

“Comparative Experiences of Policy Making and Implementation in Countries in Transition”

**A Workshop organised by the
Centre for the Study of Violence and Reconciliation (CSVR),
South Africa
&
Initiative on Conflict Resolution and Ethnicity (INCORE),
Northern Ireland**

Sponsored by the Economic and Social Research Council's Future Governance Programme

**30 November - 1 December 2000
Jan Smuts House, University of the Witwatersrand
Johannesburg, South Africa**

Agenda

Day 1: Thursday: 30 November 2000

8.00 Registration and Coffee

9.00 Keynote Panel

- **Welcome** *Graeme Simpson, Director, Centre for the Study of Violence & Reconciliation (CSVR)*
- **The Developing and Implementing Public Policy in Northern Ireland and South Africa Project** *Gillian Robinson, Initiative on Conflict Resolution and Ethnicity (INCORE)*
- **Assessing Lesson Drawing during the Negotiated Transitions from Political Violence in Northern Ireland and South Africa**
Roelf Meyer, Tip O'Neill Chair, Initiative on Conflict Resolution and Ethnicity (INCORE)
- **Public Policy Formulation: a Critical Perspective from Civil Society**
Abie Dithlake, South African NGO Coalition (SANGOCO)

Chairperson: Brandon Hamber, Centre for the Study of Violence & Reconciliation (CSVR)

Discussion

10.30 Tea

11.00 Session: One: Policy Making in Transition

Introductory Inputs

- **Hein Marais, Defining the Features of South Africa's Transition**
Mille Plateaux Media & Research
- **Minister Essop Pahad, Public Policy Formulation in the 'New' South Africa: a Critical Reflection**
The Presidency: Republic of South Africa

Chairperson: Ashley Green-Thompson, Justice and Peace Commission, Southern African Catholic Bishops' Conference (SACBC)

Discussion

12.30 Lunch

13.30 Session: Two: The Role of Policy Makers and Policy Making Forums / Sectors in Policy-Making:

Aims: This session aims to examine the changing role of various stakeholders, sectors and 'forums' in policy making at different stages of the transition process. These include, 'disaggregated' Commissions, research institutions, development agencies, consultants and non-governmental organisations, including sectoral and issue-based organisations.

Panel – (10 Minutes Input Each followed by discussion)

13.30 - 14.30: Commissions:

- *Shirley Mabusela, South African Human Rights Commission*
- *Mihloti Mathye, Commission on Gender Equality*
- *Sello Mosai, National Youth Commission*
- *Hlengiwe Mkhize, Reparation and Rehabilitation Committee, TRC*

Chairperson: Janis Grobbelaar, UNISA

Discussion

14.30 - 15.30: Sectors:

- *Neil Coleman, Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU) - Labour*
- *Tony Hercules – Sonke Consultants*
- *Stephen Rule, Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) - Research*
- *Cathi Albertyn, Centre for Applied Legal Studies - Gender*

Chairperson: Jeffrey Ndumo, Centre for the Study of Violence & Reconciliation (CSVr)

Discussion

15.30 Tea

16.00 Session: Three: Motivations for 'Lesson-Drawing' and Policy-Transfers:

Aims: Lesson drawing and policy transfers is seen as a process in which knowledge about policies, administrative arrangements and institutions etc at one time or place is used in the development of policies, administrative arrangements and institutions etc at another time or place. Session Two, thus asks the question: Who draws what lessons and when, and why? What are the key conditions and factors that play a part in whether a particular policy is transferred or not? How are the 'lessons' used?

Panel – (15 Minutes Input Each – followed by discussion)

- *Stephen Gelb, Development Bank of South Africa (DBSA)*
- *Sagaren Naidoo, Institute for Global Dialogue (IGD)*

Chairperson: Elizabeth Sidiropoulos, South African Institute of International Affairs (SAIIA)

Discussion

17.00 Closure for the Day

Day 2: Friday: 1 December 2000

9.00 Session: Four: Learning the Lessons: a Critical Evaluation:

Aims: Session Four evaluates hidden factors such as personalities and incentives provided by particular countries to key policy makers, which may push the direction of lesson drawing. Are policies options dependent on, for example, the experience of the new bureaucrat or politician's international and/or NGO experience, access to funding, and biases for or against certain ideological/economic systems? Are more lessons drawn from countries having shared ideologies and between the developing world or are "First World" countries now seen as the models to emulate? Did South Africa draw from the "North" at the expense of examining public policies in southern Africa and Africa or in the "South" generally?

Is it true that policy ideas are more likely to be consciously accepted by other countries with stretched funding for research and evaluation and under pressure from an expectant domestic constituency and a watchful international community?

Panel (10 Minutes Input Each – followed by discussion):

- *Jackie Cock, Department of Sociology, University of the Witwatersrand*
- *Zane Dangor, Development Resources Centre (DRC)*
- *Ebrahim Fakir, Institute for Democracy in South Africa (IDASA)*

Chairperson: Wole Olaleye, CSVr

Discussion

10.15 Session: Five: Evaluating the Impact of Transition and Policy making on Implementation

Aims: South Africa has developed what is considered as some of the most progressive legislation and public policy in the world. Many of these policies have been drawn from a range of international sources and experiences. This section will investigate whether or not, many of these policies are so forward-looking and ambitious that it is likely that a government in transition (like in South Africa) is incapable of implementing them effectively.

Panel (10 Minutes Input Each – followed by discussion)

- *Graeme Simpson, Centre for the Study of Violence & Reconciliation (CSVr)*
- *Azhar Cachalia, Cheadle, Thompson and Haysom*
- *Andile Mngxitama, National Land Committee (NLC)*
- *Barbara Klugman, Women's Health Project*

Chairperson: Patrick Bond, Graduate School of Public and Development Management

Discussion

11.30 Tea

12.00 Session: Six: The 'Transition Dividend': Does South Africa have anything to Teach and Transfer?

Aims: South Africa now serves as a conceptual benchmark for other countries in transition. Policy-making through lesson-drawing has become a "transition dividend". Other countries look to South Africa for policy ideas - Why is this? And can South Africa really offer anything?

Panel (15 Minutes Input Each – followed by discussion)

- *Khehla Shubane, Nelson Mandela Foundation*
- *Steven Friedman, Centre for Policy Studies (CPS)*
- *Piroshaw Camay, Co-operative for Research and Education (CORE)*
- *Nicholas (Fink) Haysom, previously the Legal Advisor to President Mandela*

Chairperson: Yvette Geyer, Centre for the Study of Violence & Reconciliation (CSV)

Discussion

13.30 Lunch

14.15 Session: Seven: Summary and Conclusions

Panel (15 Minutes Input – followed by discussion)

- *Gillian Robinson, Initiative on Conflict Resolution and Ethnicity (INCORE)*
- *Noel Stott, Centre for the Study of Violence & Reconciliation (CSV)*
- *Helen Brocklehurst, Initiative on Conflict Resolution and Ethnicity (INCORE)*
- *Brandon Hamber, Centre for the Study of Violence & Reconciliation (CSV)*

15.00 Closure