

LESOTHO – Maqoala, Malebanye, Ha Sankatana and Ha Mapotsane



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Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment in Maqoala, Malebanye, Ha Sankatana and Ha Mapotsane

Bibliographical reference: International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, *Vulnerability Capacity Assessment Communities: Maqoala, Malebanye, Ha Sakatana and Ha-Mapotsane*, IFRC, Geneva, Switzerland (2006).

Click-on reference to the **ReliefWeb country file for Lesotho:**
<http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/dbc.nsf/doc104?OpenForm&rc=1&cc=iso>

Note:

A Guidance Note has been developed for this case study. It contains an abstract, analyzes the main findings of the study, provides contextual and strategic notes and highlights the main lessons learned from the case. The guidance note has been developed by Stephanie Bouris in close collaboration with the author(s) of the case study and the organization(s) involved.

Lesotho Red Cross Society**Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment
Communities: Maqoala, Malebanye, Ha Sankatana, Ha- Mapotsane
23th – 29th June 2006****1. Introduction:**

The disaster risk scenario for Lesotho can be described as *moderate risk* conditions owing to a *high vulnerability due to critical poverty conditions*.

A big number of Basotho continue to be highly vulnerable to food insecurity and much of this vulnerability is chronic and as result of high levels of poverty. The combined effect of reduced crop production, reduced food and cash income from agricultural labour, the increase in the price of staples and general impact of inflation on household expenditures mean that very poor households will miss some of their food entitlements.

Sources of income for the ‘poor’ and ‘very poor’ are predominantly casual labour opportunities in weeding, house smearing, home brewing and washing.

Employment and remittances is the major source of income for the ‘middle’ and the ‘better – off’. The difference in employment activities for the wealthier and the poorer households is that while the poorer households predominantly depend on casual labour, the ‘middle’ and ‘better – off’ are engaged in skilled and semi – skilled labour activities.

According to the Lesotho Vulnerability Assessment Committee (LVAC), who have completed a baseline redevelopment exercise carried out in February 2006, the livelihood zone maps have been updated by the Bureau of Statistics and reflect that the population figures for various zones have changed drastically.

This exercise resulted in significant population shifts in some zones and the most affected zone is the Senqu river valley whose population now stands at 122,680 compared to 346,000 in previous years. Much of the former Senqu river valley population is now in the mountains and southern lowlands. In fact the southern lowlands population has more that doubled and this indicates serious underestimation of the population of the zones in the previous mapping exercise.

This year Lesotho experienced heavy rains that resulted in a mixed situation of good crop in some cases and too much rain that caused water logging and destruction of crops on the other. In some zones especially the mountains, rains started late and this resulted in general crop failure.

According to the Lesotho Meteorological Services, cumulative rainfall in 2006 has been normal to above normal throughout the country. Qacha’s Nek is the only station, which registered the lowest cumulative rainfall, followed by Mafeteng and Butha-Buthe. The rest of the country registered relatively improved cumulative rainfall, of which the percentage departure from normal varies between 12% and 42%. Cumulative rainfall since September 2005 played an important role to ensure there is adequate water for agricultural activities.

The livestock sector continues to provide a significant source of rural income, with cattle, sheep, goats and pigs being the most important livestock. Apart from sale of livestock, livestock products such as wool and mohair are major sources of income. Good rainfall has resulted in very good grazing conditions and no major livestock disease out break has been reported, other

than an anthrax outbreak in 2005. For this reason livestock and grazing conditions are judged to be normal to above normal in 2005/06.

The main crops that are sold in most livelihood zones are maize, sorghum, beans and vegetables and the significance of each cash crop varies from zone to zone.

1.2 Main hazards in Lesotho

- a. The zone has experience different types of hazard events such as dry seasons which cause delays in planting and normally affects the crop yields especially for the maize crop.
- b. Heavy rains which have caused water logging and have normally affected the crop conditions at a critical weeding stage.
- c. Early frost fall and hailstorms, this normally destroys much of the crops, especially maize.
- d. Heavy snow seasons, which do normally not happens, but when it occurs isolate several communities.
- e. HIV/AIDS and the consequences of living with, and dealing with the illness.

1.3 VCA, Zone Description

The Senqu river valley supports a population of 122,680 people and is the most chronically vulnerable in the country. It is characterised by dry conditions and poor soils which makes its agricultural productivity very low in comparison to the all the other zones. The main sources of livelihood are sale of livestock, casual labour (weeding, house smearing, home brewing and washing) and petty trade in its various forms, employment and agricultural production.

The difference in employment activities for the wealthier and the poorer households is that while the poorer households predominantly depend on casual labour, the 'middle' and 'better -off' are engaged in skilled and semi - skilled labour activities.

Senqu river valley - the 'very poor' households with a population of 14,265 people are likely to face a food deficit of 7% per person and an expenditure deficit of M359 (50 USD)¹ per household.

The massive water logging reduced weeding opportunities for poorer household who access food and cash from this activity. The 'very poor' access 17% of their total food consumption and 27% of annual cash income in the baseline year from weeding. This year they will access only 14% of total food consumption and 19% of cash income from weeding.

The price of maize has increased by 25% over the baseline price and this scenario is not likely to change given the expected low maize production South Africa.

The Senqu River Valley

In this zone, the first rains are normally expected at the end of July, but this season they started in December. Although some rain was received at the end of October it was not sufficient for planting. Normally the planting time is from August to September for sorghum and October to November for maize and beans. But this year due to late rains, sorghum was only planted at the end of October; maize and beans were planted at the end of November to December. Therefore it

¹ www.oanda.com

is anticipated that crop yields will decrease, as much of the crops had not yet reached maturity at the normal harvesting time is June.

The main sources of food are:

Maize

Sorghum

Beans

Food for agriculture labour

Cash from agriculture labour

Cash from crop sales

The livestock sector: cattle, sheep, goats and pigs being the most important livestock

2. Executive Summary of the Findings of the VCA in the following communities:

Maqoala and Malebanye

This executive summary provides three main components:

Main conclusions of learning by doing

The soft plan for each community for transforming identified hazard, risks and vulnerabilities.

The main findings of each island community (annex one & two)

2.1 The Context of Learning and Doing

Facilitators fostered a cooperative learning and doing relationship with the participants who were derived from different Red Cross Societies from the region, UN, government organisations and NGO's.

Classroom and the field of the communities were integrated throughout with only the first day dedicated to the classroom environment. The context of the five days learning and action was framed in the two following basic models:

Information and Feedback on Living Through Time, which is Essentially Chaotic and Dynamic, Viewed from Constantly Changing Different Perceptual Positions and Relationships.

The Environment of living through time

Environment

This is the place where we exist in the present and experience living through time

Behaviour

The behaviours of self, others and entities in the constantly changing environment of living.

Capabilities

The capabilities or capacities of individuals, groups and entities based on the behaviours operating in the environment of living.

Attitudes

The attitudes of those behaving in the particular environment of living based on an understanding of capacities and capabilities, often prescribed by beliefs, values, identity and purpose of existence.

Beliefs & Values

The belief & values that we hold based on the information at all the other levels in this model, past experience and learning.

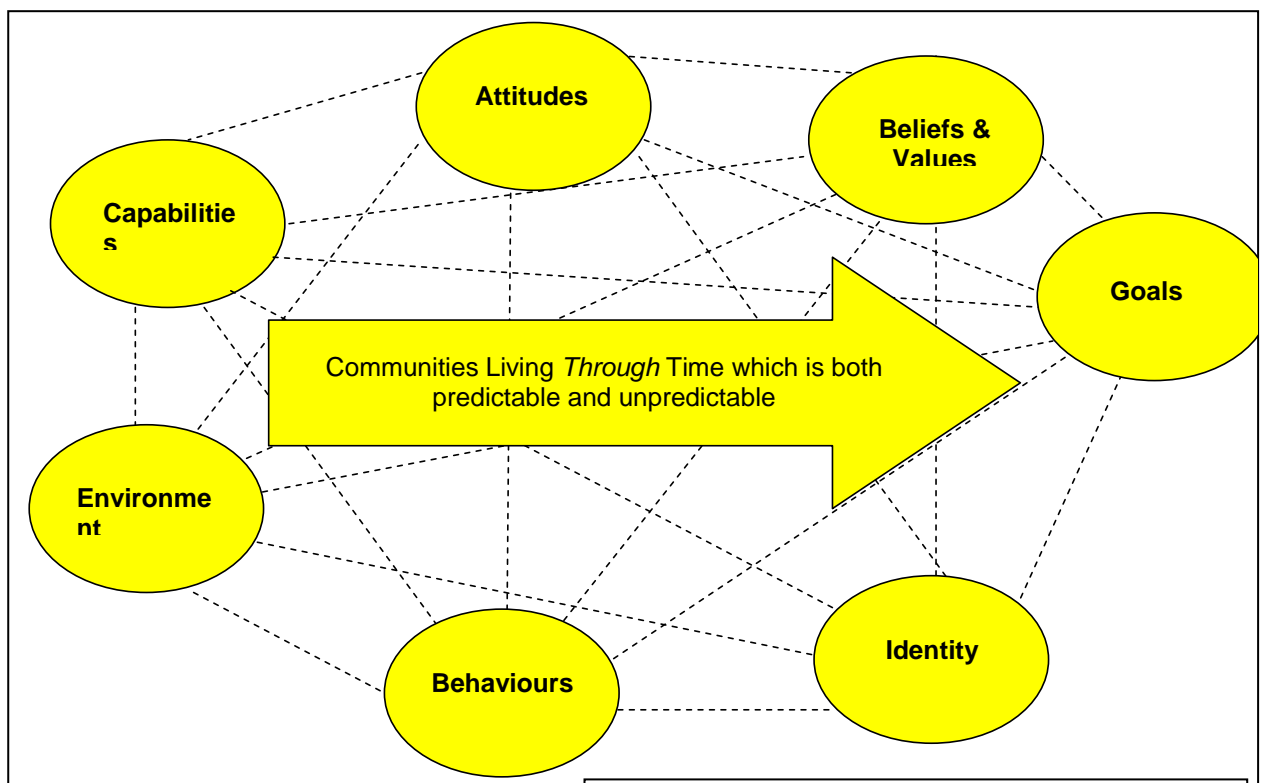
Identity

The identity of individuals, groups and entities that create a perception of who we, groups of people and entities are. It is the sense we have of our very being and influences all other levels.

