

## THE BASIC NEEDS BASKET: FOOD PRICING MONITORING PROJECT



*Whose bread is it anyway?*

Contributing author: Brian Mathebula  
Institution: Researcher at SPII

**O**n 16 October 2014 the world celebrated World Food Day, which has become a global campaign to raise awareness around food insecurity. This global call to end hunger will resonate strongly with many South Africans who continue to go to bed without food in their stomachs.



Many experts have commented on why South Africa, as a middle-income country, cannot feed its own. What is more interesting is that South Africa, despite having many people who go to bed hungry, is considered as a food-secure

nation (International Food Policy Research Institute, 2014). But what does this mean to a layman? Who controls this food? Among the answers that have emerged in this debate has been the rise in the cost of living, and, more importantly, the cost of basic needs. In an effort to provide this discussion with empirical data, the Studies in Poverty and Inequality Institute (SPII) are happy to announce that the Basic Needs Basket (BNB), a flagship project of the institute, is back. The aim of the BNB programme is to bring to the fore through research on the cost of living for people in South Africa, in both rural and urban areas. More importantly, it has become increasingly important to find easier and alternative ways to consistently measure this increase, especially in a way that resonates with the majority who are affected.

# DID YOU KNOW!

According to the Labour Resource Service, the median minimum wage in all sector was R3 500 in 2012 compared to R3 170 in 2011.



*Pictured: The National BNB Team after attending the training on the methodology in Johannesburg*

The BNB is a monthly survey of the cost of essential food and non-food items that comprise the minimum basket of goods needed for an average-sized family to survive with a decent and healthy standard of living. SPII will be utilising the BNB to determine the impact of the high cost of living and increase in food prices on average-sized families. The second objective is to identify what coping strategies are being adopted by households, as well as exploring trends on wages and underemployment. The study is currently being conducted in all nine provinces, including both urban and rural settings.

The BNB is increasingly becoming a useful tool among many countries within the Southern African Development Community (SADC)<sup>1</sup> as a reference for reviewing wages and salaries of their employees.



To find out more about the BNB, please email [taku@spii.org.za](mailto:taku@spii.org.za) • [bnb@spii.org.za](mailto:bnb@spii.org.za) or call 011 833 0161

If you wish to contribute as guest author into SPII Talk, please contact [brian@spii.org.za](mailto:brian@spii.org.za)

<sup>1</sup> Countries such as Malawi and Zambia have been progressively using the BNB to highlight the cost of living.



# Basic Needs Basket Monitoring

1. Food and non-food items that will be monitored over the period of the project.

FOOD ITEMS	Quantity	Popular Brand	Price (Rands)	Alt Brand	Other Qty	Price
Brown Bread	700g					
Poultry Products (Chicken Portions)	2 (KG)					
White Bread	700g					
Maize Meal	5 (KG)					
Tomatoes	1 (KG)					
Beef and Veal	1 kg					
Cabbage Fresh	1 Head					
Fresh Full Cream Milk	1 litre					
Potatoes	1 (KG)					
Maas	2 litre					
Cooking Oil	2 litre					
Mixed Vegetables	3 (KG)					
Rice	2 (KG)					
White Sugar	2.5 (KG)					
Large Eggs	6 Dozen					
Canned Pilchards	400g					
Onions	1 (KG)					
Salt	0.5 kg					
Tagless Teabags	0.1 kg					
Apples	1.5					
Baked Beans	410g					
Margarine spread	0.5 kg					
Mayonnaise	0.75 kg					
Bread Flour	10 (KG)					
Instant Yeast	200g					
Sugar Beans						
Mealie - Samp						
Coffee						
Juice	2 Litre					

# Basic Needs Basket Monitoring

NON-FOOD ITEMS	Quantity	Popular Brand	Price (Rands)	Alt Brand	Other Qty	Price
Washing Powder	2 (KG)					
Toothpaste	100g					
Toilet Paper						
Body Cream/ Gel						
Body Soap	200g					
Deodorant	500g					
Sanitary Towels and Tampons	10					
Matches	1 Pack					
Paraffin	1 litre					
Candles	1 Pack					
<b>OTHER ESSENTIALS</b>						
Electricity						
Housing						
Water						
Education - Primary						
Education - Secondary						
Education - Uniforms						
Health Fees						



## MONITORING PROGRESSIVE REALISATION OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC RIGHTS: PROJECT UPDATE

Since July's edition of SPII Talk, the Socio-economic Rights (SERs) Monitoring Project has released three publications (all available at [www.spii.org.za](http://www.spii.org.za)), co-hosted two workshops, and made significant progress in developing indicators to measure progressive realisation of the right to sufficient food.

