand, embrace and practice gender equality.

A Saturday morning in Hillbrow, Johannesburg. Seven

young people, most of them unemployed, head down the streets on their mission to convince as many men as possible to go to a local clinic for a voluntary counselling and testing.

“We men are not used to talking about HIV/AIDS. We are very ignorant about the illness,” says Donald Ambe, a peer educator with MAP.

He walks up to a man who is out shopping with his daughter and talks with him for a while.

“If you have time you can just drop by the clinic.”

A few meters away, a young man asks Jafta, another MAP-volunteer, how long he can survive if he has HIV/AIDS.

“There are people who have lived for 27 years. Look at me. I’ve been infected for seven years. Do I look sick?” The man shakes his head, perhaps already considering that a test might be worthwhile.

“How long does the test take?” he wonders.



South Africa has the highest per capita rate of reported rape in the world. According to South African police figures, 55.114 rapes and attempted rapes were reported between April 2004 and March 2005. However, the vast majority of rapes are never report-

ed. A Health Department study found that seven percent of women aged between 15 and 49 had been raped or coerced into having sex against their will. According to the organisation Rape Crisis Cape Town there is a rape in South Africa every 23 seconds.



Economic Equality

– a Question of Democracy

When the steam trains retired, the little town of Alicedale almost died. Anyone with ambition left the town. But some just would not give in. One of them was Nomawethu Stuurman, contracted by Bushman Sands as a game park guide. Thanks to the Swedish South African Business Partnership Fund (SSBF) she has the possibility of starting her own business.

Bushman Sands is a joint project between the Eastern Cape Government and the owners of the neighbouring Shamwari Game Reserve, an upmarket game park. The old railway college in Alicedale has been restored and is now a hotel. A golf course has been built, 1 200 families have bought land and the majority plan to move here permanently. By hard work and clever investments, the preconditions are there to make Alicedale the hub for a larger tourist area.

“I don’t like it. I love it,” says Nomawethu about her native town, as she drives the jeep towards the entrance of the Shamwari Game Reserve.

The Swedish South African Business Partnership Fund has made it possible for people in Alicedale to take a loan to start small businesses providing such services as house cleaning, gardening, or pool maintenance. And the gift shop, currently run by the hotel, will be another one of these. Loans can also be used to start a bakery, a coffee shop, a butchery or a game reserve guiding company – any idea that is economically viable and that can give previously disadvantaged people the chance to prosper is welcome.

Cebisa Telecom is a small company based in Pretoria owned by black entrepreneurs. It installs switchboards, radio systems and transmission equipment for GSM networks in Africa. Their most important client is the Swedish telecom giant Ericsson.

Cebisa’s business has grown dramatically since September 2004, from practically zero to a turnover of over 4 million ZAR (roughly 5 million SEK). The success of Cebisa means more jobs to previously disadvantaged groups.

“Since we started we have employed or subcontracted 15 people who would not have been employed otherwise. And, as we speak, we are setting up new projects in Rwanda, Uganda, Tanzania and South Africa,” says Richard Swan who founded the company in 2003.

When Cebisa Telecom was set up it had sufficient know-how and experience but it could not raise the necessary amount

“Since we have started we have employed or subcontracted 15 people who would not have been employed otherwise. And as we speak, we are setting up new projects in Rwanda, Uganda, Tanzania and South Africa.”



of capital needed to manage each project. The company made contact with the Swedish South African Business Partnership Fund and presented their business plan. The fund judged that the plan was a viable business proposition and that Cebisa had the capacity to put it into effect. The Swedish South African Business Partnership Fund decided to provide loans of up to one million ZAR per project. The loans are at commercial rates and have to be repaid as each project is finalised.

A Divided Economy

The South African economy is divided in two. In the first economy, the people have employment and receive good health care. In the second, unemployment rates are staggering and social services are scarce. Therefore one of the biggest challenges for South Africa is to give the previously disadvantaged groups possibilities to prosper by supporting initiatives that create jobs.

