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The Rising Food Prices in Africa: A Need for Radical Exorcism

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Abstract: *This paper critically analyses the rising food price Increases Africa. The introductory section of the paper provides a précis of the recent global food price increases and its relevance to human sustainability and food security. The paper then outlines and analyses food price increases in South Africa. The next section deals with lessons learned and the need for looking ahead; especially in terms of adopting strategies for a sustainable food secure Africa. The final section reiterates the imperative to adopt a universal radical strategy to contend with the spectrum of food price increases and food insecurity in Africa and globally, at large.*

Introduction

The scourge of food security persists be a challenge even in the 21st century. Both developed and developing countries experience food security problems, albeit with differing magnitude and perspective. Thus, while both emerging economies and developed countries contend with the same problem, the outcomes seem to differ. For example in developed countries the problem is addressed by providing food security interventions, including food aid and these efforts have gone a long way in mitigating against food insecurity. In the emerging economies of the world, it would seem that attempts to ameliorate the food security challenge have less success. Indeed, there are various problems, and almost all of them have inter-sectoral ramifications. There is no easy solution.

As cited in the previous series paper, food security, a situation in which all individuals, at all times, have physical and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and food preferences for an active healthy life is a complicated matter. As the previous paper shows, the problems range from issues pertaining to socio-political factors to issues relating to the natural environment and man-made catastrophes. These contributory factors impact on food security at all levels of society, i.e. from the individual to the family and community to the nation, as a whole. Moreover, the root cause of all food security is inextricably linked to poverty.

A cursory reading of any report of food security in Africa, will clearly indicate that poverty is rife and efforts to address this challenge is concerning. The continent is lagging behind in attempt to address an issue, which has become a paradox of our times. Whilst many countries of the world can provide enough food for its populations and generate surpluses for trading purposes, there are countries, which have a serious problem in providing food for its peoples. Reports also show that the problem of food security will continue unabated, unless radical attempts are made to eradicate the scourge.

It is within the context of the above, that this paper provides a glimpse of the South African food security scenario and attempts to not only provide a prognosis for the Africa situation, but also point toward the lessons that can be learned in dealing with a rampant food security problem. A radical strategy is urgently required to confront this problem, in the short term and perhaps more importantly for the longer term, when the world's population is expected to increase by another 2 billion people.

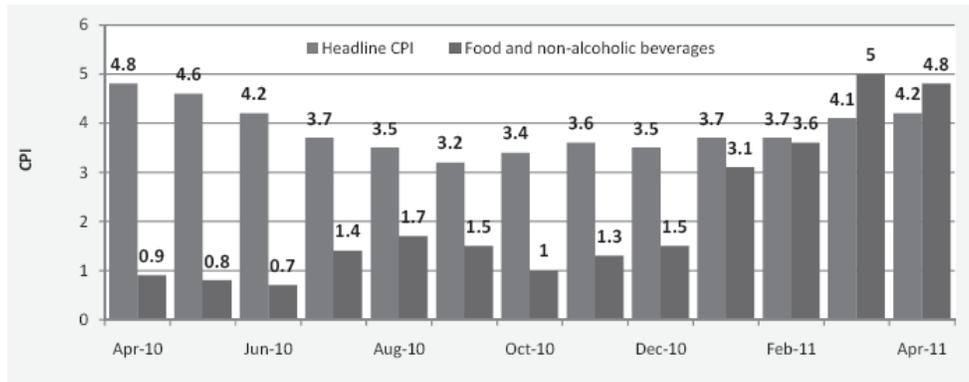
As mentioned previously, the effect of the food crises is relative. Some countries, especially the developing economies, have experienced a severe food price crisis. While at the national level, South Africa is food secure in terms of availability of food, at the household and individual

levels, a significant number of individuals go to bed hungry because they cannot access or afford food.

The April 2011 Consumer Price Index (CPI) released by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA)¹ showed that food and non-alcoholic beverages inflation increased by 4.8 percent between April 2010 and April 2011. Headline CPI increased by 4.2 percent between April 2010 and April 2011.

See Figure 1. The prices of processed food products increased by 5.1 percent from April 2010 to April 2011 and the price of unprocessed food products increased by 4.8 percent over the same period.

Figure 1: Headline CPI and Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages CPI for 2010-2011 (Year on Year)



Stats SA, 2011

At the retail level, urban consumers paid R 7.30 for a 700g loaf of brown bread and R8.23 for a loaf of 700g white bread during April 2011, a 4.29 % and 6.61 % increase respectively compared to April 2010. Urban consumers paid 2.99 % more for a super maize meal (5kg) and 7.49 % less for special maize meal (5kg) in April 2011 than during April 2010 at the retail level. Sunflower cooking oil prices showed the largest price increases of all retail food products reported on in both urban and rural areas. Rural consumers paid R 11.44 more than urban consumers for the same food basket, a significantly lower price difference than usually reported.

During February 2011, the FAO global food price index reached its peak of 237.2 index points. In March, the food price index decreased for the first time in 8 months. From March to April, the food price index showed a slight increase again and reached 232.1 index points.

From April 2010 to April 2011, the cost of a basic food basket increased by about R12.28 (+3.3 percent) in nominal terms. The cost of this food basket, expressed as a share of the average monthly income of the poorest 30 percent of the population, increased from 33 percent in April 2010 to 34.1 percent in April 2011. The cost of the food basket, expressed as a share of the average monthly income of the wealthiest 30 percent of the population, increased slightly from 2.6 percent to 2.7percent.

Moreover, a critical assessment of the CPI data for food, recently released by Statistics South Africa, reveals that the figures mask the real account of food price inflation. The computation for the CPI was, for example, based on a basket of food that related to upper income consumers. The Development Policy Research Unit (DPRU) of the School of Economics at the University of

¹ STATS SOUTH AFRICA 2011. Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages CPI 2010-2011. Pretoria, South Africa. .

Cape Town (2008)² confirms this when they state “*The poor and the rich have different baskets of consumption. These baskets differ from the ‘average’ basket for the country as a whole. ... The consumer price index as calculated by Statistics South Africa does not really reflect the ‘average’ household, as is commonly believed.*” Because of the weight structure applied by Statistics South Africa – known as the *Plutocratic Weight Structure* the weightings of the different food items in the CPI basket are skewed in favour of the rich. A more representative weighting structure, known as the *Democratic Weight Structure* can be calculated to get a sense of the “*true*” level of inflation for the average South African. This rate is different from the one based on economy-wide consumer spending, as the rich account for much more consumer spending than the poor. Furthermore, the two different approaches yield vastly different weights for food items. For example, food items have a plutocratic weight of 23, 7 percent and a democratic weight of 36.6 percent. From this, one can deduce that during periods of high food prices, the average South African is hit harder than those at the upper end of income distribution.

The DPRU further points to the fact that the plutocratic weight structure most closely resembles the expenditure patterns of households in 95th percentile of the expenditure distribution. Accordingly, the DPRU confirms that the official inflation rate as calculated by Statistics South Africa reflects the macro-economic picture and cannot be used to assess the experience of a typical consumer or household. Though the problem posed by using plutocratic weights for calculating the official consumer price index statistics is not unique to South Africa, the extreme levels of inequality in the South African society accentuates the problem.

