

that require addressing, as a basis for the elaboration of capacity-building projects to be hived off to other institutions and donors who are better placed to deal with them. Capacity building activities will include internships and training courses aimed at building research and policy analysis capacity both inside and outside the SADC Secretariat. For the participating research institutions, capacity building will largely be a spin-off from the research activities.

### Research conferences, publications and dissemination of research results (including the updating of the FOPRISA website)

The annual conference is a central element of the programme. It provides a forum for presentation of research and monitoring reports, discussion, review and reflection, as well as the generation of further projects for the research and monitoring programme. It also presents an opportunity for networking; as a further point of contact with SADC policy makers and engagement with non-FOPRISA participants to share in the formative process research experience. The primary intention for dissemination of FOPRISA outputs is to create, develop and increase communication amongst the principal actors, who are the researchers, policy makers, policy advocates and policy implementers. The publications thus aim at disseminating the proceedings of the Annual Conferences and the monitoring reports. The FOPRISA website is also utilised for dissemination of information about FOPRISA activities and key findings.

## Outputs from the FOPRISA Programme

### Research and monitoring publications

- (i) *Proceedings of the 2006 FOPRISA Annual Conference* (ISBN 978-99912-71-38-5) (Report 3), Edited by Jonathan Mayuyuka Kaunda (published in 2007)
- (ii) *Monitoring Economic Integration in SADC, 2005* (ISBN 99912-71-34-1/978-99912-71-34-1) (Report 2), By Dirk Hansohm and Rehabeam Shilimela (published in 2006)
- (iii) *SADC and Donors – Ideals and Practices: From Gaborone to Paris and Back* (ISBN 99912-0-574-8) (Report 1), By Elling Tjønneland (published in 2006)

### On-demand policy papers

- (i) *The Status Of Regional Integration In SADC* - Chinyamata Chipeta, 2006
- (ii) *Issues For Consideration And Decision By The Extraordinary Summit* - Chinyamata Chipeta, 2006
- (iii) *SADC Annual Economic Review 2007* – Happy Siphambe and A Akinkugbe, 2007
- (iv) *Report on the Economic Situation of Zimbabwe and Recommendations to SADC Executive Secretary* – Haidari Amani, Chinyamata Chipeta and Angelo Mondlane, 2007

### Future Directions

- FOPRISA seeks to enhance the effectiveness of communication of research findings and recommendations. This will be done through short briefing papers

for staff of the Directorates and Units of SADC Secretariat. It is envisaged that policy seminars would be utilised to communicate findings and stimulate discussions.

- FOPRISA also seeks to enhance interactions and engagements with other organizations outside of the FOPRISA network for the production of briefing papers and organisation of policy seminars.
- Capacity building activities involving SADC Secretariat staff and SADC National Committees are scheduled to commence during 2007/8.
- FOPRISA will also seek mainstreaming of gender and environment issues in all its research and monitoring activities.

## Other supporting activities

Management of FOPRISA consists of two structures:

- (i) **Steering Committee**, in which the SADC head of Policy and Strategic Planning unit is a member. The Steering Committee decides overall policy for FOPRISA operations, adopts research themes, approves research proposals for funding, accepts research reports, and selects referees. It also provides an arena for interactions amongst the policy research institutions, academics and SADC Secretariat.
- (ii) **FOPRISA Secretariat**: hosted by BIDPA, this is the overall manager and coordinator of the research programme and services both the Steering Committee and the annual conferences.

### Formative Process Research on Integration in Southern Africa

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**FOPRISA** Research for Regional  
Integration and Development

Hosted by



Botswana Institute for Development Policy Analysis

# FOPRISA

Research for Regional  
Integration and Development

Formative Process  
Research on Integration  
in Southern Africa

## Introduction

FOPRISA is a collaborative research, monitoring, and capacity building programme involving several Southern African policy research institutes and universities, the Christian Michelsen Institute of Norway and the Southern African Development Community Secretariat. It commenced on 01 May 2005 and is scheduled to run for four years, up to 30 April 2009.