In late August, the project released a paper entitled 'A framework for monitoring and evaluating the progressive realisation of socio-economic rights in South Africa'. This paper outlines SPII's three-step methodology for monitoring fulfilment of SERs in South Africa. It demonstrates a deepened understanding of SER monitoring, which has developed significantly since the project last published a paper outlining its approach in 2012. Working Paper 8, 'Monitoring the right of access to adequate housing in South Africa' was also released in August, and demonstrates the power and importance of monitoring progressive

realisation of SERs, in this case in the area of housing. The application of SPII's monitoring tool to housing has led to important findings in the areas of government policy (step 1) and budgeting (step 2) over the previous decade, and includes 25 indicators (step 3) which assess the status of the right to housing, 20 years into South Africa's democracy. The final chapter of the paper summarises the key findings of the research and makes 12 recommendations to broaden and speed up access to adequate housing.

While our budget analysis and development of statistical indicators have been refined and enhanced both

conceptually and in their application to housing, the project is now looking to incorporate more qualitative research and data into its SER monitoring. For this reason the Senior Researcher, Hannah Dawson, spent the previous 12 months investigating the various approaches to Community Based Monitoring (CBM) that exist in South Africa, and contemplating how SPII could incorporate these into our monitoring work. This resulted in the publication 'Public participation and citizen-based monitoring in realising Socio-economic Rights', released in September 2014. This paper forms the basis for SPII's future engagement with CBM and includes four commitments by the project aimed at concretising this engagement over the coming months and years. In the short term, the project looks forward to collaborating with organisations involved in CBM in the fields of education, water and sanitation.



In the medium term, the project is actively seeking funds to develop its own CBM initiative.



This workshop brought together a core group of civil-society activists doing budget work to develop their capacity to undertake human-rights budget analysis. The participants were eager to learn and to apply the budget training to their own advocacy initiatives and campaigns



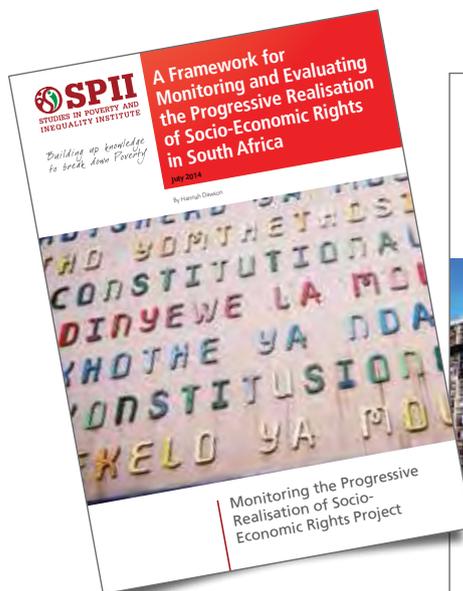
SPII (as part of Budget Expenditure Monitoring Forum (BEMF)), with the support of the Ford Foundation, enabled Ann Blyberg, Director of the International Human Rights Internship Program in the USA, to come to South Africa to facilitate a two-day Human Rights Budget Training Workshop on 19-20 August 2014. This workshop brought together a core group of civil-society activists doing budget work to develop their capacity to undertake human-rights budget analysis. The participants were eager to learn and to apply the budget training to their own advocacy initiatives and campaigns. SPII, in partnership with BEMF and SECTION 27, also organised a two-day workshop entitled “The cost of hunger – budgeting for the right to food” on 21-22 August 2014. This workshop developed the thinking around the right to food by looking specifically at the planning and budgeting obligations of the state in respect of the right to food. The workshop resulted in a discussion and documentation of the root causes of hunger, the gaps in the state’s response and a set of key demands and urgent areas for action which are being developed into an advocacy strategy.

This work will feed into the Right to Food report which SPII is currently developing.