In order to rectify the situation, Statistics South Africa needs to pay special attention to weighting issues discussed above, and must include in their household surveys, questions relating the actual food items purchased and the real expenditure for food (based on critical issues of affordability and accessibility). Failure to provide a more realistic CPI, can seriously compromise a meaningful and critical assessment of household food security in South Africa. The Human Sciences Research Council (2009)³, likewise, echoes similar sentiments when it notes: “But we cannot precisely determine a baseline estimate, and therefore it is currently not possible to monitor progress towards greater food security. Despite numerous indicators of food security status evident in various national datasets, sampling and methodological constraints render cross-dataset comparisons unworkable. The same constraints prevent any determination of household level food security in South Africa”.

Failure to rectify this situation will not only continue the tradition of computing the CPI based on food expenditure patterns of the rich, but will also seriously compromise a real assessment of the food and human security scenario of the majority of poor households in South Africa. Overall, what is certain is that at the macro level, food prices in South Africa are on the rise, albeit, not at the same rate of increase as in other developing countries. However, The Global Crop Industry News (January 2011)⁴, warns that although South Africa’s food prices hikes seem not to have kept in tandem with global increases, the country should not be complacent. South Africa’s food price increases have also been disguised by the strength of the rand. Since food prices, locally and internationally, have been increasing at the same time and to the same extent that the rand has been strengthening, the two have largely cancelled each other out. It would seem that this is a problem delayed, since the rand is bound to retreat at some point and all indications are that food prices will endure for a longer period – or worse, they could be here to stay. When this

² DPRU 2008. Consumer Price Inflation across the Income Distribution in South Africa. . Development Policy Research Unit, School of Economics, University of Cape Town, South Africa.

³ HSRC (2009), ‘Household food security status in South Africa’, *Agrekon*, Vol 48, No 4 (December 2009).

⁴ GLOBAL CROP INDUSTRY NEWS 2011. South Africa Food Prices at Record Highs. . *Sheffield, England. January 2011*

happens, the effect on food prices is likely to be dramatic. The result, in effect, will be like a “double-edged sword”, especially for food security in South Africa.

Even the South African Reserve Bank is vigilant on rising food and oil costs (SFGate.com:23 May 2011)⁵. The Bank threatens to action if price pressures from rising food and oil costs become more widespread. While the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) of the Bank held back on raising interest rates, it said “This does not mean that these inflation developments can be ignored,”. The Bank, further reported that food and oil prices are driving inflation and the acceleration in food price hikes is expected to persist for some time. Finally, it would seem that no developing country in the world, even South Africa, is exempt from the ravages of food prices increases – whether in terms of poverty and hunger or food riots or a combination of both.

South Africa: Lessons Learned: Looking Ahead: Strategies for a Sustainable Food Secure Future in Africa

‘Mankind is at a critical historical crossroad. The potential of globalisation and innovation to raise living standards is unprecedented, but so are social and development challenges around the world... Our increasing interdependence demands an integrated and concerted response to these global challenges. That is the historical challenge of our generation.’ – G5 Political Declaration, leaders of Brazil, China, India, Mexico, and South Africa, 8 July 2008. (Oxfam: 2008)⁶.

From the preceding analyses, it is quite clear that the world is experiencing a dramatic increase in food prices. Nominal, as well as real, international prices of all major food commodities reached their highest level in nearly 30 years. Although the food scenario differs from country to country and future trajectories remain highly uncertain, best projections suggest that food prices are likely to remain high in the next few years and high prices are expected to affect the food economies of most developing countries.

Rising food price crisis is provoking social unrest across the developing world and resulting in a number of short-term policy responses from Governments in both exporting and importing countries which risk exacerbating instability in world markets . In the short run those food buyers in the cities and in the rural areas (including the poorest rural households that are predominantly net food buyers) who spend large share of their income in food, are likely to be pushed deeper into poverty and food insecurity. In some countries urgent action is required to maintain and in some case enhance emergency safety nets.

Conversely, according to the FAO (2011)⁷ high prices will stimulate a supply side response where the market signals are transmitted to food producers and where they have the capacity to increase production and the infrastructure and organisation to supply the market. This may represent an important opportunity for promoting agricultural and rural development in many low income-food deficit countries, provided an enabling policy environment and supportive measures are established quickly. On the longer term however climate change and water scarcity are expected to affect y food production negatively. Without coordinated actions and adequate policy measures, these new challenges will compromise the prospects for achieving food security.

Failure to act expeditiously may lead to a significant increase in the number of people in need of emergency, as well as medium and long-term, assistance. Actions are needed to both mitigate the impact and to provide the basis for rapid and medium term supply response to take advantage of the emerging opportunities through investment in agricultural assets. Policy and investment

⁵ SFGATE 2011. South African Reserve Bank Vigilant on Rising Food, Oil Costs. . *San Francisco, USA. 23 May 2011.*

⁶ OXFAM INTERNATIONAL 2008. G5 Statement Common Political Declaration from the G5 Countries. *Oxford, UK. July 8 2008.*

⁷ FAO (2011), 'Guide for policy and programmatic actions at Country level to address high food prices', *FAO initiative on soaring food prices, Rome.*

responses by Governments and development partners need to be country and context specific and should be articulated to address both immediate issues and long terms challenges in a coherent and a mutual reinforcing manner. It must be remembered, though that the food price crisis is inextricably linked to the more the more daunting challenges of our time, namely, inequality, poverty, hunger and food security. Therefore any attempt to deal with these challenges requires an integrated strategy involving not only governments, but also, world and regional organisations concerned with development and food production, the private sector, research and policy organisations and civil society organisations.

With reference to the African food scenario, it will be important to note that the prime focus of this position paper was to analyse and articulate the food crisis and to alert the governments and all other stakeholders of the coming crisis of food price increases and the threat it poses to human security. In response, an attempt will be made in the next section to briefly outline short and medium to long-term strategies to deal with the “threatening” crisis. The list of strategies is a brief summary of recommendations made by major food-related world organisations such as the FAO, WFP, IFPRI, OXFAM, UNICEF and the World Bank.

The summarized strategy basically calls for an (i) improvement in social protection and social safety nets, (ii) improvement in access to opportunities, and (iii) more equal access to improved opportunities. Within this context, this section explores short term measures and targeted interventions to protect the food entitlements of the most vulnerable groups and income and livelihood programs for the poor. In the medium to long term, measures will seek to:

- enhance productivity growth;
- promote bio-security;
- improve access to information and communication technology;
- improve market access and income diversification;
- encourage better risk management;
- continue the dialogue to deepen and widen policy reform; and
- strengthen institutions, enhance capacity and skills, and promote good governance.

Short Term Responses

If the food price issue develops into a crisis of very serious proportion, then, in the short term, it is recommended that African leaders and other responsible stakeholders implement the following measures:

- *Strengthening* safety net programs for food-stressed populations including targeted food subsidies and emergency food security reserves system. The targeted assistance would include support for food for work and food stamp programs.
- *Policy Advice.* Policies such as export restrictions, price controls, price supports, optional food grain reserves, and input subsidies need to be revisited in light of the higher food prices, which could persist. Hence, policy dialogue with member countries is critical to consider effective options to address the immediate impacts of the crisis and to restore food price stability. Prudent macroeconomic management to contain inflation is also critical in the mix of available policy options.
- *Input Availability.* Further improvements are needed to ensure that farmers have easy, reliable, and affordable access to seed, fertilizers, pesticides, and credit. Moreover, the rapid hikes in the prices of key inputs such as fertilizers, pesticides, and fuel have created additional hurdles for farmers, which could limit their supply response.