## Formative Process Research

The overarching objective of this formative process research programme is to provide inputs that can assist SADC to advance regional co-operation and integration in Southern Africa. This is done through provision of information, data, and analysis for organisational learning, for example, for the improvement of SADC Secretariat's operational approaches, procedures and performance.

## Participating Institutions

- Botswana Institute for Development Policy Analysis (BIDPA) (Secretariat)
- Centre for Defence and Security Management (CDSM), University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa
- Southern African Defence and Security Management (SADSEM) network
- Christian Michelsen Institute (CMI), Norway
- Economic and Social Research Foundation (ESRF), Tanzania
- Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Botswana
- Namibian Economic Policy Research Unit (NEPRU)
- Southern African Development Community (SADC) Secretariat

## FOPRISA Goal and Objectives

- The goal is to advance the regional integration process in SADC through appropriate policy research, analysis and advice.
- The specific objectives are: -
  - o To assist SADC, through research, monitoring, advice and capacity building, in attaining its objectives of regional co-operation, integration and development, as outlined in the SADC Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP); SADC Secretariat RISDP Implementation Framework; Business Plan for the SADC Directorates and Units; and SADC Strategic Indicative Plan for the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation (SIPO); various protocols; and other policy statements.

- o To contribute to sound policies for the region's development, by assisting SADC during implementation of the regional grouping's priority policies and measures, of which poverty reduction is an overriding concern.
- o To build a strong regional policy research network, with research activities aimed at improving the understanding of integration policy and implementation issues by enhancing research skills and analytical capacities and capabilities in participating research institutes, as well as in the SADC structures and member states.

## Components of the FOPRISA Programme

The FOPRISA programme has three major components:

- Research on economic, social and political dimensions of regional integration. The research issues are identified in terms of: -
  - o Regional importance;
  - o Feasibility (cost and practicality of implementation);
  - o SADC's perceived interest and/or need;
  - o Relevance to the regional integration process.Individual research projects are formulated in consultations involving the researchers and the SADC Secretariat.
- Monitoring the process and progress of SADC economic integration and International Co-operating Partners (ICP) relations with the SADC organisation and member states.
- Related and supporting activities include capacity building; networking; conferences; publications and dissemination; management.

## Research themes

### Theme I: Democratic development

1. Norms and standards of electoral processes
2. Poverty alleviation and developmental democracy
3. The role of civil society
4. State capacity: Institutional variables in regional integration and policy effectiveness

### Theme II: Politics, defence and security cooperation

1. Promotion of regional coordination and cooperation on security and defence matters
2. Collective security, mutual defence and enforcement action
3. Development of peacekeeping capacity

### Theme III: Regional trade and its relations to the international trade system

1. Analysis of national trade policies
2. Links between trade policy and poverty

### Theme IV: Economic harmonization, finance and investment

1. Macro-economic convergence in the SADC region
2. SADC integration efforts and cross-border investments
3. Financial integration for investment in the SADC region

### Theme V: On-demand policy papers

These are specially requested studies and consultancies done by members of the research network, whose outputs are for the SADC Secretariat's sole use. They are specific assignments and/or policy advice as required by the SADC Secretariat and/or its related organs and structures.

## Monitoring

1. Monitoring Economic Integration in SADC
2. Monitoring the International Cooperating Partners (ICPs)

## Capacity building

Through monitoring and research activities, the programme also hopes to achieve a third objective: to build capacities in policy research, analysis and advice on regional co-operation and integration in Southern Africa. Through the Policy and Strategic Planning unit, the SADC Secretariat seeks to establish its capacity for policy research and analysis and develop the following desirable capabilities:

- To collect and analyse data;
- To interpret, package, produce reports and disseminate data and information;
- To engage member states and other key stakeholders in policy dialogue;
- To re-define policy and corresponding strategies in the light of lessons, experiences and the changing environment; and
- To retain requisite skills and experience.

Capacity building would involve collecting and analysing relevant data and making it available to the Secretariat; training of staff through internships or training courses; providing support to institutional capacity-building, especially related to the Secretariat's research and policy capacity; and interfacing or networking with research institutions and researchers in the SADC region. Additionally, in the course of FOPRISA research, identification of bottlenecks and capacity gaps, to uncover institutional weaknesses