



Corridor Economic Empowerment Project in South Africa



Since March 2011, the Corridor Economic Empowerment Project (CEEP) has worked within South Africa,

At Macro level the project has provided national stakeholders and policy makers with technical assistance and strategic information on the link between Economic Status, Gender inequality and HIV and AIDS vulnerability. Through these informative exchanges the project has influenced the development of 5 national policies which focused on HIV and AIDS, including South African National Strategic Plan HIV, STI& TB 2012-2016, Transport Sector Operational Plans: 2012-2013, Transport Sector Operational Plans: 2013-2014, Transport Sector Operational Plans: 2014-2015; Decent Work Country Program for SA, Technical Assistance Guidelines on HIV and AIDS and the World of Work. Through these engagements the project has provided support to 17 programmes which have been implemented by these stakeholders (National 1, workplace 12 and Business Support Structures 4).

At Meso level the project has built the capacity of 2 Business Support Structures through the training of 34 trainers on the CEEP approach. Together the project was able to train 1,959 beneficiaries on Business Skills, Gender Equality and HIV and AIDS (71% being women). This has provided the opportunity to refer these individuals for various HIV and AIDS related services. These activities have ensured that a further 3894 jobs have been created or supported by the project.

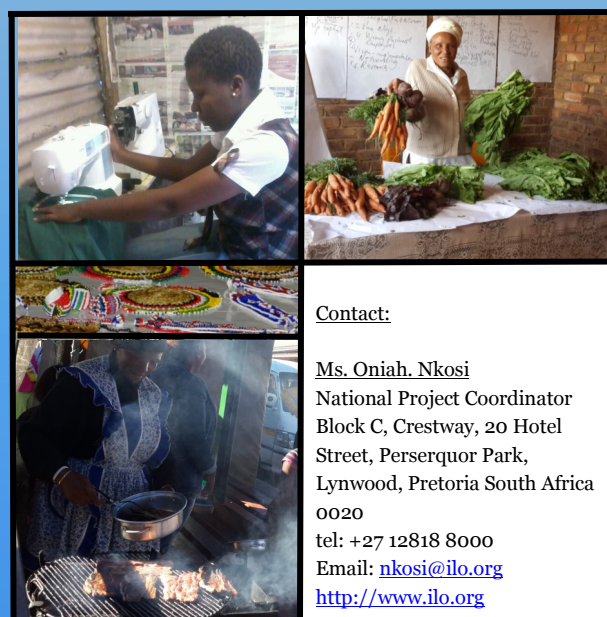
The effects at Micro level considers the qualitative and quantitative data gathered from the beneficiaries during the 2014 outcome survey. Drawing on a sample of 677, the quasi-experimental design categorized beneficiaries into levels of business skills adopted (BSA) as this forms the key strategy of the Economic Empowerment, Gender Equality and HIV and AIDS trainings—it also suggests the level of internalization of the projects' teachings. The following key and significant effects were observed:

Economic Empowerment	No BSA	BSA
Mode for business skill adopted	0	4
Profits (\$) reported over the last six months	994	1120
Average monthly income (\$)	167	224
Percentage with savings	36%	80%
Gender	No BSA	BSA
Percentage with equitable contributions to household decision making	35%	53%
Percentage that consider GBV justified at times	60%	42%
HIV and AIDS	No BSA	BSA
Levels of comprehensive HIV and AIDS knowledge	4.5	4.6
Adoption of HIV and AIDS risk reduction strategies	10%	27%
Percentage of people engaged in transactional sex	15%	5%
Percentage of people using alcohol before sex	41%	25%
Uptake of HIV and AIDS related services	63%	81%



Focus areas or hotspots in Refilwe, Enkangala, Beaufort West, Harrismith, Hammanskraal, Ventersburg, Nkomasi Local Municipality and Ramotshere Moiloa Local Municipality.

The results from the outcomes surveys and the output reports indicate that the project has achieved some significant results within South Africa. This is evident from the achievement of the project output targets, including training of beneficiaries, providing support to business support structures, national stakeholders as well as the outcomes or effects that the project has had on these groups. Highlights of these successes are captured within the individual stories and the quantitative results presented above including the improvements in economic status, number of jobs supported, gender relations and the adoption of risk reduction strategies.



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