Goal/Mission

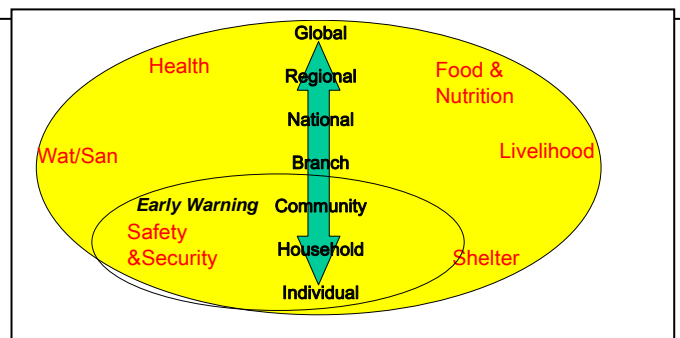
The goal of mission of an individual, groups or entity is the highest level of thinking because everything we do is related to our ultimate goals in living or where we aspire to be in the future.

This important level of thinking about things was configured on the floor as a systemic and dynamic model:



The Needs for Living

- Water & Sanitation
- Health
- Shelter
- Safety and Security
- Food & Nutrition
- Livelihoods



2.3 The VCA Investigatory Tools Taught and Then Used in Action

What Was Selected From The Toolbox

- Direct Observation
- Spatial Mapping
- Vulnerability and Risk Mapping
- Capacities and Resource Mapping
- Seasonal Chart

- Community Organization Chart
- Livelihoods Chart
- Transect Walk
- Historical Chart
- Historical Visualization
- Historical Profile
- Focus Groups

The Community VCA Investigations were carried out by the VCA groups in the four communities and the information gathered is presented here, for all the communities.

3. Conclusion

Vulnerabilities and risks identified in **Maqoala** include flooding, rock falls, hailstorms, snow that damages crops, snake bites, and soil erosion which has resulted in gullies. The steep, rocky slopes and the fact that houses are built in the highlands, while the farms are in the valley means that the community is open to the vulnerability of falls. Recognizing the impact of soil erosion, community members are taking action through gully reclamation around the village through the planting of grasses, trees and aloe plants.

At **Mapotsane** the main source of income for the women is traditional beer brewing and housekeeping, while shepherd work and part time agricultural jobs provide income to men. Generally, irregular and non-payments of wages threaten the income generation activities undertaken by the community. After focus groups with 43 community members, the following issues were seen as top priorities: HIV / AIDS, absence of social services, income generating activities, inadequate water supply, sanitation, food production and food insecurity, and disease outbreak.

At **Ha Sankatana** the main source of income for women is traditional beer brewing, housekeeping and fishing although these are done in a very small scale. Soil erosion is a major threat in this area since vegetation is very poor, so much that the newly developing gullies are encroaching in the arable land thus negatively affecting crop production. The history of movement of people across the Makhaleng River (which is the boundary between Lesotho and South Africa) combined with the distance to health services have contributed to alarming rates of infection of HIV / AIDS. Stigma accelerates the situation particularly since the support groups are dormant. Based on the data from the VCA, potable water is an issue since the springs used for domestic purposes are located in close proximity to the cemeteries and the waterways are used for defecation.

**Annex one:
Community Maqoala**



Name of the community: Maqoala**1. Short description**

Maqoala community is made up of twelve (12) villages which are spread over a large area. The main village, Maqoala, is situated approximately forty-five minutes drive along the main road from the district of Mofale Hoek. The road which runs through the entire community is mainly made of rough dirt. The community is located in a very mountainous area with lots of open space, fields surrounding it and several gullies. The Maqoala river, which is one of the major rivers in the area, along with three other streams pass through the community. The villagers have livestock, fields for farming and lots of grazing land, stone and thatch huts, brick under zinc roofing houses, animal pens, some individual pit latrine toilets, communal water taps and gardens.

**2. Results of Direct observation**

Upon arrival in the village, the team observed the recruitment process in the community, by the Road Development Unit, for maintenance of the main road running through the village. Both men and women were recruited with women showing more appreciation of the recruitment of their counterpart regardless of which gender. While men were more reserved when women were recruited. Some members of the community, especially the elderly and young children were dressed in old and torn clothing, while the youth and middle aged members were well dressed. It was noted that women are very active participants in the community, however the final word lies with their male counterparts. During discussions it was observed that HIV and AIDS is still a very taboo subject, even though the community realises that some members have died from it.

From a higher view of the village, it was clear that the village had not been well planned because there were some homes in the middle of fields and toilets near the communal taps. There were large cracks in houses, while some houses were collapsing indicating that construction methods were poor, and that some materials used, e.g. the mortar, were not strong. There were several shops to service the community, however the community members preferred to do their shopping in Mahales Hoek because the prices in the local shops were too high.

The community members showed a high level of literacy, as there were several members who spoke, read and wrote English as well as Sesotho (the local language). It was also noted that there was no health centre in the village, while there was a school, church and local court in the vicinity. It was also observed that almost every home had a keyhole garden and a water harvesting trap nearby. This indicated that the major gardening activity is keyhole gardening, which is sustainable throughout the year even during drought periods.

Conclusions In conclusion the characteristics of Maqoala community represent a typical Lesotho rural setting with a moderate level of services. The economically inactive groups, elderly and very young, appeared to receive limited resource support from the rest of community.

2.1 Description

Demographic information

Distribution of the population (age, work, gender): The total population of the community is approximately 3706, with (1,054 males and 2,652 females) . The majority of the population is between the ages of 18-40 years. There are several elderly people between 70-80 years and widows. Orphans and other vulnerable children constitute 175 people, and 35 households consist of child headed households. There are 11 home based care clients, however it was noted that stigmatisation is still very high therefore people were very reluctant to reveal their status.

Daily routine (school aged children in school, adult present with children at home, working in the fields): The women work in clothing industries and in the markets. Other income is earned from sale of hats, brooms, sieves, repairing of clothing and sewing of new clothes for sale. The men work in the fields from 0500 – 1000 hours, then their gardens and tend to their livestock for the remainder of the day. The fields and gardens consist of maize, sorghum, wheat, beans, peas, potatoes, cabbage, beetroot, onions and spinach. The children attend school from 0700 – 1630 hours including travelling time.

Family structure (nuclear or extended family present, child headed households, community interaction): The majority of households are female headed, with approximately 6 individuals in each family.

Infrastructure

Types of housing and other infrastructure: The majority of houses are square brick under zinc and these were built when the majority of men still worked in the mines prior to 2003. There are also some stone huts under thatch. Several of these have been abandoned, while others are dilapidated and falling apart.

Construction materials

There is a brick making business in the area which supplies the bricks for construction of houses,



while some villages use boulders to form slabs for the construction of the huts. The grass for thatching of huts is collected from the surrounding hills while the zinc roofing materials are purchased from suppliers in Mochale's Hoek.



Types of roads

There is only one major road that runs through the village. This road is dirt or gravel from the turn-off from the main road and a four-wheel drive vehicle would have to be used to access the villages, especially during the rainy season. The road is currently under construction/repair causing delays while travelling due to heavy

machinery at work. There is also one section which runs over a bridge that will most definitely be blocked once the rainy season begins because the bridge sits in the middle of a riverbed.

Green spaces and playgrounds

The entire community is surrounded by large tracts of open space, with one area reserved as a football field.