Medium to Long Term Responses

As mentioned previously, there is no “one fit all” solution to the food price crisis. Unlike many other developing countries, South Africa is relatively secure in terms of availability of food, especially at the national level. However, the analyses above have shown that at the household and individual levels South Africa is food insecure. We have also seen how cyclical causative factors, especially climate change has drastically changed the food security situation of various countries that were once secure in terms of food availability. The list of measures recommended below are meant to be dealt with in a proactive manner – it is after all, better to be prepared rather experience the full might of a calamity, be it a natural one or man-made. With this in mind, the following measures are recommended to deal with the food crisis in an integrated manner:

- *Incentives.* Investments in agriculture may still not generate the envisaged returns unless these are accompanied by various reforms, pricing, trade, and other policies. The distortions need to be corrected and divergence between economic and financial returns narrowed. Otherwise farmers will continue to operate sub-optimally and return on investment will continue to be low in the sector.

- *Infrastructure.* Low levels of investments in the sector have led to poor upkeep and maintenance of existing agricultural structures and facilities, and insufficient development of new structures and facilities. In particular, investments are needed to ensure efficient and reliable irrigation water supplies and connectivity to markets. • Investments in irrigation systems will improve efficiencies and reliability of irrigation water supplies, which will in turn raise crop productivities, expand irrigated areas, and reduce the incidence of crop failures. The priority should be to improve the efficiency and reliability of existing irrigation systems rather than to develop new systems. South Africa is already water-stressed or is nearing such a point, and there may not be much scope for development of new irrigation systems. Irrigation system development needs to be combined with investments in flood control and drainage structures. In this context, additional investments will be required for soil and water conservation.

- *Improvements in connectivity* to the markets will help in lowering production and marketing costs, reducing wastage of inputs and produce, and improving returns to agriculture. Therefore, investments in rehabilitation, maintenance, and development of existing and new farm-to-market roads need to be a priority area for public sector intervention.

- *Rehabilitation and upgrade of postharvest processing facilities.* Because of poor handling and processing facilities, South Africa exports much of its agricultural products unprocessed thus losing the value added and employment in processing. Improvement in post-harvest handling and processing capacity would enhance food security by limiting wastage, and increase income, supply, and employment.

- *Rural Finance.* In the context of financial sector reform, financial institutions including microfinance institutions need to expand operations rapidly to improve access of farmers and rural poor to credit.

- *Research Institutions.* Productivity growth in agriculture will require significant increase in investment in adaptive research and technology dissemination. New high-yielding and pest-resistant varieties are needed to reverse the stagnation in yields. Institutions engaged in agriculture research and technology dissemination in South Africa have weakened. Their capacity building will require sustained investment. Policies to attract private investment and participation of civil society institutions will also be important.

- *Bio-security* to protect biodiversity, to promote environmental sustainability, and enhance food safety and bio-safety.

- *Information.* Although information technology has seen great progress, farmers have largely been left out. The timely flow of market information is still lacking, which makes it difficult for farmers to adjust their production decisions to respond to changing market conditions;
- *Regional and international cooperation* to facilitate the elimination of barriers to agricultural trade has become an urgent imperative in the wake of the food crisis. Measures such as the establishment of regional and sub-regional commodity exchanges, and clearinghouses need to be considered.
- *Re-inventing the CPI.* As mentioned previously, the calculation of the CPI by Statistics South Africa is skewed in favour of the rich and as a result does not reflect adequately in terms of the food basket of the poor. In order to gauge the real household level food security, the CPI has to be reflective of the average South Africa. Interventions have to be made at the national level, otherwise our risk assessment of food security can be seriously compromised.

The list of recommended measures, both short and medium to long term does not claim to be exhaustive. Quite obviously more research needs to be conducted in order that a more comprehensive prognosis of the food price increases is arrived at. What is quite clear though is that food prices are on the rise and there is an impending crisis. Thus far, food price increases have stoked inflation and squeezed the fiscal space in South Africa, increasing the risks of higher interest rates and a slowdown in economic growth. The food crisis of global and national proportion calls for immediate response of the South African government and affiliates in the international community.

Some Strategies in Dealing with the Food Price Crisis

The onset of the dramatic price rises in food that affected most nations has given rise to much analysis about the deeper implications of declining food availability, accessibility and affordability, including the potential for serious challenges to national state security. At the heart of this is the obvious importance of adequate food supplies for the creation of societies that are sustainable and capable of delivering continuously improving levels of well-being. Quite clearly the sort of price rises witnessed in 2007-2008 have serious regional and global implications. World Bank president Robert Zoellick suggested that these increases had wiped out the impact of 7 years of progress in the fight against poverty. But these impacts have a marked differential effect on various nations and on specific socio-economic groups within countries. Food shortages have been particularly apparent in poorer countries that lack the financial resources to import food from the world market, and the poorer segments of societies who are especially vulnerable. In this situation the implications of a seriously undermined food security situation can be profound.

Reference has already been made to a number of food riots that took place in the last couple of years, but even more serious instability certainly cannot be ruled out. If a government is unable to feed its people it is seen as having failed to meet one of the most basic requirements for retaining legitimacy and political support, and severe disruption or even revolution are likely. At the very least some serious tensions seem inevitable, and during 2008 and 2010 many such grievances were politically and physically aired, the results of which are now history.

African Food Security: Opportunities for Dealing with the Food Crisis

The right to food is one of those most consistently enshrined in human rights law, but it is the one most frequently violated in recent times. Targets set by the United Nations Millennium Development Goals Programme and the World Food Summit for the reduction of hunger has largely failed, despite food production having grown faster than world population. Global, regional, national and human security issues are increasingly converging, and in some areas overlapping.

What is needed is an understanding that goes beyond conventional, orthodox wisdom to work more strategically in developing and implementing effective, international, regional and national policies. Availability, accessibility and affordability are all important dimensions of food security, complex issues that encompass a wide range of inter-related natural, economic, social and political factors, internal and external, which challenge the world's ability to address the question of human and state security.

African national states need to deal effectively with food security, the food price crisis and the dramatic consequences which results from an absence of adequate mechanisms for dialogue, a lack of capable institutional structures, and shortfalls in administrative capacity, a lack of transparency. There is more than need for innovation to deal with the daunting challenges of food, poverty and hunger that face African states. Africa urgently needs to interact with the rest of the world and among sister countries within the continent. With specific reference to food security and the food price hikes, South Africa and Africa need to mitigate their exposure to commodity price volatility, increase their participation in multilateral forums, take advantage of global financial markets and improve regional integration, including developing a common approach to problems across countries. There is also need to focus on achieving inclusive growth, spreading benefits to vulnerable groups.

The potential for regional integration to propel African growth and enhance Africa's ability to provide food for its population and reduce hunger and poverty to effectively participate in global trade is recognized by the African Union in the initiative to establish an African Economic Community. The African Union also pledges to support the "economic, social and cultural development and integration of African economies in order to increase self-reliance and promote endogenous and self-sustained growth (SA Department of Agriculture"2006). Enhanced intra African political and economic relations holds potential for reducing the reliance on foreign developed countries, especially in terms of the market and affords African producers and exporters the opportunity to develop the required agricultural products, capacities, competitive competencies, scale economies, skills and experience necessary for effective integration and participation in the global economy and trading systems.