The SER project has continued to engage with key organisations and institutions involved in various aspects of monitoring fulfilment of rights in South Africa. Our partnership with the South African Human Rights Commission was reaffirmed and solidified through a series of meetings and will now involve a greater sharing of resources and learning than ever before. Our recent publications have generated much interest from outside and inside government, including the National Planning Commission

and the Department for Performance Monitoring and Evaluation in the Presidency, both of which the project will be meeting with in the coming weeks.

The first edition of *SPII Talk* for 2015 will include a summary of our monitoring of the right to sufficient food. This working paper will include a comprehensive analysis of government policies aimed at realising this right since 1994, also five budget-analysis case studies of government food programmes, and 20 indicators assessing the status of the right to sufficient food today.



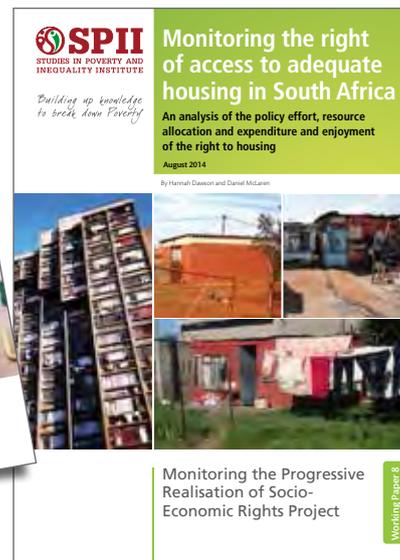
Please visit our website to access the report

“Access to adequate housing in South Africa”

To find out more about the SER project, please email [daniel@spii.org.za](mailto:daniel@spii.org.za) or [buisiso@spii.org.za](mailto:buisiso@spii.org.za) or call 011 833 0161

An opinion piece published in the New Age newspaper and on AllAfrica.com on World Food Day, 16 October, on hunger and malnutrition in South Africa: <http://allafrica.com/stories/201410141107.html>

An Interview with France TV on the same subject broadcast on 05 November.



# Towards a Decent Living Level: Project Update



On 30 July 2014, SPII hosted the final seminar of the first phase of the Decent Living Level Seminar Series. These seminars were located within the National Economic Development and Labour Council (NEDLAC), as an initiative of the Community Constituency and shared with Labour.

The points on which general consensus arose at the seminar on how to build the momentum towards the adoption of a national decent living level include the following:

- ▶ The process of social dialogue must continue to be located at and championed by NEDLAC, but it should seek to include people and positions that are not currently included among the NEDLAC representation to ensure that the views that are solicited in the setting of a Decent

Living Level (DLL) are in fact representative.

- ▶ There is a need for further empirical research into what would constitute a nationally representative DLL drawing on the methodology presented for the development of minimum household budgets.<sup>2</sup>
- ▶ The framing of what is meant by a 'Decent Living Level' is critical. It must be accessible and understandable in all vernacular languages and idioms.

- ▶ Optimal national ownership of this process would require the promotion of an inclusive, multiclass coalition committed to a reduction of poverty and inequality and the realisation of the rights contained in the South African Constitution.

Participants also contributed their views on what should constitute the next phase of this work. The following were identified as being critical for consolidating the work to date:

**The second phase of the process should include:**

- ▶ effective framing and negotiations, arising from a consolidated research agenda;
- ▶ engagement strategy to access different stakeholder groups;
- ▶ strong institutional ownership.

<sup>2</sup> This methodology was presented by Professor Michael Noble of SASPRI drawing on critical engagement between Southern African Policy Research Institute (SASPRI), Studies in Poverty and Inequality Institute (SPII), Labour Research Services (LRS) and Loughborough University.

## DID YOU KNOW!

The South African Domestic Services and Allied Workers Union (Sadsawu) had the lowest median minimum wage of R 1 364 in 2012.

### Effective framing arising from a consolidated research agenda

The proposed research to identify a Decent Living Level, based on a variation of the Minimum Income Standard methodology, should proceed in an inclusive and participatory manner. The methodology should be robust, the process transparent and inclusive and both business and government should be included in an umbrella Research Reference Group.