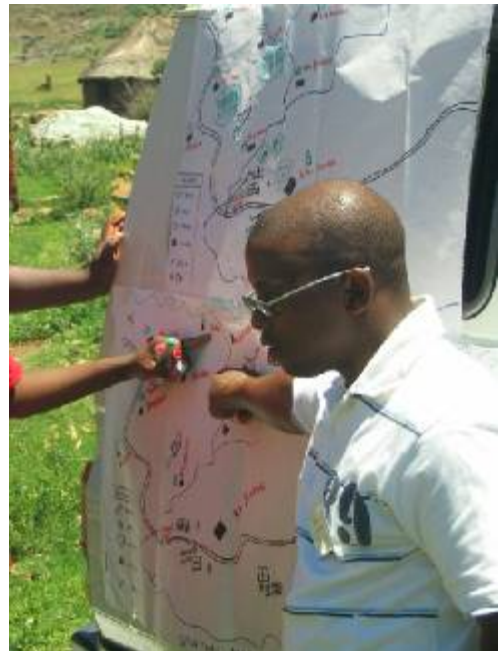
Health, sanitation and other essential services

Sanitation (sewers, running water – availability, functionality and type): On investigation it was discovered that there is no sewer system in the area, and that only nine (9) households have latrines. The rest of the community use the surrounding gullies and bush to relieve themselves. Clean water for drinking, cooking and household use is available in the community through seventeen (17) taps and nine (9) springs. In addition to this, villagers also use river water for bathing, washing clothes and watering their gardens.

Availability of electricity, water and telephone:

There is no electricity in the area, however the villagers use firewood as a source of fuel for the cooking of meals and paraffin and gas for lighting in the evenings. There are also no telephone lines installed in the area, but people use mobile phones for communication as there is Vodacom coverage.

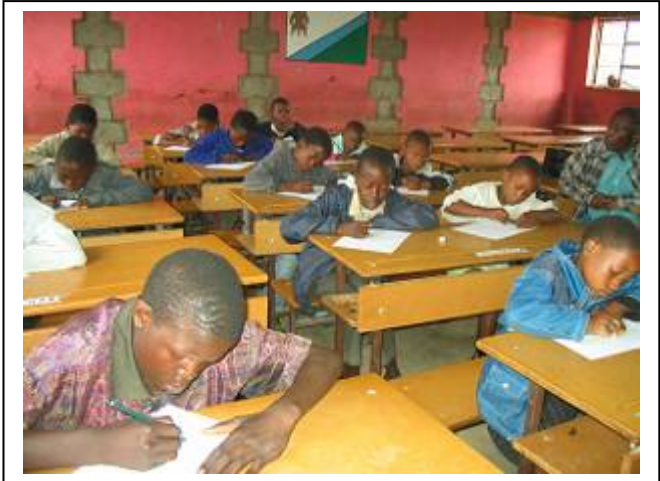
What basic services exist: There are two primary schools in the area, approximately 30 minutes to one hour walking distance from the Chief's homestead. There is one teacher originally from the area teaching at one of the local schools, while the other teachers commute daily from other areas. There are no medical facilities in the area, neither is there any medical personnel living in the community. There are two small community shops in the area, however most community members conduct their purchases in Mhales Hoek because it is cheaper.



Distance people in the community have to travel to schools and health centre: Due to the lack of medical facilities, the villagers have to travel approximately four hours on foot to the nearest clinic which is at Ha Tsepo. This travel is via back roads and mountain paths. Public transport, in the form of taxis, travels through the community but generally do not pick up passengers due to the community's proximity to town.

Animals in the street: Upon observation it was noted that there were several dogs in the community, most of which were very thin, with ribs showing. There were also a few cats, but these looked much healthier. The community members own cattle, sheep, goats, chickens, pigs, horses and donkey – some of which were seen in the village during the direct observation.

Institutions present: The government is providing free education for primary school children. The government was previously providing free tillage services and seeds during the rainy season, however this has since ended in 2003. Caritas was working the area focusing on keyhole gardens, however this has since ended.



Daily activities

What people eat / Where they shop: The community's staple food is maize, which they grow in their fields along with other crops for household use. They also have keyhole gardens in almost every household for vegetables such as beans, peas, potatoes, cabbage, beetroot, onions and spinach. They have two meals a day, breakfast and dinner. There are two shops in the community for basic commodities, however the community members shop in Mochale's Hoek.

Religion – churches etc: Some members of the community attend the Lesotho Evangelical Church, which is within the community, while others attend church in Mochale's Hoek.

Recreation activities: The men play football for recreation and there are sometimes concerts conducted by the school going children.

Types of transportation used: The community members generally walk, use horses or donkey to get from point to point. Public transport also passes through the community.

Visible vulnerabilities

Some of the visible vulnerabilities were cracks in houses due to poor construction, roofs with stones holding the roof down and gullies in the village that were beginning to destroy fields and coming close to houses. The river also cut across the village, between the homestead and villagers houses. This would be a hazard during the rainy season because there was no bridge over which the children would cross.



3. Mapping

The Maqola village has been mapped with focus on special features such as a spatial map, vulnerability/risk map and capacity map. The mapping process was not an easy task because there were many communities which were scattered, with each having different resources and capacities, and not well represented by those participating in the assessment. The final maps below have been validated by the community.



Conclusions

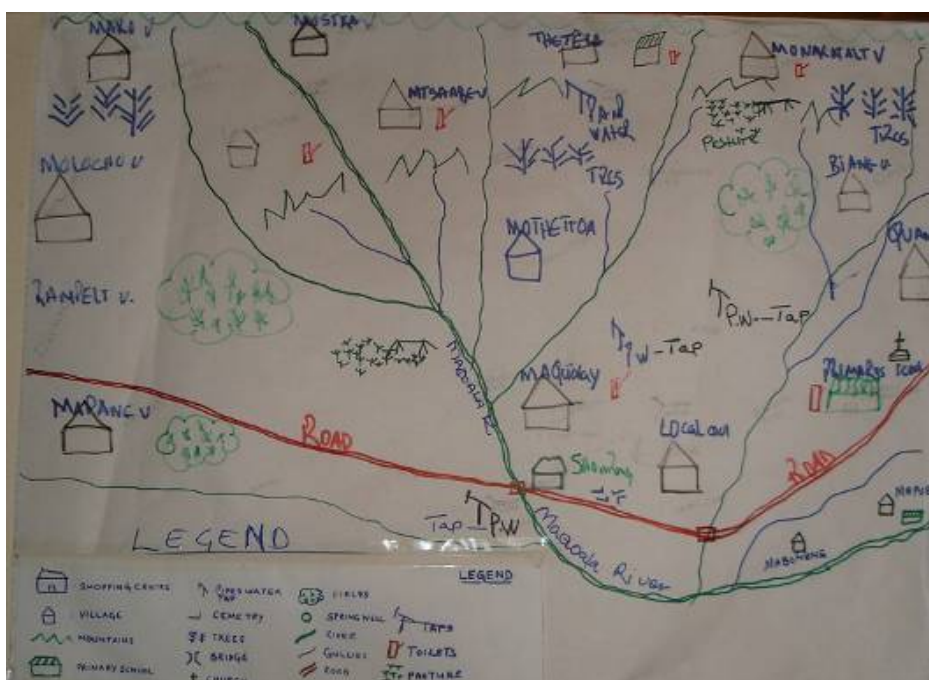
The community participated in the entire process, hence taking ownership of the final product.



3.1 Spatial Map

The following map reflects the special features of the Maqola community.

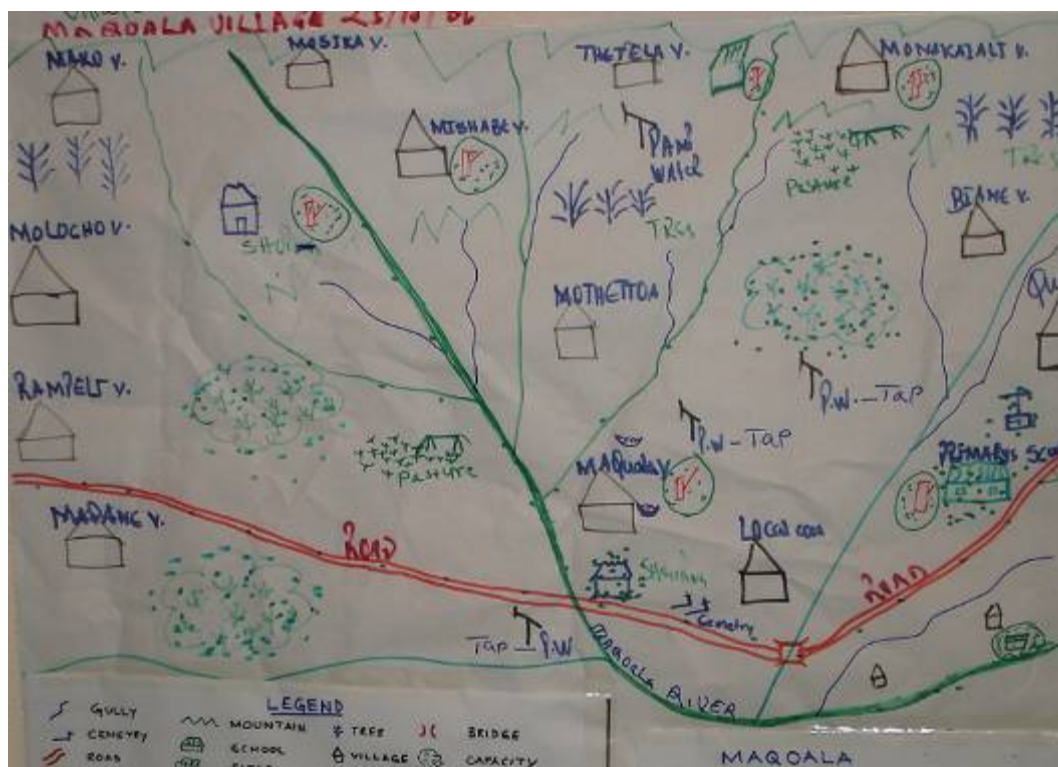
Maqola is made up of 12 villages which are all indicated on the map. The map indicates gullies, farmland /fields, rivers, streams, bridges, shops, roads, church, cemetery, primary schools, springs/wells, piped water - taps, pit latrines, the local court, mountain ranges and pastures.