It is within the above mentioned context that South Africa, through the use of Smart Power, has a vital role in promoting greater inter-regional development in Africa, especially in terms of overall economic development, agriculture, trade, research and innovation. The relatively developed South African economy and agricultural sector compared to those of other African countries, ideally places our country as a leader in promoting sustainable agriculture and food security in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Leveraging South Africa's Agricultural Know-How: An Impetus for Food Security in Africa

In terms of geopolitics, South Africa has considerable prestige and legitimacy throughout Africa. The current African development nexus, especially in the context of agriculture, food security, poverty, hunger and the food crisis, provides South Africa an important opportunity to build on that legacy and to craft a balanced "smart power" approach to Sub-Saharan Africa – one that gives primacy to diplomatic engagement of an enduring nature. In this respect, South Africa must draw on the capacities and experiences of African and other international partners, both to address immediate crises and to collectively address longer term challenges in which African, South African and global interests are at stake.

More recently South Africa has added to its good standing in the African continent by becoming the only African member of the G20 countries and a non- permanent member of the United Nations Security Council. Significantly, in April 2011, South Africa was formerly accepted as a

fully-fledged member of the BRICS (a group of emerging markets, comprising Brazil, Russia, India and China), thereby bolstering its position as Africa's champion. This step contributes to further strengthening of South Africa's political authority in the international arena, in addition to the important role which South Africa plays in the African Union (AU) and in the matters of African continent as a whole. South Africa's connection to BRICS strengthens its global stature and forebodes well for the promising trends of world development, including the formation of a multi-centric international system.

South Africa has all the credentials which could be leveraged to make agriculture work in Africa. As Maite Nkoana-Mashabane⁸, South Africa's Minister of International Affairs and Cooperation told reporters in Pretoria. "Joining the group is the best Christmas present ever! We will be a good gateway for the BRIC countries. While we may have a small population, we don't just speak for South Africa, we speak for Africa as a whole. We may not be the same size, but we can open up opportunities for them, and through that, we can complete our economic integration on the continent."

South Africa and Africa: Actioning Policies and Strategies for Food Security: Some Preliminary Thoughts

In the light of the above, South Africa is in a unique position to leverage its good continental and global standing to assist Africa in terms of overall development and the food security challenge at large. South Africa and Africa can benefit from the concrete projects of BRICS in areas such as agriculture, science, statistics, development finance institutions, security and justice. According to Badasie (2011)⁹ BRICS agriculture ministers have agreed to cooperate in agricultural technology development and exchange. Towards this end, South Africa should strategically use its regional and international diplomatic footprint to:

- Remain committed to the consolidation of the African Agenda and will need to use its BRICS membership to increase strategic cooperation among emerging market economies of the South in support of this agenda.
- Be dedicated to African unity and integration within the framework of the Constitutive Act of the African Union (AU). This includes the strengthening of continental institutions, which are critical in responding to the challenges of poverty, underdevelopment, peace, security and stability on the continent.
- Ensure that the rest of the African continent is advantaged by its BRICS membership and continues to benefit from the BRICS countries in the priority areas identified by the AU such as agriculture and food security.
- Use its two-year non-permanent seat in the UN Peace and Security Council (UNSC) to make a significant contribution towards deepening the relationship and cooperation between the UNSC and Sub-Saharan Africa.
- Use the opportunity to table some aggressive proposals supporting agricultural development and food security globally and regionally and locally.
- Enhance its reputation as one of the leading campaigners for the reform of multilateral institutions, including the World Trade Organization, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the UNSC.
- Champion the course for emerging economies to have a greater voice in international financial institutions and for a more diversified global monetary system.

⁸ BADASIE, P. 2011. Third Brics (Brazil, Russia, India, China South Africa) Meeting. . *Beijing, China. 12 April 2011*

⁹ BADASIE, P. 2011. Third Brics (Brazil, Russia, India, China South Africa) Meeting. . *Beijing, China. 12 April 2011*

- Use its membership to push for a developmental position on multilateral forums, including on contentious issues such as global warming, hunger, poverty and food insecurity.
- Utilize its executive position in AU, BRICS and the United Nations Security Council to champion the course for a World Bank body which could be the equivalent of the International Monetary Fund for Food Security – e.g. the “International Food Fund”.
- Seek transformative regulation in international food markets – especially the commodities market.
- Champion the course for the creation of regional markets which should cater for small scale commercial and subsistence agriculture.
- Assist in the elimination of non-tariff barriers to ensure market access for African agricultural products to the rest of the world.
- Help in the drafting of regulations which will control land acquisitions in Africa, especially in favour of the rural peasants and food security.

South Africa has been and continues to be a leader in Africa, in terms of its commercial farming expertise, administration, governance, financial integrity, research and academic expertise, and its innovation capacity.

Using this experiential threshold, South Africa, could strategically assist in Africa’s agricultural development and food security.

- Agricultural markets are changing. We no longer need to think exclusively in terms of export crops because new market opportunities are emerging on Africa's doorstep. As cities expand and incomes increase, people in urban areas are changing their eating habits and becoming consumers who want more meat, dairy products and vegetables, and they expect higher quality standards – we are seeing this across the continent. In response to this demand, agricultural value chains are expanding and becoming better organised. These modern markets bring their own challenges for some smallholder farmers in terms of higher entry costs, but the potential opportunities cannot be overlooked, especially if we are serious about economic growth and food security.
- South Africa, Africa and the international community need to reverse the longstanding neglect of rural development. There needs to be improved governance in rural areas, and policies that create a better economic environment for smallholder farmers to succeed and grow not only food but their businesses as well.
- Rural infrastructure in Africa needs to be expanded and improved. Nearly a third of the rural population live more than five hours away from a market town, with fewer than 20% living within an hour of a market town. Only one in five Africans has access to a national electricity grid. Targeted investments in road-building and utility construction can go a long way towards improving farmers' capabilities and access to markets. The rural environment must be made less risky.
- Since South African farmers still maintain a good reputation in Africa, their expertise, if properly coordinated, can assist in the development of commercial agriculture in Sub-Saharan Africa. Already, some farmers, with the blessing of the South African government have left for Democratic Republic of Congo. This project is hailed as a food security project. Many other African countries could benefit from our farming expertise.
- South Africa has some of the best Policy and Planning expertise in the world. Rather than relying on international organisations, Africa needs to harness its own expertise and “own” the policy-making and planning efforts, thus breaking dependency on foreign organisations, who generally consider their work as an obligation to their foreign funders.