This research needs to be completed prior to the formal framing of the policy determination processes. Links should be established with research partners in progressive developing countries, including Brazil, to provide the possibility for us to leapfrog some of our policy developments drawing on their learnings.

### Engagement strategy and coalition building

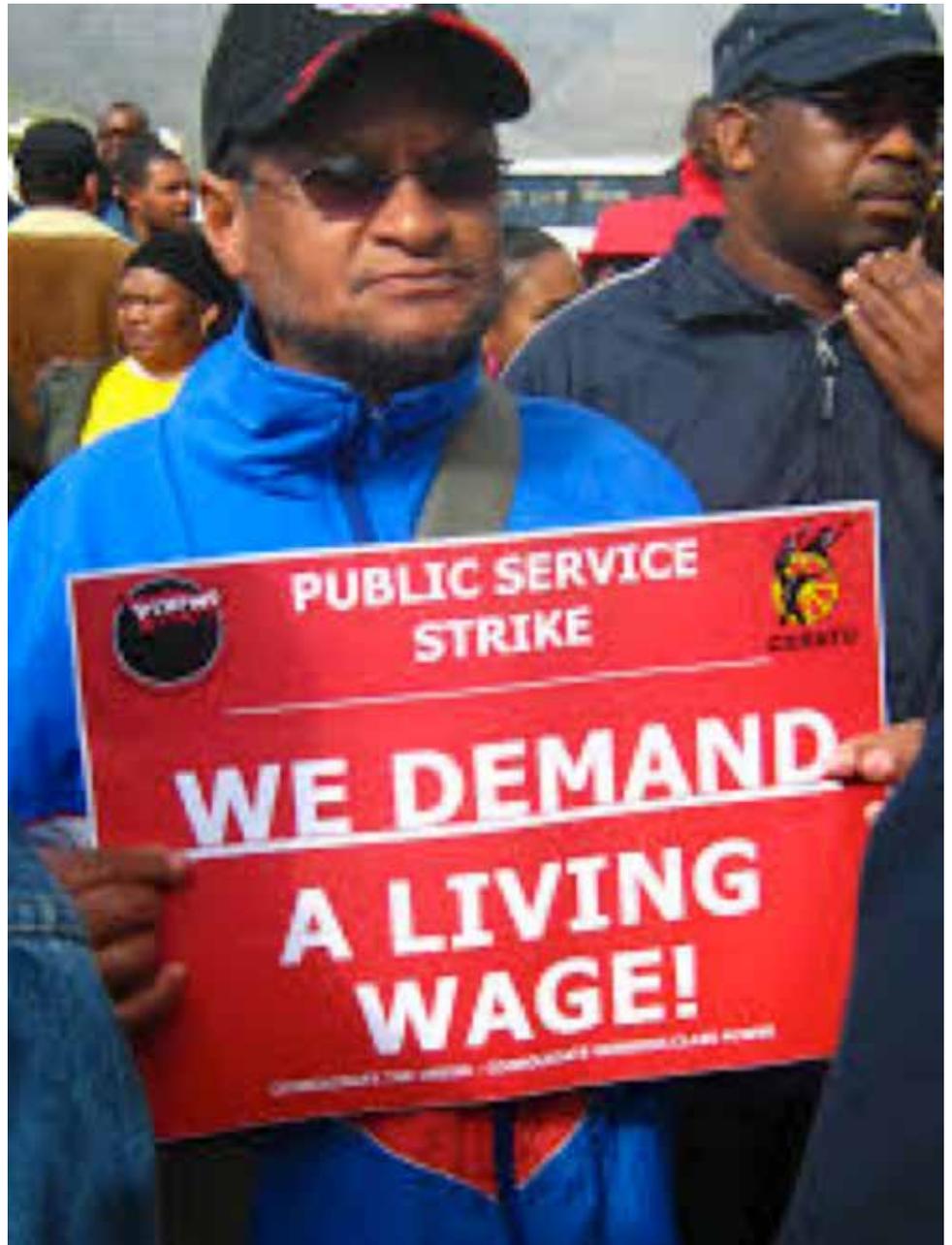
There is a clear synergy between the DLL and National Minimum Wage (NMW) calls, which both aim to improve policies to address people's basic needs, reduce inequality and accelerate transformation. It is critical to build a broader coalition platform to include other progressive campaigns and social, economic and fiscal justice interests. Business should also be brought on board, and it will be important for a coalition of allies to identify the interests within business that would be keen to participate in this process.