The government's policy for black economic empowerment (BEE) aims at de-racialising South Africa's economy and fast-tracking the entry of historically disadvantaged people into the business arena. It aims at promoting ownership, management and jobs for those who have been left out of the economy because of the historic division created by apartheid.

The Swedish South African Business Partnership Fund (SSBF) was established in 1999. The aim of the fund has been

to contribute to economic growth and long-term relationships of mutual benefit between Swedish and South African companies. The fund has provided capital to small and medium-sized business ventures where the South African partner includes historically disadvantaged groups in management and ownership as defined by the South African Government's BEE policy.

In view of the changes in the South African Government's small business strategy, as well as Sida's new policy on private sector development, the cooperation through SSBF is currently under review.



FACTS ON THE ECONOMY

South Africa's economy is about one quarter of the entire Sub-Saharan economy, but is still only half of that of Sweden. With a population of 9 million, Sweden has twice the resources, while the South African population is 47 million (2005).

Within only a year of the sanctions against South Africa being lifted, South Africa became the largest export market for Sweden in Africa. In 2004 Swedish export to South Africa was valued at SEK 4.4 billion. In contrast, South African export to Sweden was for the same year valued at SEK 1.5 billion. As the figures show, it has been growing vigorously:

South African trade with Sweden:

Billion SEK (1 billion SEK = 0.8 billion ZAR)

	1994	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Import	0.42	3.6	2.8	2.7	3.6	4.4
Export	0.07	0.7	1.0	0.9	1.2	1.5

For more information:

Swedish Trade Council: www.swedishtrade.se

Department of Trade and Industry:

www.thedti.gov.za

Partners in Health



“With the training he receives in Sweden he will come back to South Africa with skills which will improve our ability to respond to and manage diseases.”

“This job is not for people with claustrophobia,” says Doctor Janusz Paweska at the National Institute for Communicable Diseases (NICD). When working in the lab, to protect him from viruses classified as of the highest biohazard level, such as Marburg, Ebola and Rift Valley Fever, Janusz is dressed in an all-enclosed plastic suit with air supplied through hoses.

Dr. Paweska works at NICD's BSL-4 maximum security laboratory, the only one of its kind in Africa. He cooperates with colleagues at the Swedish Institute for Infectious Disease Control (SMI), which hosts the only BSL-4 laboratory in the Nordic countries. But even if, or maybe because, the infection profiles are so different, the NICD in South Africa and SMI in Sweden have much to gain from cooperating.

Swedish staff from SMI work at the South African lab, gaining clinical experience of performing diagnoses of the most contagious and lethal viruses in world. For South African staff, the cooperation offers possibilities to increase knowledge and research capacity.

Benn Sartorius from NICD has been over a year at the European Programme for Intervention Epidemiology, run by SMI.

“With the training he receives in Sweden he will come back to South Africa with skills which will improve our ability to respond to and manage diseases,” says Professor Barry D. Schoub, Executive Director at NICD.

The main function of NICD and SMI is to conduct surveillance and research on communicable diseases. NICD plays a key role in following the development of the HIV virus. As an example, since 1990 NICD has collected HIV-positive blood specimens of all first time mothers in the country.

The cooperation between SMI and NICD is one of the activities within the Health Forum, which was launched by South Africa and Sweden in 2003 to enhance the joint work between the countries in public health.



FACTS ON THE HEALTH FORUM

The Bi-National Commission of South Africa and Sweden encouraged the forming of the Health Forum. Representatives from the main authorities within the public health sector in both countries attended the launch in Pretoria in 2003. The Health Forum meets every year. The five priority areas are: HIV/AIDS, TB and other communicable diseases; reproductive health and rights; health sector reform; health promotion and health impact assessment and injury prevention.