- South Africa has the necessary capacity to assist Sub-Saharan governments to act proactively, especially in terms of risk management. Given the fact that global warming is affecting the rainfall regimes of most countries in the world, the likelihood of floods or droughts loom ominously on the horizon – Sub-Saharan Africa is no exception. Risk management plans through scenario analysis could easily be drawn up to deal with the blights such as famine, floods and food availability.
- Through the auspices of our well-organised financial institutions, South Africa could assist in strengthening Sub-Saharan Africa's bargaining power by providing developed countries with an opportunity to reduce their carbon emissions at relatively low cost. Soil sequestration, for example, has the potential to store between 1-2 billion million tons of carbon per year, which is equivalent to 25% of annual carbon emissions (Lal:2009)¹⁰. African land has the potential to provide some of these soil sequestration services. Carbon credit funds gained through this process could assist many African countries in dealing with the food security challenge.
- Through a well-coordinated effort between the public and private sector, nongovernmental organisations such as universities and research organisations and civil society organisations, South Africa could harness its intellectual and research might to assist Sub-Saharan Africa in dealing many of the problems and challenges associated with food production in South Africa.
- The entrepreneurial drive and potential of businesswomen to contribute towards economic growth and export development is still widely untapped in many countries of Africa. Support to women in agriculture business and trade is a key driver towards food security and poverty alleviation in Africa. Increasing women's access to land, finances and trade opportunities helps to increase their share in food production, wage employment and contributes significantly to their economic empowerment.
- Building productive capacity for trade and exports, whether at the smallholder or micro-enterprise level, is essential for reducing poverty. But without markets there can be no basis for sustainable livelihoods. Regional economic integration that South Africa is pursuing with the rest of Africa is the key to the sustainable development of the smaller economies of Africa through access to larger markets. The programs of development of agriculture in these countries, therefore, have to be driven by the demand in the regional markets

Food Price Crisis and Food and Human Security

Guns, tanks and bombs have preoccupied Alan Dupont for much of his career. But now he is worried about food. Professor Dupont, the director of Sydney University's Centre for International Security Studies, says growing pressure on global food supplies threatens to make social and political unrest within countries, and conflict between countries, much more likely. But we're surprisingly unprepared. "Very little thought has been given to how serious the food security issue is going to be," says Dupont, who worked as an army officer, an intelligence analyst and a diplomat before becoming an academic. Matt Wade, *The Age* (17 June 2011)¹¹

Conclusion

The current crisis of food price increases is broader than the question of food production. It underpins and raises the larger issues of food security, poverty, hunger and the complexities of unequal economic and political dispensations. This paper has not only provided an analysis of the

¹⁰ LAL, R. 2009. Soil and Food Sufficiency: A Review. *Agron. Sust. Dev.* 19: 113-133.

¹¹ WADE, M. 2011. An empty stomach is an angry one and food scarcity could stoke political instability around. . *The Age. Australia.* 17 June 2011.

food price increases, but also, focused on the potential threats that food price volatility has on food and human security. It raised fundamental questions regarding the global food production system; the paradox of a billion people going hungry to bed every day, despite the fact that the world produces more than enough for food for its almost 7 billion inhabitants; the vagaries of global food markets and the financialisation of food and the threats and conflicts that generate from food price hikes. The paper has also shown that no country is exempt from the threat of food insecurity which is now on the centre stage of global geopolitics. The recent food riots, throughout the world, only lend credibility to this claim.

In the context of the above, the new concept of food and human security demands more than an ability to protect a countries borders. It requires that we expand our goal to include the attainment of sustainable food security, within and without our borders. With its global and regional scope, Africa's sustainable security demands that we focus not only on the food security of a specific state, but also on our regional neighbors and the poorer nations of the world, especially in terms of food security, hunger, poverty and inequality. These are challenges that threaten human sustainability, at large.

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Economic, Development and Human Resources Issues for Consideration within MBA Programmes in South African and African Business Schools

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Abstract: *This paper explores certain management, development and economic issues relevant to the discourse of the MBA programme and its teaching in South Africa and Africa as a whole. It attempts to situate the discourse within the realms of broader debate that permeates its relevance to both management and its wider and broader role in developing societies and to development in general. An attempt is made to project on both positive and negative aspects of certain salient issues that need elaboration and understanding by academics and Business Schools, particularly in South Africa. It will also attempt to briefly explore some nuances relevant to entrepreneurship within the context of the MBA programme and, other important aspects that may need some attention by academics and Business Schools in the formulation of their MBA programmes and the contribution that Business Schools can make to higher education.*

The discussion does not pretend to exhaust in any detail the issues that are explored in this paper. The primary aim of the paper is to stimulate discussion and debate for purposes of enhancing the MBA programme as a brand, in an attempt to strengthen its importance and relevance to management and development within the framework of relevant higher education discourse.

Introduction

According to Mamphela Ramphele (August, (2012), teaching is a noble profession that should not be tainted by those lacking in commitment to give of their best.” This lies at the heart of both undergraduate and postgraduate studies in South Africa and Africa as a developing nation and continent. The continent needs to arise and wake up from the complacency that has allowed for tolerating failing education systems and therefore, a need exists to focus on radical change in South Africa’s and the continents education systems. It is obvious therefore that a critical ingredient according to Ramphele (2012), is leadership at all levels to transform the approach to education. In this regard Business Schools both traditional and distance providers of higher education have become important role – players in both undergraduate and postgraduate studies. All of this becomes relevant given the high costs of education, the collapse of education at the basic education level within many states in Africa and particularly South Africa. The turmoil and drop in academic standards in certain traditional universities, exacerbated by poor quality, applicability and general functionality of education in general, overcrowding, coupled with student intake problems, denying those that cannot be, absorbed, admitted and accommodated by the traditional universities because of the very serious problem of space at these institutions. Governments therefore, have to support distance universities and colleges to play a leadership role in terms of the radical change that is required. Many of the distance education colleges and universities have made huge investments, and according to Ramphele (2012), the government must lead and be held accountable for good governance of the education system, and citizens must demand a higher level of performance and accountability from governments. She further states that our education system is actively generating poverty through the massive failures of governance.

The continent’s ambitions to industrialize and to compete in tough global economic conditions will not be realized and would become a pipe dream unless South Africa and the countries of Africa commit to radical change in the management of education and training. Africa to a large extent and South Africa included, are being left behind by poorer countries and our peers in the Brics club and the rest of the world, in terms of the global knowledge economy. Ramphele (2012) further states that “the identification, nurturing, development and utilization of talent must

become the feature that distinguishes successful societies from failed ones. African governments in general and South African Business Schools are missing the opportunities to play to their strengths and to compete in today's global knowledge economy. This is exemplified by the high unemployment rates in South Africa and the African continent as a whole, exacerbated by the relevance of training in both the private and public sectors. Ramphele (2012) adds that there is a lack of policy coherence and effective implementation which have undermined the ability of the public and private sectors to exploit the power of information technology to transform education systems.

In addition, the private sector must stop being a frustrated spectator and, become active in the radical transformation of the education and training processes within the continent. This will enhance productivity and competitiveness. The current focus on compliance through corporate social responsibility projects has yielded little to sustainable transformation of the operating environment. The private sector with particular reference to large corporations therefore, have a major role to play in supporting training and management education, offered by distance educational institutions, in the near future and from the perspective of empowering those that have been historically left behind in the quest of education. This would and could make South Africa and many other African countries winning nations. In achieving this according to Ramphele "it is time for a turnaround strategy in which each industry should map its needs over the next 10 years and agree to investment targets. A move away from boutique projects to pooled funding with a shared dashboard to measure performance can then be used to leverage change in the public (and private) education systems. Only sustained long – term approaches can ensure lasting improvements.

Academics need to rise above the parapets of the ivory towers of teaching and learning. Academics ought to lead the charge in proposing radical change to both content and process of teaching and learning. What new ideas have emerged from our tertiary education in the post – apartheid period to understand and celebrate our unity in diversity, Ramphele asks. We need to innovate to transcend our past and shape the future. To this end Business Schools have a major contribution to make, but this can only come to fruition, if government supports distance management colleges and universities in a similar manner that it assists traditional universities, that in the main derive large amounts of funding and recognition from state and governments. Indeed the time has come for radical change. In the way South Africa and Africa addresses education discourse, particularly at the higher education level. There has to be a demand by the state for higher levels of professionalism from academics, teachers and managers, in order to support the teaching and learning process at both the basic and higher education levels. Ramphele states that "we have a choice as a nation to rise to the challenge of the radical change required in our education system, or continue to slide into terminal mediocrity."