It will be important to address potential divisions between workers and the unemployed when advancing the call for an NMW, potentially through the lens of the long-standing call for a comprehensive, adequate social protection provision, from the cradle to the grave.

### Institutional location and ownership

Drivers of these processes should ensure that this discussion is introduced formally into NEDLAC, and consider how the process might be cascaded down to a provincial and possible local level, as well as to explore what forms of relationship might exist with parliament.

To find out more about the Decent Living Project (DLL) project, please contact author via [fortunate@spii.org.za](mailto:fortunate@spii.org.za)



# SOCIAL PROTECTION AND LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: GRADUATION PILOT PROJECT

Progress and productivity: Taking the initiative against poverty

In this issue of SPIO Talk, the Social Protection and Local Economic Development: Graduation Pilot Project shares three case studies.

## Case Study 1:

### Existing Outside The Formal Sector Institutions

Thembele Ngonyama\* talks about her last 12 years operating on the streets as street trader selling snacks and sweets, and she talks about her 17-year-old son who was five when she started working on these streets. Thembele, like most poor, unemployed women, entered the informal economy to try and generate income to support her two children and her family back at home in Giyani. She is proud that she was among the first people to start operating at the famous 'machaineng'<sup>3</sup> market in Evaton. The market is situated alongside the Golden Highway, and used to be vibrant and busy in its heyday. More importantly, this market was also famous for the many women who made their livelihood in this market.

Operating in this market has not been smooth sailing for her and comes with its challenges, which include theft of her goods from the stall. The theft at her shop set her back because she



doesn't have insurance, and this is the case with many who operate in the informal economy. Since being part of the pilot project, Thembele speaks about the lessons she has learned regarding diversifying economic generating activities; she has since opened another store selling fruits and vegetables, which she runs concurrently with her fast-food business. She has hired her two cousins to assist her in running her business.

Financial literacy and inculcating a saving culture among project participants form an important cog of the five interventions<sup>4</sup> in the pilot

project. For Thembele, becoming a part of a stockvel that was formed with other project participants has been important to her financial wellbeing. She reflects that despite having a bank account, she doesn't know how it works and as a result, she has opted for the sometimes risky informal savings stockvel to save her money. She pays R120 towards the stockvel, which she reinvests back to business or uses the money as emergency cover for unforeseen circumstances.

<sup>3</sup> Chinese market in the area.

<sup>4</sup> The five interventions include life skills training, basic business skills training, financial literacy training, savings incentive scheme and weekly mentoring and monitoring from fieldworkers.

## Case Study 2:

### Innovating Around Sources Of Income

“Kgwebo e batla mamello, le boitelo, hobane o ka ithola o se o sena mosebetsi, mme o sena le tjhelete ya ho fepa bana.”  
(Household No.14).

*Translation:* ‘Running a business needs dedication and perseverance. If not so, you might find yourself out of business, and no money to feed your kids.’

In the above statement, Julia<sup>5</sup> provides her experience and advice of running a business in the informal economy. Julia has been running a hair salon for the past 10 years, and she is one of the project participants who have found it difficult to attend the training workshop, as a day out of work means no income. This has emphasised the role of fieldworkers in this pilot project, and their role in going through the training provided during the workshops and reinforcing the key lessons.

Despite showing clear signs of dedication during the weekly visits with her designated fieldworker, what has been clear is her ill health. Some of the lessons have to be undertaken at her house, as she has been regularly absent from work recently. Because she works in an industry where an established relationship of trust is important to the business, in terms of customers returning due to the service received, she reflects that she is starting to lose her customers due to her absenteeism. She speaks about the fact that she sometimes has to go to work even when she is not well in terms of her health. She reflects that if the status quo

<sup>5</sup> Not her real name.

<sup>6</sup> One of the incentives in the pilot project is the savings incentive scheme. Initially, the project focused on incentivising through the formal financial sector savings platforms. What we learned is that project participants deem banks to be outside their reach, and not catering to their needs. Project participants receive R100 worth of airtime for savings consecutively over a period of three months.