For more information:

Department of Health, South Africa:

www.doh.gov.za

Ministry of Health and Social Affairs, Sweden:

www.sweden.gov.se/social

Healing the Wounds of History

From the city of Mthatha, in the centre of the Eastern Cape, a team of members from the Umtata Child Abuse Resource Centre and their partner Save the Children Sweden travel long distances on empty dirt roads to reach the remote villages.

“When we arrive the entire community, traditional and political leaders, community members and children are gathered. We help them understand children’s rights and what can be done when a child has been sexually abused,” says Ulrika Soneson, Programme Advisor at Save the Children Sweden’s regional office in Pretoria.

Save the Children Sweden is an NGO that focuses on children’s rights in Sweden as well as in developing countries.

In an opinion poll conducted by Save the Children Sweden, South African children perceive lack of protection against abuse and the right to live in a safe environment as the rights most often violated. The poll is one example of how the organisation gathers information in order to develop effective models for prevention.

Save the Children Sweden works with a number of South African NGOs. Their partner, Umtata Child Abuse Resource Centre (UCARC), coordinates government and NGO activities to support services to abused children in the area. They focus on preventing abuse by empowering children and parents with skills and knowledge.

“When we work from a children’s rights perspective with issues such as HIV/AIDS and reproductive health we always come back to the fact that men have so much more power than women. That is the core of the problem and what we need to address,” says Ulrika Soneson.

Together with the Planned Parenthood Association of South Africa they work to change attitudes and behaviour among boys between the ages of 10 and 17. The focus is on sexual and reproductive health issues and positive sexual behaviour. To reach the boys they lecture in schools, organise sports activities and work to establish male teachers as role models.

The Victory Sonqoba Theatre Company is one of Diakonia’s (a Swedish NGO) partners in South Africa. The amateur actors are in the middle of a dress rehearsal of a play about the legendary Zulu king Shaka.

“I lost my childhood fighting on the forefront in the township wars,” says Bongani Linda, founding director of the company. As a young ANC member Bongani Linda fought the

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Zulu-dominated Inkatha Party in the black-against-black struggle in the townships. “I asked myself why kids must be deprived of the right of being children,” he says. The result was the formation of the Victory Songqoba Theatre Company, aimed at healing the wounds of history through community theatre. The name Victory Songqoba is a combination of the ANC-slogan: “Victory is Certain” and the Inkhata slogan “Songqoba Simunye” (Together we shall conquer as one.)

Victory Songqoba began using theatre to provoke discussion in communities struck by violence. The organisation works in prisons with prisoners, ex-convicts and with those infected with HIV/AIDS.

“We take on people with real experience, train them in theatre and then let them teach others what they know,” says Bongani.



FACTS ON THE COOPERATION BETWEEN SWEDISH AND SOUTH AFRICAN CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS

Swedish support to a democratic and non-racial South Africa sprang out of a popular outcry in Sweden against the unjust and repressive apartheid regime. At first it was student organisations, political parties, faith-based organisations, the unions, and the labour movement that spoke up. Soon the whole country seemed to be engaged including the government.

Funds allocated for support to South Africa through Swedish non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in 2004 amounted to almost SEK 34 million, (28 million ZAR).

For more information on civil society organisations:

The Church of Sweden Aid: www.lutherhjalpen.se

Africa Groups of Sweden: www.afrikagrupperna.se

Forum Syd: www.forumsyd.se

Diakonia: www.diakonia.se

Swedish Mission Council: www.missioncouncil.se

Swedish Cooperative Center: www.swecoop.se

LO/TCO Council of International Trade Union

Cooperation: www.lotcobistand.org

The Olof Palme Centre: www.palmecenter.se

Save the Children Sweden: www.raddabarnen.se

Culture for Change

In 1982, the Market Theatre put on a legendary staging of the Swedish author August Strindberg's 'Miss Julie'. The play portrays the impossible attraction between a rich privileged young woman and her servant. In the Market Theatre production the rich woman was white, and her servant, played by the celebrated actor John Kani, black.