Africa Needs Own People Solutions

Leading from the above expose, there is no doubt that Africa's prospects in terms of business perspectives have never looked stronger. The continent is thriving, GDP is increasing at an average of 5 percent each year and, in anticipation of the typical emerging – market benefits such as low cost labour and a vast pool of new customers and, business is flooding into Africa in the hope of long - term growth (Crous, 2012:41). But as business increases in Africa, Crous points out that, it becomes important to develop applicable human resources (HR) policies and practices alongside, not only to prevent exploitation, but also to manage the massive redistribution of talent that will be necessary to sustain successful business development in the continent's emerging

markets. Eighty percent of the world's employees work in emerging markets, but how companies recruit, retain and manage people across the entire organization will often, determine their success or failure. However, the social and political challenges according to Crous that dominate emerging markets mean it's not easy to develop HR guidelines that will work, especially since much of the dominant HR wisdom is not coming from the markets that need it most. In this regard Litheko (in Crous, 2012: 41) states that "The only thing all our HR professionals seem to have in common is that they have all read the latest management books coming out of the United States. It is therefore necessary given this state of affairs that Business Schools in South Africa:

- Create a compact with government to develop proper guidelines in respect to HR policies by means of a contract with both the private and public sectors, in order to create sound HR policies for purposes of effective management, and to engage the labour unions more meaningfully.
- Enhance their MBA – HR courses to become user friendly and more relevant, thus assisting development initiatives and programmes.
- Pay more emphasis on HR practices and policy by creating home grown wisdom and focus on the solutions that have worked for the problems that arise in South Africa's and Africa's particular context.

According to Grobbelaar (in Crous, 2012: 41) "South Africa has emerged as one of the top 10 investors on the African continent and is now the largest source of foreign direct investment in Africa, outside the oil and gas sector." It is therefore obvious that Business Schools in South Africa must assist companies in terms of HR content within their short courses and their MBA programmes, by prioritizing the content of their HR courses in terms of the well being of company employees and the retention of top talent and zooming into HR practices within the public sector, in order to enhance morale and productivity, in order to shape the ethos of the public sector, thus creating the impetus for efficiency and effectiveness. This will enhance and provide long – term financial, career and development opportunities to Africa's massive and currently largely untapped talent pool. Africa, South Africa included has suffered a great and huge brain drain, and as a result many African countries have lost some of their highly skilled professionals. African governments therefore have to intervene by creating a more stable economy, reducing crime, creating job opportunities and investing in training and education. Both the private and public sectors must therefore:

- Support Business Schools to create innovative content in respect of HR policies and guidelines to retain staff.
- HR policies must be prioritized, together with development issues.
- Companies and the public sector must prioritize HR policies and offer attractive practices and benefits, for purposes of attracting the best talent.
 - This will allow for the return of skilled workers back into the country.
- HR practices by both the public and private sectors including Business Schools must therefore look at both the internal and external factors, in order to attract qualified personnel.
 - A concentration by companies and Business Schools to manage diversity by means of equalizing of opportunities and the recognition of personnel needs.
 - Business Schools must enhance content in respect of "cultural intelligence" and diversity issues.
 - Using globalization to advantage.

- Business Schools must enhance the certification process of accredited diplomas, degrees and short courses that they offer and regularly change content in order to keep pace with changing management and development practices across the globe.
- Business Schools must raise the bar in recognition of Africa's rising significance in the business world and produce graduates that are up to the challenges across the world, in terms of business knowledge and applicable practice through sound MBA academic training.

Some Challenges to Development in Relationship to the MBA

The discussion is continued in respect of development in general, and economic development and, certain salient issues in respect of human resources are further elaborated upon. In so doing this part of the article firstly deals with some issues raised in the Financial Mail's feature article, Are SA's Business Schools too tame (July 20, 2012:32 – 41). David Furlonger asks the question – Do business Schools exist only to teach management or do they have a broader role in South African society? The question is indeed most relevant. It is relevant in the sense that it touches on issues pertinent to the MBA programme in general and to the dynamics of development. The foregoing discussion will summarize Furlonger's expose and critique. Thereafter issues in respect to economic development, further issues in respect of human resources as it pertains to development will be discussed and elaborated upon, in terms of their relevance to MBA training.

Furlonger states that it is a strange phenomenon that when South African publications seek business school commentary on local management issues, they are likely to approach not one of South Africa's world class schools but an American one. South African Business Schools must increasingly become global thought leaders and break the cycle of reliance on foreign western dominated thought that derives from Western Universities. They must shed their reliance on these institutions, but incorporate academic infusion guardedly. Other European institutions are also consulted, despite the undisputed excellence of some South African Business Schools. Business schools in South Africa must get more involved in national issues that straddle politics, economics and social and business issues. They must become more innovative and enhance the discourse and challenge the stereotype that has developed, over time that Europe and the West is the best. What then is the purpose of Business Schools? Furlonger asks - do they exist exclusively to make profit by providing management executive training? Or should they be using their academic and intellectual capital to make a broader contribution? Helen van Zyl points out that "the educational role must never be underestimated: it should capacitate business to innovate and change." Valiant Clapper on the other hand says that Business Schools have "An important role in influencing and guiding the economic success of our country." Wendy Ngoma of the Wits Business School indicates that "We can't expect government to be the think – tank for society. Schools as citizens of this country, have a role to define what type of society we live in." Walter Baets of the Graduate School, University of Cape Town says that "It is not enough to be respected and sought – after for the quality of teaching. Schools must be "meaningful" in their local environment. According to Baets the areas in which they could play a greater role are leadership, social innovation, public governance, service delivery, healthcare and education. It is obvious that Business Schools in South Africa be they traditional or distance learning institutions have not done enough to reach out to the real problems and are not part of the national debate. They sit in their comfort zones and concentrate in their niche areas of business engagement. John Powell of Stellenbosch says that schools must never forget that their primary *raison d'être* is to educate, but there is more to education than time spent in the classroom. Business Schools should lead the

discourse in terms of political, social and economic issues and engage with the Labour Unions, given what went wrong in the Marikana mining massacre in the North West Province. They should engage with the different political parties, their youth leagues, women's movements, businesses, politicians, opinion makers and within the international and African arenas.

There is no dearth of talent and of opinion in South Africa. It is about confidence that has been historically eroded and this confidence must be built on the very foundations of the courage of one's convictions to challenge body knowledge and opinion makers. It is a question of "solid ideas" that must become rooted in the teaching programmes of MBA instruction, rooted in critical debate and innovation of thought.

Cobus Oosthuisen of Milpark Business School says that "Schools must recognize their responsibilities as members of society because we are not islands." "We cannot isolate ourselves or sit on the fringes when there is a world faced by the challenges of unemployment, starvation and the issue of sustainability. Its not only the question of teaching the concepts of profit and loss, it's a question of development and redressing past imbalances in order to create a more just society and to promote the general welfare.