*Pictured: Gladys's Internet Café*

continues with regard to her work, she might be forced to close her business. As the business is heavily dependent on her health, she is considering taking this action despite knowing that she might not have another source of income.

Her health status has forced her to think innovatively around her income, as she understands that she cannot carry on working at the salon and be up on her feet the whole day. With the assistance of her fieldworker, she has started breeding chickens and selling them in the community. The profit from the sale of the chickens was used to start a bag-making business, which she sells at R120 a bag, making a profit of R65 per bag.

Despite her dedication and willingness to diversify her income-generating activities, this has not been smooth sailing for her. A month ago she lost her chickens due to fever, she states. Fortunately, her stockvel was due a payment, and the money was used to buy more chickens. Currently she is in the process of finding a replacement at the salon, since she cannot do it herself. Her new focus will be on breeding chickens and growing her handbag business.



*Pictured: Julia showcasing her new handbags*

Julia is one of the participants who will be among the project participants to be incentivised<sup>6</sup> through the savings incentive scheme in a stockvel. She says that she will call her customers as well the possible candidates to work at the salon.

## Case Study 3:

### Passion Meets Dedication

Gladys\*<sup>7</sup> reflects that the ability to work with what you have is important to curb the burden of poverty. Although she is a qualified IT specialist, she reflects on her inability to find employment in the formal sector. Since achieving her formal qualification, she has not been able to find employment and she soon realised that she wasn't the only one in the township with formal qualifications who couldn't find employment. With the assistance of two friends, they decided to open an internet café in order to provide services such as internet and IT in the community. Starting an internet café was the most suitable business for her since she had knowledge of computers.



*Pictured: Gladys's Internet Café*

**DID YOU KNOW!**  
In the 2012 financial year, the average remuneration for Chief Operating Officer (CEO) in the Technology and Telecoms sector was R16.5 million, this includes salary, benefits and annual bonus.

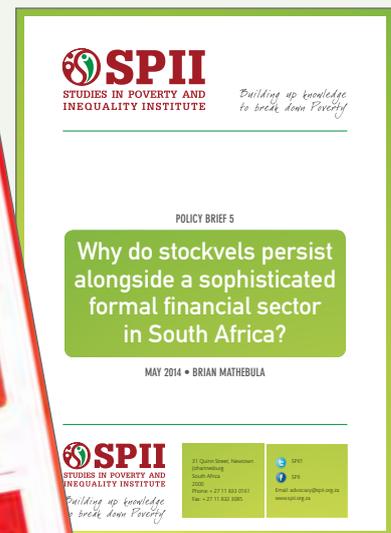
“Ha o tsamaisa kgwebo, o flameha ho tseba bareki ba hao, ebile o sebetse ka ntho eo o e tsebang.”

(Household No. 110).

*Translation:* 'When you run a business, you need to know your target market, and also choose a field you are familiar with.'

For Gladys, opening an internet café not only meant doing what she knew and loved, it also meant helping young unemployed people in her community to gain access to the internet at low prices. She states that the Internet Café is important in the township as many people who are applying for jobs use her shop. Other services provided include print-out of business cards, assisting with business registration and printing out payslips for local businesses. Gladys feels that the Basic Business Skills and Financial Training workshops were good for her as they also allowed her to learn how to run a business. Her biggest clients are the unemployed youth and local businesses. She says that business has

been doing well in recent times, and as a result, she was able to further her studies in IT. She wishes to acquire more computers and printers for the internet café, but she is unable to raise enough money to do so. She resorted to procuring a printer on credit and she is currently paying monthly installments towards it.



*Please visit our website to access these policy briefs on the project*

*To find out more about the Social Protection and Local Economic Development: Graduation Pilot Project, please email [brian@spii.org.za](mailto:brian@spii.org.za) or call 011 833 0161*

<sup>7</sup> \* Not her real name

# MILESTONES IN THE SADC BIG CAMPAIGN TRAIL



The SADC Basic Income Grant (BIG) Coalition is calling for the introduction of a SADC-wide universal cash transfer in the form of a BIG that will be funded predominantly by a tax on extractives, and which supports progressive taxation and does not rule out other funding options.