The map reflects the risks and vulnerabilities at Maqoala community. Some risks identified include flooding, rock falls, hailstorms, snow in some areas also damages crops. There are also areas that are more vulnerable to snake bites. The most visible hazard in the area is soil erosion which has resulted in gullies. There are several gullies in the area which are risks to homes, schools, livestock and the fields/farmland in the area.

3.3 Capacity Resource Map



The map above reflects the resources available in the Maqoala community. One of the resources for villagers is the growth of aloe plants for medicinal and gully reclamation purposes. More to this, other resources and capacities indicated on the map are fields, livestock, primary schools, a church, the major road for transport, rivers and streams for domestic use and water for animals, shops, water harvesting systems, pit latrines, trees, pastures and spring wells.

Risk/Vulnerability and capacities table

Village	Risks	Vulnerabilities	Capacities
Maboneng and Ha Mapuru	Falling rocks, hailstorms, snow and snakes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - People are vulnerable because of the number of poisonous snakes in the area. - People living close to Maboneng mountain are at risk from rock falls. - Crops lost due to snow and hailstorms 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fields and crops - World Vision working in the area on keyhole gardens - School - Toilets - Water taps
Maqoala and Matsitsine	Flooded river in low lying areas; unprotected wells; snakes; inadequate sanitation facilities and gullies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - When the river is flooded school children are at risk of drowning because there is no bridge to cross the river. - Community is vulnerable to waterborne diseases because of inadequate sanitation and contamination of unprotected water sources. - Fertile soils washed away therefore reduces crop production. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Teachers, - Rocks for construction of houses; - Many community clubs that are viable. - School - Local court - Piped water - Aloe plants provide medicine for flu and coughs, and are used for gully reclamation - Keyhole gardens
Ha Qoane and Ha Biene	Gullies; unprotected wells and no bridge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Loss of productive land - Waterborne diseases - Drowning during flooding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Teachers - School - Road construction provides employment

3.4 Transect walk

The transect walk tool was used to collect more detailed information on a selected area of Maqoala community. Analysis from the three types of maps produced (Figure 1 to 3) identified Maqoala to have a combination of particularly high risk, several vulnerabilities and several varied capacities and resources.

The area determined for the transect walk was from the chief's house, in the Maqoala village, to Maqoala Primary School, in Qoane Village. This area was chosen to have the highest hazards, vulnerabilities and capacities in the community. The results were merged into the summary below.

The primary findings from the transect walk investigation were:

	GRASS	WETLAND	TERRACED	ROCKY	ROCKY STEEP SLOPE	ROCKY GULLIES	CLAY SOILS	CLAY SOILS	TERRACED	GRASS
TYPE OF GROUND	GRASS CLAY SOIL	WETLAND CLAY SOIL	TERRACED LAMP SOIL	ROCKY FIELD	ROCKY STEEP SLOPE DEPRESSION	ROCKY GULLIES VEGETATED	CLAY SOILS GULLIES	CLAY SOILS GULLIES VEGETATED	TERRACED LOAM SOIL ROCKS	GRASS ROCKS
LIVELIHOODS	GARDENING CATTLE FRUIT TREES GOATS SHEEP	NONE	FIELDS	FIELDS	FIELDS GOATS	CATTLE	FIELDS FRUIT TREES	FIELDS GOATS SHEEP CATTLE	FIELDS	GARDEN CATTLE FRUIT TREES WATER CONSERVATION
RISKS/HAZARDS	ROOFING SHEETS SUPPORTED BY STONES LACK OF LIGHTING AT NIGHT	NONE	GULLIES	GULLIES	ROCK FALLING	ROCK FALLS GULLIES	NONE	GULLIES	NONE	NONE
CONDITIONS THAT INCREASE VULNERABILITY	CRACKS ON ROOFS STRUCTURAL DEFECTS ON BUILDINGS	NONE	GULLYING	GULLYING	NONE	GULLIES ROCKS RIVER	GULLYING RIVER	GULLYING	ROCKS	NONE
BELIEFS AND VALUES	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	CHURCH
CAPACITIES	GARDENS WATER HARVESTING GOATS PIGS	NONE	FIELDS	ROCKS ALGAE WATER GRASS FIELDS	FRUIT CROPPRODUCTION LIVESTOCK	LIVESTOCK	CROPPRODUCTION ORCHARDS	LIVESTOCK CROPPRODUCTION	CROPPRODUCTION	SCHOOLS
NATURAL ENVIRONMENT	ALOE WATER TREES GRASS EUCALYPTUS	RECLAIMED GULLY	FIELDS	ROCKS ALGAE WATER GRASS	VALLEY	RIVER BANKS VEGETATION	RIVER BANKS VEGETATION	ROCKS GULLIES	GRASS	GRASS STONE
INTERVENTIONS	PLANTING OF ALOE LINK WIRE FENCING TERRACING	GULLY RECLAMATION	NONE	GULLY RECLAMATION	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	TERRACES	WATER HARVESTING

	Findings
Type of ground	Grass, clay soil, wetlands, rocky steep slopes, gullies and farmlands.
Livelihoods	Gardening, livestock rearing, farming and fruit trees
Risks/hazards	Roofing sheets supported by stones, lack of lighting at night when walking on the steep slopes, gullies, rock falls
Conditions that increase vulnerability	Structural defects on houses (cracks) cause houses to collapse during the rainy season and when there are tornadoes; gullies and rock falls is reducing the farmland, while increase in volume of water in the river during the rainy season causes flooding of bridges which block villagers from other facilities such as schools and the Mohales Hoek.
Beliefs and Values	None noted
Capacities	Gardening, water harvesting, livestock, farming, fruit trees, schools
Natural environment	Aloe plants, a meandering river, trees, grasses, mountainous, rich clay soils, deep gullies and steep slopes that are prone to rock falls
Interventions	Planting of aloe plants, trees and grasses to reclaim gullies, plants as fencing for gardens, link wire fencing for kraals, terracing to reduce steepness of hills, water harvesting for collection of rain water for use in keyhole gardens, use of keyhole gardens for vegetables in order to conserve water use.

Conclusions of transect walk

Based on the transect walk analysis, the highest vulnerability seems be that of gullies, rock falls and structural problems on houses, though we should emphasize that the gullies and erosion are a major problem throughout the country. The main livelihood activities identified are gardening, livestock rearing, fruit trees and farming, in which most of the community members participate and are directly linked with the increase of vulnerability.

The other element that becomes obvious from the transect walk is that community members have identified gullies and rock falls as major hazards and are taking action to reduce this, by gully reclamation around the village through the planting of grasses, trees and aloe plants.

4. Historical visualisation:

The historical visualisation activity was conducted with a group comprising of mainly the elderly and some middle aged community members. The task was to identify the historical trends and changes that have impacted on the livelihoods of the community over the last 56years. The elements plotted were population, trees, houses, crops, cattle, sheep, horses, people employed, toilets, water taps, rainfall, HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and diarrhoea.



Main Conclusions

The historical visualization indicates a steady increase in trees, employment, housing, toilets and taps from 1950 to 2006. It also indicates an increase in population and livestock between 1950-1980 and then a steady decline. Housing increased between 1970-2006 due to increase in employment during the same period. The first tuberculosis cases were identified during the 1960, while HIV and AIDS and diarrhea diseases began in the 1980s and 1970s respectively, and continue to rise. It was interesting to note that link between increase in diseases and decrease in population, farming, livestock and employment. The increase in diseases, especially HIV and AIDS, was noted to be due to a high rate of stigmatization.