Business Schools are perhaps afraid to enter sensitive areas of engagement and nervous of making waves, in a political environment that is itself nervous because of service delivery protests in South Africa and therefore, Business Schools maintain the status quo, mindful of the all embracing fact that they may face the wrath of the political masters. This thinking will have to change and academia must challenge the establishment or allow the country to slide to a point of no return. Business Schools in South Africa must freely make their research available to civil society, to business, be involved in more comprehensive research on issues that affect not only business but society as a whole. They must become think tanks and lead from the front and be in the forefront of research imperatives that have the potential of making a difference to the development of South Africa. Ideas must be all embracing and beyond regional boundaries. Business Schools should lead the way in respect of entrepreneurship and Tommy Du'Plessis of the Potchefstroom Business School states that "South Africa has one of the worst failure rates in the world among start up – businesses. Our failure in sustainable entrepreneurship is linked directly to our shocking employment rate. In most of the world including many Third World economies, small business is the biggest employer. It's an area that all Business Schools should be researching, investigating and exploring with some intensity. It is essential and of cardinal importance that entrepreneurship issues be consolidated thus allowing entrepreneurs to flourish without any let or hindrance.

The Regent Business School has played a significant role in some ways to consolidate this initiative and figures show that, its graduates holding the MBA degree have made inroads in starting up their own businesses and have entered the entrepreneurship arena with some degree of success. One of the biggest problems with MBA graduates is that they enter the administrative fields of management and very few enter the entrepreneurship arena of business engagement. For example, they mostly enter areas of events management, security services, catering and primarily engage with tenders within the three tiers of government. Graduates will have to look at more engaging fields of entrepreneurship and contribute more significantly to business opportunities, and create sustainable employment opportunities in order to address the issue of skills empowerment and make a dent to unemployment in the country. Business Schools must not enter onto entrepreneurship programmes because it is in vogue to do so, but should have a long – term view on the issue.

Some Leading Issues that the MBA Business Schools in South Africa Should Consider in Broadening their Approach to Development and Human Resources

A starting point would be to clarify the meaning of “economic development on the basis of moral and humanitarian consideration. The diagnosis will call for thorough economic analysis within the context of South Africa and Africa. Business Schools therefore have a major role to play in respect to finding solutions, by assisting governments, the public and private sectors, including civil society, agencies, in terms of appropriate policy making, in respect to accelerating economic growth rates, the eradication of absolute poverty, reducing inequalities and extending its approaches to tackle development issues by creating more productive employment opportunities. They are duty bound to clarify the misconceptions about the objectives of development. In so doing Business Schools should break away from the traditional modes of analysis and consider questions such as: What is economic development? How do we measure development? How have developing countries performed?

It has to be clearly understood that economic development involves something more than economic growth and development must be taken to mean growth plus change. These are two essential qualitative dimensions in the development process. The qualitative difference, according to Meier (1995:7) is especially likely to appear in the improved performance of the factors of production and improved techniques of production – in our growing control over nature. It is also likely to appear in the development of institutions and a change in attitudes and values. This is an area that Business Schools must relentlessly pursue.

Economic development is thus much more than the simple acquisition of industries and therefore Business Schools in South Africa have a special responsibility to research, innovate, change the content of their MBA courses, understand social phenomena that impede development initiatives in South Africa and Africa and, contribute significantly to the much needed development of the country and continent. It may then be defined as nothing less than the “upward movement of the entire social system” or it may be interpreted as the attainment of a number of “ideals of modernization” such as a rise in productivity, social and economic equalization, modern knowledge, improved institutions and attitudes, and a rationally coordinated system of policy measures that can remove the host of undesirable conditions in the social system that have perpetuated a state of underdevelopment. These are some of the areas that Business Schools must research, teach and investigate.

The issues that permeate economic development are broad and complex and these complexities must be dealt with by Business Schools in South Africa, for purposes of expanding the discourse of development, for purposes of contributing to development debates within the country, preparing graduates to become sound policy makers and entrepreneurs of development. Failure to understand these dynamics and to consolidate their combined efforts towards development issues would ultimately render Business Schools in South Africa inappropriate and virtually insignificant in respect challenging the status quo that permeates development discourse in the continent and would render them irrelevant to the pressing needs of the continent and its people. This would be a great disservice to the type of graduates that they produce. Business Schools should become leaders in political, social and economic thought processes and influence policymaking and contribute significantly to development discourse.

Business Schools must produce innovative, intellectuals, analytical theorists, development economists, thinkers that can make a difference to society as a whole, changing the attitudes and values of corporate CEOs in a direction that can make a country successful and create the impetus and momentum that is required in respect of development.

In light of some of these considerations in respect to the meaning of development, it is imperative that South African Business Schools recognize the several dimensions of economic development within the ambit, of teaching and within MBA programmes. Instead of seeking development as an end, Business Schools might better view it as a means, as an instrumental process for overcoming poverty and achieving human development.

In elaborating upon economic development, it will be necessary for Business Schools to simultaneously focus on human – resource development. Human resource - rich countries have demonstrated that they can develop even if they are poor in natural resources. Although in many respects, given the current depression in the economic climate, worldwide, and the waning of physical capital, it has been replaced by a creed of investment in human capital. The MBA programme should in many respects concentrate in the quality of people as productive agents, which must be the central objective of Business Schools and an objective towards developing policies. The emphasis on human capital is premised on the basis that knowledge is embedded in human beings and for the purpose of achieving total productivity. This is exemplified by Marshall (in Meier, 1995:265) who stated that “Although nature is subject to diminishing returns, man is subject to increasing returns ___ knowledge is our most powerful engine of production: it enables us to subdue nature and satisfy our wants.” The decisive factor is the improvement in production quality and an investment in health and education. These are some of the issues that MBA programmes and Business Schools must pursue in respect of the development of human resources, which has a direct correlation with the dimensions of economic development. Business Schools and their MBA programmes must for all intents and purposes enquire, how the abilities and skills of people are to be improved, and their motivation and values modified in order to make them more suitable for development efforts.

MBA programmes must discuss the issues of population growth, nutrition and health, and education as separate topics or modules, from the perspective and reality that all these elements of human – resource development are interrelated. And while fertility, nutrition, health, and education influence one another, so does each, in turn, affect income and human development. Moreover, within this social matrix, Business Schools and their academics must recognize various policy choices and assess what can be the contribution of government and the private sector to human – resource development.

Conclusion

This paper is not all encompassing. However, it has attempted to nuance some important economic development considerations, in order to open the debate amongst Business Schools in South Africa and in the African continent. The time has come for Business Schools in South Africa to seriously consider economic and development issues within their MBA programmes, with special reference to deal with the burden of poverty, why does absolute poverty exist and persist, the environmental challenge to development and to order the management discourse to comprehensively deal with the human – resource development dynamic, for purposes of sound economic development, in order to meet the development goals of South Africa and Africa as a continent, in the 21st century, which should become the African century. The question arises – when shall we begin?

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Effective Teaching of Physical Education in Nigeria

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Abstract: *This paper investigated the effective teaching of physical education in secondary schools in Ekiti State, Nigeria. It was a descriptive research by design. The study population comprised all the 175 secondary schools in the State. Out of this, 105 schools were selected through the simple random sampling technique. Out of the 5,750 teachers in the schools, 1,620 teachers were selected for the study through the stratified random sampling technique. Two instruments were used to collect data for the study. The data collected were analyzed using frequency count, percentages, the mean and Pearson Product Moment Correlation. It was found that the teaching of physical education in the schools was at a low level. The performance of students in the subject was also at a low level. Effective teaching of physical education was significantly related with student's academic performance in the subject. It was recommended that more specialists' teachers in physical education should be recruited by the State government and posted to all secondary schools in the State.*

Introduction

The importance of physical education in the Nigerian secondary school curriculum cannot be overemphasized. As one of the required subjects in the curriculum of schools, physical education is being taught in the upper classes of secondary schools (FGN, 2004). It could be combined with Arts, Social Science or Science subjects in the senior secondary classes.