Against this background SPII, which currently manages the SADC BIG Campaign Secretariat, is proud to announce several developments and milestones along the campaign trail that have occurred this year:

## 1 SADC BIG Coalition becomes part of the Basic Income Earth Network

The 15th International Congress of the Basic Income Earth Network (BIEN) was held in Montreal at McGill University from 27 to 29 June 2014, and a preconference North American day was held on 26 June. The event was sold out with well over 200 people attending.

The Congress closed with the BIEN General Assembly (GA) meeting. The GA voted to recognise five new affiliates from Norway, France, Portugal, Europe (UBIEurope) and the **Southern African Development Community (the SADC BIG Coalition)**. UBIEurope and the **SADC BIG Coalition** have become BIEN's first transnational affiliates.

**BIEN** is a network of academics and activists interested in the idea of a universal basic income, i.e. a guaranteed minimum income based solely on citizenship and not on work requirement or charity. It serves as a link between individuals and groups committed to or interest in the in basic income, and fosters informed discussion on this topic throughout the world. Its website defines a basic income as 'an income unconditionally granted to all on an individual basis, without means test or work requirement'.

## 2 SADC BIG Coalition gets the nod from the Civil Society Organisation in Southern Africa

At the recently held SADC Civil Society Forum (28-30 July) and the SADC People's Summit (15-16 August) both held in Zimbabwe, civil society came out in support for the call of a basic-income grant and the expansion and roll-out of social protection programmes in the region. We at the Secretariat are excited with the positive response and support of solidarity from civil society organisations on the call for a universal basic income grant in SADC.

The communiques can be accessed here on our website: [www.spii.org.za](http://www.spii.org.za).

## 3 SPII Senior Researcher Taku Fundira in Brussels – study visit

We are proud to announce that SPII's Senior Researcher (Taku Fundira) with the support of the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES) South Africa and Brussels offices undertook a two-week study tour to Brussels, Belgium where part of his mission will be to interact with European Commission officials from the Directorates of Social Policies, Employment and Human & Society Development, among others. Also on the agenda is the opportunity to engage with some European Parliament Committee officials as well as trade union representatives including representatives from the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC). 

To find out more about the SADC Basic Income Grant (BIG) please contact [taku@spii.org.za](mailto:taku@spii.org.za) or call 011 833 0161.



**SPII**

*Matters*

# *Farewell*

to **Hannah Dawson,**  
Senior Research – SER Monitoring Project



'My time at SPII leading the SER Monitoring Project has seen the consolidation and expanded application of the three-step methodology with the achievement of significant milestones. Statistical indicators for the right to health, social security, housing and food have been developed. The project has a strong partnership with the South African Human Rights Commission and has developed good working relationships with Statistics South Africa, the Department: Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation (DPME) at the Presidency, and the Parliamentary Research Unit.

I am very grateful to have had the opportunity to be involved and shape this very important project. I would, in particular, like to thank my colleagues at SPII for creating a space for me to be challenged, experiment and most of all – learn – in particular about how to merge research with policy, and, ultimately, social change.

I am leaving SPII to begin a doctorate at Oxford University in October. My proposed research aims to explore and understand how young men conceive of respected adulthood in a context of mass unemployment. This study also aims to understand the strategies and alternative pathways young men adopt to navigate economic uncertainty and develop respectability and manhood.

I look forward to continuing to engage with SPII and our partners on this future research and endeavours.

With best wishes,

*Hannah'*

## SPII Services:

**SPII provides the following services:**

- Bringing people together, “honest broker” at roundtables and seminars.
- Conference host, bringing together a variety of stakeholders to share new information.
- Basic Needs Basket research – a representative sample of poorest members of society
  - Research projects
  - Policy support & analysis
  - Training in research methodologies – on request.