4.2 Historical visualization chart

ELEMENTS ↓	HISTORICAL VISUALISATION								AND PROJECTION CHART					
	TREES	CROPS	POPULATION	HOUSES	CATTLE	SHEEP	HORSES	PEOPLE EMPLOYED	TOILETS	WATER TAPS	RAINFALL	HIV/AIDS	TB	DIARRHOEA
1950	↑↑	↑↑↑↑↑	↑↑↑	↑↑↑↑↑	↑↑↑	↑↑↑	↑↑↑	↑↑↑	NO TOILETS	NO TAPS		NO HIV/AIDS		
1960	↑↑	↑↑↑↑↑	↑↑↑↑↑	↑↑↑↑↑↑↑	↑↑↑↑↑	↑↑↑↑↑	↑↑↑↑↑	↑↑↑↑↑					↑↑	
1970	↑↑	↑↑↑↑↑	↑↑↑↑↑	↑↑↑↑↑↑↑	↑↑↑↑↑	↑↑↑↑↑	↑↑↑↑↑	↑↑↑↑↑	↑↑	↑↑			↑↑	↑↑
1980	↑↑↑↑	↑↑↑↑↑	↑↑↑↑↑	↑↑↑↑↑↑↑	↑↑↑↑↑	↑↑↑↑↑	↑↑↑↑↑	↑↑↑↑↑	↑↑↑	↑↑↑		↑↑	↑↑↑↑↑	↑↑
1990	↑↑↑↑↑	↑↑↑↑↑	↑↑↑↑↑	↑↑↑↑↑↑↑	↑↑↑↑↑	↑↑↑↑↑	↑↑↑↑↑	↑↑↑↑↑	↑↑↑↑↑	↑↑		↑↑↑	↑↑↑↑↑	↑↑↑
2000	↑↑↑↑↑	↑↑↑↑↑	↑↑↑↑↑	↑↑↑↑↑↑↑	↑↑↑↑↑	↑↑↑↑↑	↑↑↑↑↑	↑↑↑↑↑	↑↑↑↑↑	↑↑		↑↑↑↑↑	↑↑↑↑↑	↑↑↑↑↑
2006	↑↑↑↑↑	↑↑↑↑↑	↑↑↑↑↑	↑↑↑↑↑↑↑	↑↑↑↑↑	↑↑↑↑↑	↑↑↑↑↑	↑↑↑↑↑	↑↑↑↑↑	↑↑		↑↑↑↑↑	↑↑↑↑↑	↑↑↑↑↑

4.3 Historical visualization Projection

Some of the key projections include:

From the historical visualization projections it is noted that between 2010-2020 diseases shall increase while all other elements, except trees, decrease. After discussions with the community group, it was observed that community members seem to concentrate on their immediate needs, e.g. food and water, and do not realise the long term impact of some issues, e.g. HIV and AIDS and erosion.



5. Historical profile:

The following chart does not represent the full historical picture of the main events and significant momentums that this community has dealt with, nevertheless offers a general idea of how the community values some great development along the years. The community group clearly indicated that they felt caught off-guard and needed more time to identify historical landmarks, however the issues listed below were those most prominent to them.

Conclusions

It was noted that the community group identified the major events pertaining to installation of major infrastructure such as roads, water and latrines. They also identified the years in which major disasters have occurred and the impact these had on them, such as drought, death of animals, etc. They clearly highlighted the following incidents happened in the same year- men were retrenched from the mines in South Africa and returned home while women began to work outside of the community and the first cases of HIV and AIDS was identified in the community.

5.1 Historical Profile table

Year	Description
1960's	First latrines constructed in the community
1964	Naleli supermarket constructed
1970	First house made of bricks and corrugated iron roofing constructed.
1978	First vehicle purchased by a community member
1980	Construction of the main road and bridges from Mohales Hoek to Mpharane Community funeral association formed
1981	Government provided tractors and seeds to some of the community members
1983	Lefekeng village and Ha Ranyakane village established
1986	Construction of taps in the whole community
1988	First television purchased by a community member
1990	Establishment of supermarket and brick making business.
1998	Men from the community stopped working in the mines in South Africa
1999	First HIV and AIDS case recorded in the community Women begin to work in towns after men are retrenched
2000	Drought and river dried up Mortality rates increased Building of Thathela, Maneo, and Maqajela primary schools in the area. Government allows for free primary education First solar panels installed in the community Groceries club established
2002	Gully reclamation begins
2005	Good rains recorded between January and April Good harvest recorded. Cattle dies due to an anthrax outbreak Tornadoes recorded in September Caritas establishes keyhole garden project in community
2006	Snow storm in July and August kills many goats and sheep, but few cattle Houses collapse due to snow storm Caritas stopped activities in September

6. Seasonal Calendar

Conclusions

This seasonal calendar shows the changes in different activities and events during a cycle of 12 months. It clearly indicates that there are two farming seasons - winter and summer. The summer farming season is usually during the rainy season which is from October, to March. There is a high increase in diarrhoeal cases during the rainy season from January to March, while flues and colds increase during winter. The winter months are May to August, with high snowfall during June and July. It was also noted that the months from February to June are lean months with inadequate food resources.

High incomes are realised during June, July, November and December which can be attributed to the harvesting of crops and shearing of sheep. During this period it was also noted that there is an increase in celebrations with and increase in beer drinking in December.

6.2 Seasonal Calendar table

Issues of analysis	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Ploughing – winter crops				x	x	x	x					
Ploughing – summer crops									x	x	x	x
Gardening	X	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Reaping – winter crops											x	x
Reaping – summer crops						x	x					
Funerals/wakes	X	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Rainy season	X	X	x							x		
Low income									x	x	x	
High income					x	x	x				x	x
Snow fall					x	X	X	x	x			
Flu, cough, colds					X	X	X	x	x			
Religion (catholic/St. John)	X	x	x	X	x	x	X	X	X	x	X	X
Concerts	X	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	X	x
Floods	X							x		X		
Diarrhoeal diseases	X	x	X									X
Adequate food							X	X	x			
Inadequate food	X	X	X	X	X	X				x	X	x
Drink beer more												X
Weeding		x									X	x
Sell stock (cattle, goats)	X			x				x			x	
Weaving – crafts	X	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	X	x
Marriage ceremonies	X	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	X	x
Sheep shearing										x	x	

7. Organisational capacities**Conclusions**

There were 6 community organizations profiled through the VCA. All of them have been formed in the last 5 years and are run by women with some male participation. Four of the organizations are income generating projects while the other two are for psychosocial support (the Funeral Group) and to assist the sick and orphans. Through the stakeholder networking, it was observed that there is no interaction between the community organizations, and many of them face the challenge of having low commitment from their members and inadequate resources. The organizations expressed an interest to share ideas on how to run their clubs and told meetings with other organizations to improve their projects.

7.2 Table: Organizational capacities – Stakeholder networking

	Kopang Basotho	Paranang Ka Lerato (funeral club)	Hatoha Mose Mosali (general club)	Kopano ke Matla	Itekeng Basotho	Katleho 'Moho (support group)
Who has founded the organisation	Men and women 2006	Men and women 2006	Women 2002	Men and women 2005	Men and women 2006	Women 2003
What is the aims of the organisation	Self sustaining	Helping in times of death	Self sustaining	Self sustaining	Self sustaining	To assist the sick and orphans
How many members has the organisation	Female – 13 Male - 12	Female – 27 Male - 23	Female - 12	Female – 13 Male - 3	Female – 15 Male - 2	Female - 10
Internal structural organisation	Chairman (Female) Vice secretary (female) Vice Treasurer (female) 10 committee members (females)	Chairman (Female) Vice secretary (female) Vice Treasurer (female) 10 committee members (females)	Chairman (Female) Vice secretary (female) Vice Treasurer (female) 12 committee members (females)	Chairman (Female) Vice secretary (female) Vice Treasurer (female) 10 committee members (females)	Chairman (Female) Vice secretary (female) Vice Treasurer (female) 10 committee members (females)	Chairman (Female) Vice secretary (female) Vice Treasurer (female) 10 committee members (females)
Main activities achieved	Concert – R50 Selling fruits – R20 Brewing beer – R25	Contribution – R75 per year Currently have R3000 in the bank account	Contribution of R1000 when a person joins Currently have R12000 in the bank	Wood collection and selling – current balance is R150	Paying R5 per month Current balance R85	Washing clothes and cleaning houses Providing clothes
Futures plans	Pig and chicken rearing	Provide funeral service	Provide families of those in the concert with food	Rearing pigs and chickens	Rearing pigs and chickens	Improve the lives of orphans and the sick

	Kopang Basotho	Paranang Ka Lerato (funeral club)	Hatoha Mose Mosali (general club)	Kopano ke Matla	Itekeng Basotho	Katleho 'Moho (support group)
<i>Fund raise mechanisms</i>	Lack of commitment from members	The money raised is too little to assist all members with problems	No problems	No commitments from other members.	No commitments from other members.	Inadequate resources e.g. clothes, medicine, food and money to assist orphans
<i>Difficulties and challenges encountered in the past and present</i>						
<i>Interaction with other community organization</i>	Share ideas on how to run their clubs and hold meetings together to improve their projects	Share ideas on how to run their clubs and hold meetings together to improve their projects	Share ideas on how to run their clubs and hold meetings together to improve their projects	Share ideas on how to run their clubs and hold meetings together to improve their projects	Share ideas on how to run their clubs and hold meetings together to improve their projects	Share ideas on how to run their clubs and hold meetings together to improve their projects
<i>Interaction with other community organization in the country</i>	No	No	No	No	No	No



8. Livelihood

Information is summarised in Table 8.3.

Conclusions

The primary livelihood in the formal employment service sector is mainly sewing dresses, trousers, shirts and hats and making brooms. In the informal sector, the primary livelihood is brewing beer. Secondary livelihoods include gardening, house construction, agriculture, selling wood, and running a shop.

The main threat to most livelihood opportunities is Job insecurity due to a low diversity of livelihood opportunities and reliance on natural resources which are vulnerable to droughts, hailstorms and pests.