The effective teaching of physical education could be measured by examining the strategies used in teaching vis-à-vis the performance of students in physical education in the senior secondary certificate examinations conducted at the end of secondary school education. It could also be measured by the level of a teacher's subject matter competence which Mullens (1993) regarded as a prime predictor of student's learning. However, when a teacher teaches at the limits of his knowledge, he can do nothing better than recite his notes to the students while the students would just be passive receivers. As a result, students are often denied the ability to achieve because their teacher does not have enough knowledge to help them to progress (Perry, 1992).

Thus, according to (Ukeje, 1979), teachers constitute an important aspect in students' learning. Considering this point, Umeasiegbu (1991) argued that the level of performance in any school is intimately related to the quality of its teachers while the quality of any school system is a function of the aggregate quality of teachers who operate it. As such, effective teaching is likely to be absent if it cannot be situated within a philosophy of meaning, purpose and achievement (McClelland, 1995).

Towards this end, Adeboyeje (2003) argued that there is the need to develop teaching techniques that would make teachers more efficient. He suggested the use of multi-media teaching techniques to assist teachers in delivering effective teaching.

As such, effective teaching could be examined in various ways. It could be seen in terms of how the teaching of a subject within the school curriculum could lead to achieving the objectives of the educational system (Nwadiani, 1998). It could also be seen in terms of how the teaching of a subject could be done in relation to the method of teaching that would enhance the achievement of school objectives (Adeyemi, 2006).

In view of the foregoing, the effective teaching of physical education in secondary schools in Ekiti State, Nigeria is hinged on the use of modern instructional materials and effective lesson plan that is geared toward the achievement of school objectives.

The purpose of this study therefore was to determine the relationship between the effective teaching of physical education and students' academic performance in physical education in the senior secondary certificate examinations in Ekiti State, Nigeria.

Statement of the Problem

Common observation within the school system shows that few number of students offer physical education in secondary schools in Ekiti State, Nigeria (Ekiti State Ministry of Education, 2010). Many reasons might perhaps have been responsible for this. It might be that the teaching of physical education in the schools had not been effective. It might also be that teaching materials perhaps were not adequate in schools. The problem of this study, therefore, was to determine what relationship exists between the effective teaching of physical education and students' academic performance in physical education in the senior secondary certificate examinations in Ekiti State, Nigeria? In addressing this problem, the following research questions were raised:

Research Questions

1. What is the level of teaching of physical education in secondary schools in Ekiti State, Nigeria?
2. What is the level of students' academic performance in physical education in the schools?
3. Is there any relationship between the effective teaching of physical education and student's academic performance in physical education in Senior Secondary Certificate examinations in the State?

Method

This study adopted the ex-post facto and the descriptive research design of the survey type. An ex-post facto research is an after fact or after event research (Gay, 1996). A descriptive survey is a form of planned collection of data from a large population for the purpose of analyzing the relationships between variables (Oppenheim, 1992).

The study population comprised all the 175 public secondary schools in Ekiti State, Nigeria. Out of this, a sample of 105 secondary schools was selected through the simple random sampling technique. Out of the 5,750 teachers including principals in the schools, 1,620 teachers including principals were selected for the study. The method of selection was by stratified random sampling technique. The 1,620 teachers including principals were the respondents in the study.

Two instruments were used to collect data for the study. These were the effective teaching of physical education questionnaire (ETPEQ) and students' academic performance inventory (SAPI). The effective teaching of physical education questionnaire (ETPEQ) was in two parts A and B. Part A elicited demographic information about each school such as the name of the school, its location, number of students, number of classes and number of teachers. Part B requested information on the effective teaching of physical education in the schools.

The students' academic performance inventory was also in two parts. Part A was demographic. It elicited information on the bio data about each school such as the name of the school, its location, number of students, number of classes and number of teachers. Part B required data on students' academic performance in physical education in senior secondary certificate examinations for 5 years (2008 to 2012).

The phase and content validity of the instruments were determined by experts in test and measurement. In determining the phase validity of the instruments, the structure, layout, alignment

and configuration of the questionnaire were examined. In conducting the content validity of the instruments, items of the questionnaire were matched with the research questions in order to determine whether or not the instruments actually measured what they were suppose to measure. The observations made by the expert were used to effect necessary corrections to the instruments.

The reliability of the instruments was determined using the test-retest reliability technique. Only the questionnaire was subjected to the test of reliability. The inventory was not subjected to reliability test. This is because the data collected through the inventory were already in the schools as the study was also an after event research. In conducting the test re-test reliability for the questionnaire, the instruments were administered to 40 respondents drawn from 20 schools outside the study area. After a period of two weeks, the instruments were re - administered to the same respondents. The data collected on the two tests were analyzed using the Pearson Product Moment Correlation technique. A correlation coefficient ‘r’ of 0.82 was obtained indicating that the instruments were reliable and consistent for the study.

The instruments were administered to the respondents by the researcher and research assistant. After a period of two weeks, the completed instruments were retrieved from the respondents. All the respondents duly completed the instrument indicating 100% response rate.

The data collected were analyzed using frequency counts, percentages, mean and Pearson Product Moment Correlation. The null hypotheses were tested for significance at 0.05 alpha level.

Results

1. What is the level of teaching of physical education in secondary schools in Ekiti State, Nigeria?

In answering this question, data on the level of teaching of physical education in secondary schools in Ekiti State were collected from the responses of the respondents to the questionnaire. The data collected were analyzed using frequency counts, percentages and the mean. The findings are presented in table 1.

Table 1: Effective Teaching of Physical Education in Secondary Schools in Ekiti State, Nigeria

Items	N	High	%	Moderate	%	Low	%
Use of instructional materials	1,620	252	15.56	840	51.85	528	32.59
Use of effective teaching method	1,620	210	12.96	764	47.16	646	39.88
Use of prescribed textbooks	1,620	134	8.27	540	33.33	946	58.40
Teacher preparation for teaching	1,620	308	19.00	760	46.90	552	34.10
Conducive classroom environment	1,620	155	9.57	620	38.27	845	52.16
Achieving objective in teaching	1,620	246	15.18	640	39.51	734	45.31
Mean	1,620	218	13.46	694	42.84	708	43.70

In table 1, divergent responses were made by the respondents in respect of the items examined. None of the items examined in the table showed a high level of frequency. For example, the use of instructional material was found to be at a moderate level while the use of textbooks was at a low level. Although, the use of effective teaching method was at a moderate level, conducive classroom environment was at a low level. The mean of the responses indicated that the effective teaching of physical education was at a low level in all the schools.

2. What is the level of students’ academic performance in physical education in the schools?

In answering this question, data on students’ academic performance in physical education in senior secondary certificate examinations in the sampled schools were collected from the responses of the respondents to the inventory

The grades obtained by students in physical education in senior secondary certificate examinations (SSCE) for 5 years (2008 to 2012) were collected from the principals of the schools. In