*SPII is a not-for-profit Public Benefit Organisation.*

*Tax deductible donations and bequests are welcomed to enable us to build our sustainability and to continue to undertake this critical work.*

## Current Partners who made the work in this Publication possible:

- Bread for the World
  - Christian Aid
- Church of Sweden
- Ford Foundation
- Friedrich Ebert Stiftung
- Open Society Initiative of Southern Africa



**SPII**

STUDIES IN POVERTY AND INEQUALITY INSTITUTE

[www.spii.org.za](http://www.spii.org.za)

## CONTACT US

Civicus House, 31 Quinn Street  
Newtown, Johannesburg  
PO Box 31747, Braamfontein, 2017  
Tel: + 27 11 833 0161  
Fax: + 27 11 832 3085  
Email: [fortunate@spii.org.za](mailto:fortunate@spii.org.za)

*Building up knowledge to break down Poverty*

# Job Opportunity

**Position: Advocacy Officer**

**Duration: Three years.**

**Location: SPII Offices, Newtown, Johannesburg**

**Date of Commencement: 1 January 2015**

**Studies in Poverty and Inequality Institute is a not-for-profit research and advocacy institute based in Newtown, Johannesburg.**

## **Purpose of the Position:**

The position provides support for the advocacy and campaigns work of SPII in South and Southern Africa. He/she is responsible for the development alongside the project leaders and the implementation of advocacy and campaigns strategies that will influence government and other institutional policies and implementation, as well as mobilisation of civil society partners and networks to achieve structural changes that will promote the realisation of Constitutional, regional and international socio-economic rights aimed at the reduction of social and economic vulnerabilities and inequalities, with a specific emphasis on the SADC BIG campaign and SPII's Basic Needs Basket projects, although the position will also provide support for all of SPII's research and advocacy programmes.

## **Key Performance Areas:**

- Provide innovation, vision, strategic direction and implementation of SPII's national, regional and international advocacy and campaigns work;
- Ensure advocacy coherence and reinforce strong and effective synergies between research and advocacy to maximise SPII's impact;
- Contribute to the positioning SPII as a leading organisation for innovative and effective poverty and inequality reduction in South and Southern Africa;
- Ensure that advocacy is an integral part of SPII's work to achieve lasting changes and ensure that advocacy and campaigns approach and plans are part of the Strategic Plan, the Annual Plan and programme strategies;
- Build advocacy capacity of SPII staff, including in the monitoring and evaluation of the advocacy initiatives;
- Ensure coherence of messaging across projects, programmes and broader institutional objectives.

## **Advocacy strategies:**

- The post holder will ensure that SPII's active advocacy, campaigns and external communications are used to influence public opinion and political commitment nationally in support of the realisation of human rights, with an emphasis on socio-economic rights as being key drivers of transformation and the reduction of poverty and inequality in South and Southern Africa;
- Develop and maintain an in-depth understanding of key advocacy issues and of the positions of key actors, including key ministers, political, civil society and economic leaders, donors, media editors etc regarding national, regional and international issues;
- Establish and maintain an advocacy calendar with key moments and key opportunities for advocacy;

- Work closely with SPII research staff on existing projects to inform present and future advocacy choices and to build SPII's position and coordinate the development of high-quality briefings, letters and other written material for internal and external use;
- Produce policy briefing papers, policy position statements and public communication related to key advocacy issues;
- Develop media lines and a media strategy and making optimal use of national and international social and mainstream media to influence key advocacy targets and public opinion;
- Provide high level representation for the advocacy work, with media, alliances and targets;
- Identify and build coalitions with external organisations and, in consultation with SPII programme staff, work closely with other organisations to develop joint advocacy initiatives when relevant.

## **Monitoring, evaluation and risk management:**

- Lead in identifying and managing potential risks associated with SPII's public positions and design strategies to mitigate the risks that have been identified;
- Assist in the implementation of SPII's advocacy planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting (PMER) process.

## **Person Specification.**

- A post graduate degree in Development, Social Science, Development, Law, Public Policy or equivalent;
- A minimum of two years advocacy experience, with experience in implementing advocacy and campaign strategies;
- Experience of a range of campaigning and advocacy techniques and approaches and of linking national, regional and international advocacy;
- Knowledge and experience of advocacy at regional and international level is desirable.
- Fluency in written and spoken English is a pre-requisite. Fluency in at least another South African language is desirable.

Preference will be given to South African applicants. The total cost to company package for the position will be R200 000 per annum.

*Kindly submit a short CV that includes relevant information on qualifications and campaigning experience and three contactable references, with a one page letter of motivation to [Fortunate@spii.org.za](mailto:Fortunate@spii.org.za) on or before 14 November 2014. Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted for an interview at which candidates will be expected to make a short presentation.*