Increased training, involvement of more people (including youth) and diversification of skill sets and income generation opportunities are seen as the most appropriate ways to reduce the livelihood losses associated with potential risk and future hazards in Maqoala.

8.3 Livelihood table

Income generation activity	Who does it	What % of the people employed	What % of income does it provide	What social security exist	What are the threats	What alternative livelihood exist	What alternative could be considered	How do people cope	What preparedness would reduce loss of livelihood	How could be satisfied
Sewing dresses, trousers and shirts and making brooms and hats	Men and women	none	Men – High Women - High	None	Young people not interested Back pains	None	Cross boarder trading or employment	Families Sewing and making brooms	Train young men to make hats	Establish markets outside the village
Employment	Men and women	Very low	Very low	None	Job insecurity for unskilled labour Retrenchments No job security in supermarkets	Other income generating projects	None	Domestic work and steal crops and livestock	Community cooperatives on IGPs	Skills training in different fields
Gardening	Men and women	None	Low	Social nets	Pests Hailstorms	Other income generating projects	None	Cash from labour Selling wool Begging	Encouraging conservation farming by sharing knowledge	Skills training Provision of vegetable seeds
Brewing beer	Men and women	20%	High	Social nets	Debts Violence Few customers	Other income generating projects	None	Sewing and basketry	Closing sheebens in time	Share ideas with those who know
House construction	Men	High	Low	Social nets	Debts Lack of equipment Accidents	Other income generating projects	None	Housebreaking to steal cell phones Drinking alcohol	Use brick and mortar for construction	Payment to be done in instalments Training on house construction
Agriculture	Men	None	Low	Social nets	Lack of draught power Lack of inputs Pests No fields	Other income generating projects	None	Selling of grass Begging	Provision of irrigation	Smart partnerships Provision of seed and fertilizer

Selling wood	Men and women	None	Low	Social nets	Firewood gets finished Seasonality Lack of markets Dangerous, can fall from the mountains/snake bites Quite intensive, involves walking long distances	Other income generating projects	None	Stealing of crops	Plant more trees	Collective selling of firewood
shops	Men and women	none	high	Social nets	Crime – looting, security guards being killed Lack of customers Lack of transport	Other income generating projects	None	Selling grass and wool	None	Creation of employment Establish grocery clubs



9. Focus group with male young adults and elderly

As a result of participatory discussions six focus groups took place at the same time with different members of the community. The main objective of the five working groups was to validate the following information:

Focus group **one**: Mapping and direct observation

Focus Group **two**: Seasonal Calendar and Historical Chart

Focus group **three**: Livelihood chart

Focus group **four**: Community organizational capacities

Focus group **five**: This group (community leaders) helped to prioritize the main vulnerabilities and potential needs to concentrate on (see table below).

The procedure taken in this focus group look into agree on a group of vulnerabilities identified during the VCA process and get consensus from this group. As you can see in the graphic below, during the focus group points 15 – 19 were added during this activity. It is also important that other groups had the opportunity to feed and give feedback to this chart and also in the priority areas that the community should focus on.

Conclusions

The focus groups revealed 21 vulnerabilities that were the highest priority as identified by the community. Among the top ranking concerns were access to health, food and employment, electricity, agricultural inputs, orphans and vulnerable children, and drought. Access to employment and agricultural inputs were ranked equally, while HIV / AIDS and TB were also ranked equally. The remaining issues were raised, but not considered as priorities.

9.1 Some of the key events highlighted include:

The table below indicates the priorities table of issues ranked in the community. The unshaded cells indicate the seven issues ranked highest by the community. The issues in the shaded cells indicate issues were raised and ranked, but not considered to be the priorities.

1 Access To Health Facilities	2 Access To Food	3 Electricity	4 Access To Employment	5 Agricultural Inputs	6 TB
7 HIV And AIDS	8 OVC*	9 Drought	10 Communication	11 Access To Water	12 Pests
13 Erosion	14 Access To Sanitation	15 Transportation	16 Flooding	17 Crime	18 Shops
19 Security	20 Snow	21 Education			

OVC = Orphans and other vulnerable children

12. Vulnerability Actions for Transformation

Following an analysis of all the information presented in the previous sections, the Lesotho VCA team identified 15 significant issues that are important to the Maqoala community. The table below reflects the main vulnerabilities identified by the participants, with initial ideas for the actions for transformation. An indication of the level of intervention required in order to convert the actions for transformation into reality, or implement change is proposed in the right hand column of the table. Three categories are provided, C, I and T, which are detailed as:



C = change. Indicates that change could be bought about through community intervention, and that change could occur immediately or in the short term

I = influence. Indicates that some level of influence would be required to bring about change, for example the initiative requires the approval and backing of the island office, additional assistance at the local level

T = full transformation. Indicates that a high level of intervention, support and assistance (i.e. from government, regional groups or an outside agency) would be required to bring about any change.

It should be noted that additional consultation, verification and analysis by the wider community is required before this list can be validated.

Table xx. Main vulnerabilities and initial ideas for Transformation

As a result of the consultation process with the communities the group of VCA facilitators discussed the above vulnerabilities and actions for transformation with representatives from the communities.

Issues (vulnerabilities identified)	Capacities identified	Actions for transformation	Prevention	Mitigation	Preparation	Change C	Influence I	Transform T
1. Access to health	Road (infrastructure, donkeys/horses/ taxis (transport), Medicinal plants, Traditional healers, Teachers with first aid knowledge.	Establish community health and development committee			Prep	C		
		Subcommittee to approach district council and Red Cross to inform them of its vision, objectives and expectations			Prep	C		
		Advocate/request district council for mobile clinic (temporarily) and local clinic construction (permanent)			Prep	C		
		Request for community based first aid training for selected community members and teachers			Prep	C		
		Establish community health fund for clinic construction			Prep		I	
		Approach local businesses for donations to the fund			Prep	C		
		Facilitate the acquisition (donations) of first aid kits			Prep	C		
		Create brick making /stone chipping sub-committee			Prep	C		
		Community members begin to make bricks/stones for the clinic.		Mit		C		
2. Access to Food	Fields, indigenous skills and knowledge, nutritional gardens, livestock, river, grazing land, community clubs, agricultural inputs.	Establish a farming sub-committee			Prep	C		
		Community awareness on conservation farming by ministry of agriculture and red cross			Prep		I	
		Community identifies lead farmers			Prep	C		
		Training of lead farmers			Prep	C		
		Lead farmers cascade training to 10-20 farmers			Prep	C		
		Trained community members also cascade training.			Prep	C		
		Committee approaches the ministry of agriculture for training on seed selection for the next season			Prep		I	
		Holding of annual seed fairs by the farming committee		Mit		C		
Sub-committee with the support of the local MP to access markets for community's produce			Prep	C				
3. Drought	Fields, nutritional gardens, livestock, pastures, river and agricultural inputs	Subcommittee disseminates information on rotational farming and grazing			Prep	C		
		Communities to grow drought resistant crops		Mit		C		
		Committee to advocate for drip irrigation services from ministry of agriculture			prep		I	

Issues (vulnerabilities identified)	Capacities identified	Actions for transformation	Prevention	Mitigation	Preparation	Change C	Influence I	Transform T
		Intensify water harvesting techniques (more tanks for irrigation)		Mit			I	
		Land use management training			Prep	C		
		Training communities on food preservations methods			Prep	C		
		Government to conduct research on food storage facilities			Prep		I	
4. Electricity	Rocks for construction, people (community members), open fields and spaces	Electricity sub-committees should meet the government and take up the issue for need of electricity in the area.			Prep		I	
		The committee should try to convince the government to allocate local government funds for solar energy plant installation in the area.			Prep			T
5. Employment	Human resources, road (access to markets), water, raw materials (stones, aloes, grass), administration system (chief, local court), skills (handicrafts, sewing), fields.	Food/cash for work through land reclamation (gullies) and re-vegetation (trees, grasses) in collaboration with the department of forestry.	Prev			C		
		Improve income generating activities – communal sewing, handicrafts and saloons.		Mit		C		
		Improve cultivation of aloe for market standard products			Prep	C		
		External assistance – seeds and agricultural inputs, training on large scale vegetable production for market sales			Prep	C		
		Establish market place in community			Prep	C		
		Formation of self-help groups			Prep	C		
6. Agricultural inputs	Fields and good soils, human resources, social security services, road, pastures, river, water harvesting.	SMART partnerships (putting together different capacities)			Prep	C		
		Government undertake research on storage facilities			Prep			T
		Training on conservation farming (Red Cross)			Prep	C		
		Community leaders and traditional healers mobilised to advocate for change of norms (e.g. slaughter of animals for burials.)			Prep			T
		Education on seed multiplication by agriculture department			Prep		I	
7. TB	Medicinal plants, schools	Educate the community health sub-committee about TB			Prep		I	
		Committee arranges for community education (testing, prevention and care)			Prep	C		
		Committee advocates for TB testing among community members			Prep	C		
		Advocate to the district council to bring treatment through mobile clinic, first aid trained community members.			Prep	C		
8. HIV and Aids	Community clubs, schools, nutritional gardens, fields and good soils, aloe for medication, tap water, shops, toilets, teachers, fruit trees	HIV sub-committee should discuss the issues of increasing HIV cases with the community and plan for awareness generation			Prep	C		
		Children in schools should be provide peer education (children in and out of school)			Prep		I	
		Sub-committee should request NGO (e.g. red cross/World Vision), ministry of health to provide free condoms to the community support groups for the community		Mit		C		