The moment John Kani put his hand on the knee of the white actress Sandra Prinsloo, part of the audience walked out to demonstrate their disgust, while the other part was applauding. But the play ran on – even after receiving bomb threats. In the end it was the racist South Africa, not the Market Theatre that had to change.

From the day it opened in 1976, the Market Theatre has worked with black and white actors and performed for a mixed audience. The Market Theatre puts on plays that attract audiences from all ethnic and social groups. "Because of our multicultural society, and the diversity that exists between us, we have had to learn how to deal with the diversity by selecting and finding plays that will attract audiences from throughout society," says Sibongeseni Mkhize, Director of the Market Theatre.

With the knowledge of how to attract audiences from Zulu, Xhosa, Indian, English or other groups within South Africa the Market Theatre will assist the Stockholm City Theatre (Stads-teatern) in selecting plays that will attract a wider audience.

"Stockholm City Theatre is committed to including people in the suburbs who don't go to the theatre now. We have been asked to teach their actors how we do field work to find this new audience," says Sibongeseni Mkhize.

In return, the Stockholm City Theatre supports the Market Theatre in training new young actors, playwrights and technical staff. The two cultural institutions have collaborated since 1994. In contrast, cooperation between the Museum of World Culture in Göteborg and the Red Location Museum in Nelson Mandela Bay Metro has just begun.

At the junction of Olof Palme Road the Red Location Museum suddenly appears as if rising from the ground. Once spotted, the giant metal building dominates the entire area. The Red Location of New Brighton, a township in Port Elizabeth, fostered many famous ANC members. Surrounded by tiny tin-roofed shacks, some on the verge of collapse, the museum is in the centre. It symbolises the memory of the brutal legacy of apartheid and the struggle for democracy.

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who were discriminated against during apartheid and live in poverty today. The museum is something black people in general can be proud of,” says Gcinibandla Mtukela, director of The Red Location Museum.

Entering the museum, visitors find themselves in a big hall with 15 columns and 12 “memory boxes”, red as blood and 12 meters tall. The name “memory box” originates from the tin boxes black workers carried with them when they travelled far away from their families to work in the mines. In the boxes they kept mementoes – photos, letters, their loved ones’ hair – anything that would remind them of home.

The neighbours living in the tin shacks not only have access to the museum but will also take part in deciding the content of the exhibitions. When management and representatives are to discuss, they need the space to interact. When director Mtukela visited Göteborg and the Museum of World Culture he was amazed by the use of space for mingling and conferences. A vision on how to adapt the Red Location Museum took shape. Now the museum has an auditorium as well as a number of smaller rooms where visitors can interact without being inside the exhibition area itself.



FACTS ON THE SWEDISH-SOUTH AFRICAN CULTURE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMME

The Swedish-South African Cultural Partnership Programme is coordinated by Sweden's National Council for Cultural Affairs (Kulturrådet) and South Africa's Department for Arts and Culture. A joint committee of five representatives from each country assesses and selects projects from any Swedish or South African cultural institution. Poverty and human rights perspectives are strong criteria in the selection process.

For more information:

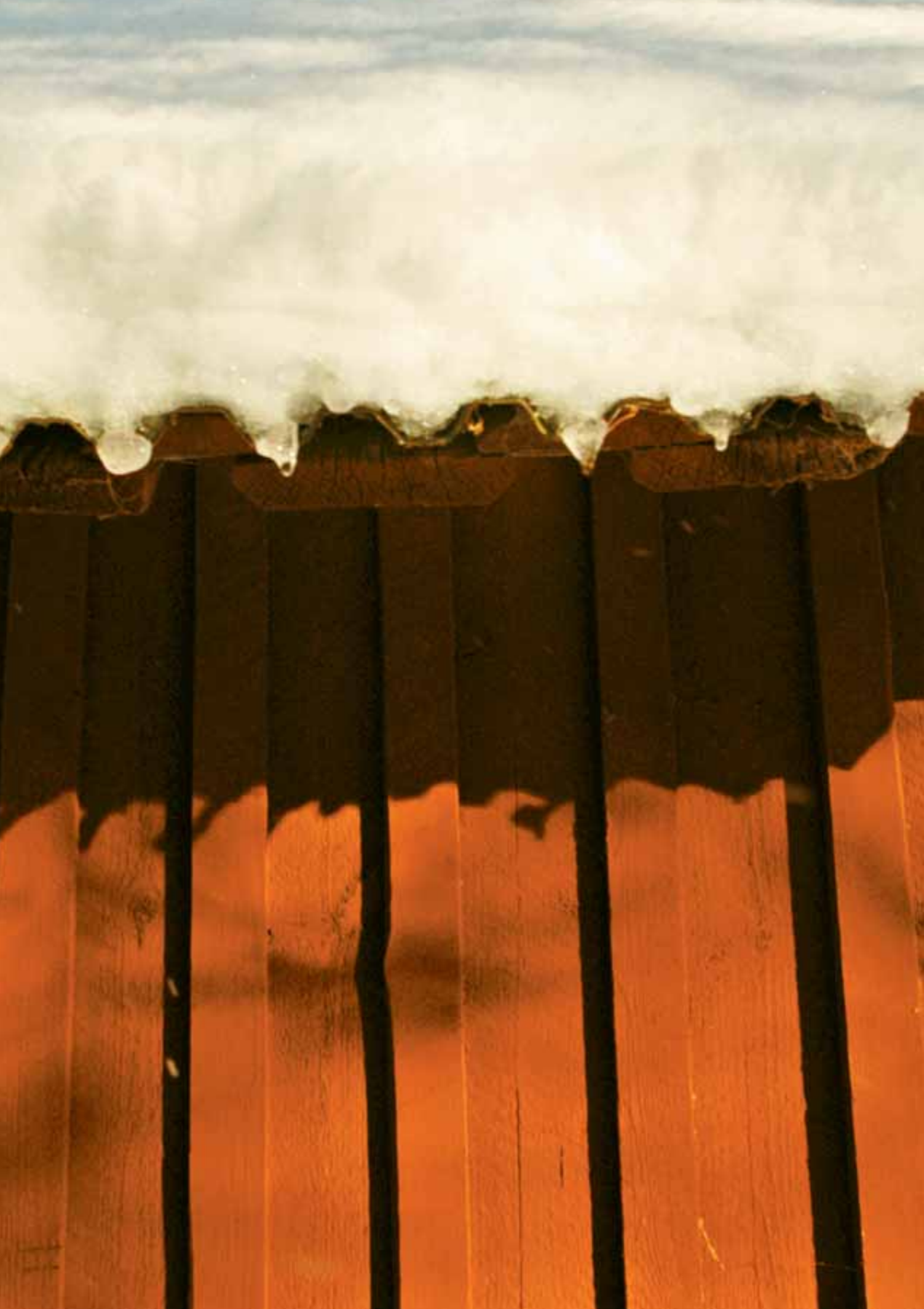
Department of Arts and Culture, South Africa:
www.dac.gov.za

The National Council of Culture Affairs, (Kulturrådet)
www.kulturradet.se



A list of South African and Swedish government bodies, institutions and organisations engaged in partnerships can be found at the website of the Swedish Embassy, www.swedenabroad.se/pretoria







National Treasury Republic of South Africa
www.treasury.gov.za



EMBASSY OF SWEDEN

Pretoria

www.swedenabroad.se/pretoria

Halving poverty by 2015 is one of the greatest challenges of our time, requiring cooperation and sustainability. The partner countries are responsible for their own development. Sida provides resources and develops knowledge and expertise, making the world a richer place.



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