



SADC SECRETARIAT

Briefing Notes on the Implementation of the RISDP

By

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1. Operationalization of the Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP)

1.1. Approval of the RISDP

The RISDP was approved by SADC Council and endorsed by Summit in August 2003, in Dar-Es-Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania.

The development of the RISDP was decided in the context of the Review of Operations of SADC Institutions embarked upon since March 2001. The RISDP is the SADC long-term (15 Year strategy) which realigns the cooperation and integration priorities, articulates the policies and strategies and sets the overall targets of the process for the different priority intervention areas.

The Main areas are
Trade/economic liberalization
Infrastructure and services
Food Security
Social and human development

Cross-Cutting areas include:

Poverty
Gender and Development
Sustainable Environment
Information and Communication Technologies
Science and Technology
Private Sector Development
Statistics

1.2. Implementation Framework and Business Plans

Immediately after the approval of the RISDP, in August 2003, the Secretariat started working in an implementation framework. This process consisted in disaggregating and analyzing the RISDP in areas to enable ranking and prioritization of the regional cooperation and integration intervention areas, taking into account SADC objectives and the inherent resource constraints facing the Organization.

The Secretariat undertook a preliminary interrogation and analysis of the targets defined over the 15-year planning horizon by clarifying the roles of the Secretariat, Member States and other stakeholders to prepare the way for critical path analysis and identification of ways to extract synergies.

After developing the RISDP implementation framework, the different Directorates and Units at the SADC Secretariat were tasked with the responsibility of developing the respective medium and short-term business plans and budgets based on the medium-term expenditure framework for the RISDP. This exercise led to the development of the first business plans from RISDP implementation which was already presented to Council and ICM.

In parallel with this process the Secretariat undertook to review the current SADC Program of Action (SPA) and identified new projects in line with the priority intervention areas proposed by the RISDP. This exercise was also aligned to the NEPAD Initiative in order to benefit from the resources mobilized under the Continental development framework.

The implementation frameworks and business plans were also shared with the SADC National Committees who have the responsibility of driving the process of implementing the RISDP at the Member states level.

To complete this process the Secretariat is also in the process of establishing a Monitoring and Evaluation System to help tracking progress and constraints along the implementation exercise.

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Gaborone, August, 2005