Issues (vulnerabilities identified)	Capacities identified	Actions for transformation	Prevention	Mitigation	Preparation	Change C	Influence I	Transform T
		Sub-committee should advocate for HIV testing			Prep	C		
		Infected people should be encouraged to eat healthy food and apply good hygienic practices.			Prep	C		
		Sub-committee to meet government and advocate for local health centres for treatment of the infected.			Prep	C		
		Support groups to be trained on home based care for the infected. Trained people to visit the sick in their homes to counsel them and provides condoms to the community at large.			Prep	C		
		Educate community on access and utilisation of ARVs (anti-retrovirals). Sub-committee may request the ministry of health to support in the education.			Prep		I	
9. Orphans and other vulnerable children	Support groups, support from local MPs, nutritional gardens, fields, livestock, brick making business, school, chipping of stones, churches	Train support group members on issues of child abuse, child rights and will writing.		Mit		C		
		Train foster parents, support group members to look after and provide psycho-social support to orphans			Prep		I	
		Advocate the support of local MP to provide basic needs and train orphans on life skills.			Prep	C		
10. Access to water	Taps, rivers and water harvesting	Advocate to the village water supply authority for more tapped water in the community			Prep		I	
		NGOs to train communities on better water harvesting techniques – they do not know which NGOs to approach for this knowledge			Prep		I	
		Community to build water tanks for storage of water harvested from the river.		Mit		C		
		Educate community members on effective and efficient water use at household level and for garden use			Prep	C		
11. Erosion	Stones, human resources, trees, aloes	Re-vegetation – sowing grass by department of forestry and land reclamation			Prep	C		
		Engage communities on gully reclamation through planting trees and training on proper land use management to avoid erosion.			Prep		I	
		Rotational grazing to avoid overgrazing		Mit		C		
12. Access to sanitation	Schools, community clubs, river, teachers, toilets	Community development committee should request NGOs to provide training to community about good sanitation		Mit		C		
		Advocacy with government and NGOs to provide basic material for construction of latrines	Prep			C		
		Train community members and school children on health and hygiene issues (washing hands after using the toilet)			Prep	C		
		Train communities on effective treatment and storage of water			Prep	C		

Issues (vulnerabilities identified)	Capacities identified	Actions for transformation	Prevention	Mitigation	Preparation	Change C	Influence I	Transform T
		Community awareness in malaria, cholera, and dysentery.			Prep	C		
		Educate community members on proper site position for construction of latrines			Prep	C		
		Train community members on correct garbage management and disposal			Prep	C		
13. Crime and security	Local court, chief, councillors	Formation of neighbourhood watch committee to arrest any criminals			Prep	C		
		Committee to be trained by the police department			Prep	C		
14. Shops (high priced)	Road, stones, water, human resources	Encourage more business people to build more shops in the area to create competition			Prep			I
		Establish flea (informal) markets			Prep			I
15. Education	Teachers, school, local MP	Community through the chief to advocate to central government for additional schools and train more teachers.		Mit				I

The issues that require full transformation (i.e. in the T category) were not considered in this preliminary phase of analysis as invariably the level of assistance or support is complicated and high.

The how to reach the transformation process

Based on the developments of day the day before continue with the last step of the analysis. In this step of the process you should count with the presence of the community leaders and a representative of the different focus groups of the day before.

From the identified actions from transformation agreed the day before, the task of the team is to determine the way forward to operationalise the potential solutions. The idea for the team will be to understand the following:

- A: Can the actions for transformation be undertaken immediately, in medium or long term?
- B: Does it require resources?
- C: Can the community find the resources themselves? If yes, how?
- D: Does it require technical support? If so, Where from?

The solutions need to be part of the existing skills and/or resources of the community. If the solution requires money, finding this financing needs to be part of the solution (with creative ideas such as raffles, parties, collections etc). If it requires certain skills, these need to be found within the community itself, including friends, relations etc. The last resort should be to have to turn to people who are outside the affected community.

Actions to transform vulnerabilities into capacities	C	I	T	Can be done with own resources and capacities			Requires financial support		Requires technical support	
				S	M	L	Yes	No	Yes	No
Period of time to implement										
Establish community health and development committee	C			S					X	
Subcommittee to approach district council and red cross to inform them of its vision, objectives and expectations	C			S						
Advocate/request district council for mobile clinic (temporarily) and local clinic construction (permanent)	C			S						
Request for community based first aid training for selected community members and teachers		I			M				X	
Establish community health fund for clinic construction	C				M				X	
Approach local businesses for donations to the fund	C				M					
Facilitate the acquisition (donations) of first aid kits	C				M					
Create brick making /stone chipping sub-committee	C					L	X		X	
Community members begin to make bricks/stones for the clinic.	C						X		X	
Establish a farming sub-committee	C					L				
Community awareness on conservation farming by ministry of agriculture and red cross		I							X	

Actions to transform vulnerabilities into capacities	C	I	T	Can be done with own resources and capacities		Requires financial support		Requires technical support	
Community identifies lead farmers	C			S					
Training of lead farmers	C				L			X	
Lead farmers cascade training to 10-20 farmers	C				L				
Trained community members also cascade training.	C				L				
Committee approaches the ministry of agriculture for training on seed selection for the next season		I			L			X	
Holding of annual seed fairs by the farming committee	C				L				
Sub-committee with the support of the local MP to access markets for community's produce.	C			S					
Subcommittee disseminates information on rotational farming and grazing	C			S					
Communities to grow drought resistant crops	C							X	
Committee to advocate for drip irrigation services from ministry of agriculture		I		S				X	
Intensify water harvesting techniques (more tanks for irrigation)		I		S				X	
Land use management training	C			S				X	
Training communities on food preservations methods	C			S				X	
Government to conduct research on food storage facilities		I			L			X	
Electricity sub-committees should meet the government and take up the issue for need of electricity in the area.		I		S				X	
The committee should try to convince the government to allocate local government funds for solar energy plant installation in the area.			T						
Food/cash for work through land reclamation (gullies) and re-vegetation (trees, grasses) in collaboration with the department of forestry.	C				L	X			
Improve income generating activities – communal sewing, handicrafts and saloons.	C				L			X	
Improve cultivation of aloe for market standard products	C			S		X (R5500)		X	
External assistance – seeds and agricultural inputs, training on large scale vegetable production for market sales	C			S				X	
Establish market place in community	C				L	X Not willing to freely do it			
Formation of self-help groups	C				L	X For		X	
SMART partnerships (putting together different capacities)	C			S					
Government undertake research on storage facilities			T						
Training on conservation farming (red cross)	C			S					
Community leaders and traditional healers mobilised to advocate for change of norms (e.g. slaughter of animals for burials.)			T						
Education on seed multiplication by agriculture department		I			L			X	

Actions to transform vulnerabilities into capacities	C	I	T	Can be done with own resources and capacities			Requires financial support		Requires technical support	
						L			X	
Educate the community health sub-committee about TB		I				L			X	
Committee arranges for community education (testing, prevention and care)	C			S						
Committee advocates for TB testing among community members	C			S						
Advocate to the district council to bring treatment through mobile clinic, first aid trained community members.	C			S						
HIV sub-committee should discuss the issues of increasing HIV cases with the community and plan for awareness generation	C			S						
Children in schools should be provide peer education (children in and out of school)		I		S						
Sub-committee should request NGO (e.g. red cross/World Vision), ministry of health to provide free condoms to the community support groups for the community	C			S						
Sub-committee should advocate for HIV testing	C			S						
Infected people should be encouraged to eat healthy food and apply good hygienic practices.	C			S						
Sub-committee to meet government and advocate for local health centres for treatment of the infected.										
Support groups to be trained on home based care for the infected. Trained people to visit the sick in their homes to council them and provides condoms to the community at large.	C			S						
Educate community on access and utilisation of ARVs (anti-retrovirals). Sub-committee may request the ministry of health to support in the education.		I		S						
Train support group members on issues of child abuse, child rights and will writing.	C					L			X	
Train foster parents, support group members to look after and provide psycho-social support to orphans		I				L				
Advocate the support of local MP to provide basic needs and train orphans on life skills.	C			S						
Advocate to the village water supply authority for more tapped water in the community		I				L				
NGOs to train communities on better water harvesting techniques – they do not know which NGOs to approach for this knowledge		I				L				
Community to build water tanks for storage of water harvested from the river.	C					L			X	
Educate community members on effective and efficient water use at household level and for garden use	C			S					X	
Re-vegetation – sowing grass by department of forestry and land reclamation	C					L			X	
Engage communities on gully reclamation through planting trees and training on proper land use management to avoid erosion.		I			M				X	
Rotational grazing to avoid overgrazing	C			S						
Community development committee should request NGOs to provide training to community about good sanitation	C			S						
Advocacy with government and NGOs to provide basic material for construction of latrines	C			S						
Train community members and school children on health and hygiene issues (washing hands after	C			S						

Actions to transform vulnerabilities into capacities	C	I	T	Can be done with own resources and capacities			Requires financial support		Requires technical support	
using the toilet)										
Train communities on effective treatment and storage of water	C			S						
Community awareness in malaria, cholera, and dysentery.	C			S					X	
Educate community members on proper site position for construction of latrines	C			S					X	
Train community members on correct garbage management and disposal	C			S					X	
Formation of neighbourhood watch committee to arrest any criminals	C				M					
Committee to be trained by the police department	C				M				X	
Encourage more business people to build more shops in the area to create competition		I				L	X		X	
Establish flea (informal) markets		I				L				
Community through the chief to advocate to central government for additional schools and train more teachers.		I				L				

Annex two: Community Malebanye



Information gathered
23th – 29th October 2006

Name of the community: Malebanye**1. Short introduction**

Malebanye village is located in the Mophale Hoek district of Lesotho. It is a small village whose major livelihood activities are centered on crop cultivation, livestock rearing, and vegetable growing. It is mountainous with gullies, sparse vegetation cover and few trees. The western boundary of Malebanye is marked by river Makhaleng. The major infrastructure in the area includes a gravel road, HBC School, 3 shops, phone booth, power lines, the Chief's Office (administrative center), mud and stone houses, a dam and a football pitch. There are only 2 water taps in the village, and both are located in the southeastern part of the village.

2. Results of Direct observation

During the VCA training conducted in Lesotho, the learning by doing approach was used. A group of participants was assigned to work in the Malebanye village under the chieftainship of Mrs. Sebueng Ernestina Malebanye. The assignment was for the group to conduct a VCA in the community. The process involved discussions with the community leaders, key informants and focused group discussion. Community members were involved at every stage of the direct observation process. Below are the findings from the exercise:

Demographic Information

Approximately 1,500 people live in this village and there are more women than men. Most of the men in this community are working in the mines in the Republic of South Africa, where after some years of working, some die and others do not come back. This community has seen an increase in the number of single parents.

The average family structure is father, mother and four children, but more than that number could be living with in one household due to extended family arrangements. A considerable number of elderly (25%) people are looking after their grand children.

Infrastructure

The houses are clustered haphazardly in the community. A special type of stone is used to build houses while others are built with molded bricks. One gravel road services this community but community members have to construct parts that lead to their individual homesteads. These self-constructed parts are rocky and not easy to travel on. The nearest tarred road is 10 Km from the chief's office.

There are three small shops in this village but for items not available locally, the people travel 10.5 kms to Mophale's Hoek central business district. There is no clinic, primary nor secondary school in the village. There is a football ground, which is rather out of shape and is mainly used by children.

Health

There is no health post in the village, people in this village go to seek medical care from Mophale Hoek district hospital which is 12 km away from the village. During emergencies, the community communicates with the hospital through telephone or cell phones for an ambulance. Alternatively, other community members provide assistance with their own vehicles.

Ten women were trained as birth attendants for home deliveries and they are also responsible for taking care of the chronically ill patients. In this community there is only one traditional doctor.

The St. Camillus Home Based Care Association provides care to the chronically ill people but often encounters problems with people who are not open about their HIV/AIDS status.

Institutions present

A number of institutions are present in this community i.e. burial society, *Mokhatlo oa Sefateng oa Metsi* water committee, and St. Camillus home based care association. There was a farmers' society, but it's no longer functional.

Essential Services

Water and sanitation are a problem in this community. The community gets water from one functional borehole and for the past three years two bore holes have not been functional because the company that installed them is no longer in Lesotho. The current water authority failed to repair the non-functional boreholes; therefore people use donkeys to carry water. Few households have access to pit latrines, while the rest of the community goes to the bush.

There is no electricity at the moment in the village; however, the installation is still being expected, as power lines are visible around the village. For communication, the village benefits from the services of the telephone, this works with solar energy.

Daily activities

The staple food of the community is papa (maize meal), vegetables and meat. The meat is obtained from domestic animals and chicken.

Religious people in this community have to walk distances of two to three kilometers to the nearest churches such as Lesotho Evangelical church and the Saint John Apostolic Church.

Problems and needs of the community

The community is faced with a number of problems such as droughts, robbery and rape. The absence of farming equipment, the clinic and the school also contribute to the community problems. Not all school aged children attend school as some are employed as shepherds. Thirty-Eight pre –primary education children are taken care of by the Malebanye Home Based Association, which teaches them to read, write and play for approximately 3 hours per day. The entry age of these children is two years. One of



of the community members' houses (Mrs. Maria Buar) was donated to be used as the school building. Five volunteers lead by the Chief's wife are taking care of the children. The World Food Program through the Ministry of Education provides food for the children.

The traditional practice of circumcision is still thriving in this community. Adolescent boys and girls at the ages ranging from 16 – 18 years attend the initiation schools for about 6 months. Sadly, rape cases have been reported in the initiation camps. For interaction the community

The **borehole** tap is a concern to the community because they have no capacity to repair and maintain it. This has forced the residents to utilise the shallow and unsecured well near the water tap, a situation that triggered a **cholera** outbreak in 2004-5. **The school, administrative office (chiefs office), and most of the houses are built of stone and mud.** This poses a threat to life as the area is prone to rain storms, and hailstorms, which destroyed most structures in 1999-2000 leaving a number of people without houses.

3.3 Capacity Resource Map



Based on the map drawing, the major resources and capacities include the **river, dam, administrative office, borehole, playing field, road, kraal, and cemetery.** The major livelihood activity is agriculture and pastoral farming. Both activities in this village depend the river and dam, because the rains are inadequate and pastures are scarce. The administrative office plays significant roles, which include conflict resolution; planning meetings, centre for information about the village, and also for receiving information. The borehole is the only source of safe drinking water for the

village. The road links the village to the bordering areas and beyond. The kraal is used for the annual stock taking of their livestock. The cemetery provides the people with an easily accessible and dignified site to rest their loved ones.

4. Transect walk













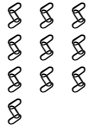


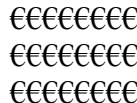

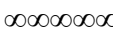





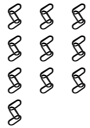



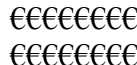



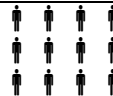







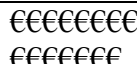



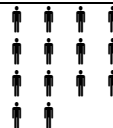







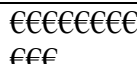



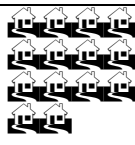






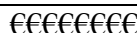



The transect walk tool was used to collect more detailed information on the crossing point of the river and the road. The junction was found to pose the greatest threat to the community. This was because it was an important livelihood resource that the community highly relied on, and at the same time lacked protective infrastructure such as a bridge. The transect walk confirmed the fears of the community and researchers that the river poses great resource potential and at the same time, it is a high-risk feature for people that have to cross it to access their fields and to the neighbouring village.

5. Historical visualization chart

The following table shows the historical visualization of the Malebanye village. The information depicted in this table shows that in this village the number of trees is decreasing as time goes on because the people of this community use the trees for firewood especially during funerals and other ceremonies. As a result, the land suffers from soil erosion and the number of fields or the size of arable land is decreasing. The number of houses is increasing in the village since they also mentioned that they are developing new sites for community member to build on and encouraging them to increase the number of toilets. The population is increasing at a very low rate due to the fact that several families are child-headed-households. The number of animals is also decreasing. The number of donkeys is decreasing because people have started using wheelbarrows for load carrying. The people of this community mentioned that their cattle and goats die from a yearly attack of ticks. This community had five boreholes, but only one is

















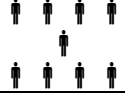







functional at the moment. The community experiences drought every year at a constant rate with the exception of this year when they experienced heavy rainfall.

The level of the HIV/AIDS pandemic is increasing every year and hence opportunistic diseases like TB increase along with it.

Year	People 	Houses 	Trees 	Cattle 	Goats 	Donkeys 	HIV 	TBC 	Fields €	Toilets ©	Bore holes ∞	Drought ○
1980												
1990												
2000												
2002												
2006												

Historical Visualization Projection

The majority of the population of this village visualize that as time goes on all the above-mentioned trends will continue as they are with the exception of boreholes since they are installing the water taps. As from the weather they said that it would be difficult to predict it.

Year	People 	Houses 	Trees 	Cattle 	Goats 	Donkeys 	HIV 	TBC 	Fields €	Toilets ©	Bore holes ∞	Drought ○
2010									€€€€€€€€	©©©©©© ©		
2020									€€€	©©©©©© ©©©©©©		

13. Historical profile:

The following chart does not represent the full historical picture of the main events and significant momentums that this community has to deal with, but nevertheless offers a general idea of how community values have developed over the years.

13.1 Historical Profile table

Year	Description
1964	Heavy snow fall affected the village
1970	Serious draught affected the village
1976	A soccer team was been established
1988	Floods destroyed houses
1995	A sudden drought affected the village, animals died
1997	Small pox outbreak
1999	Hailstorm destroyed infrastructure, cholera outbreak
2000	People sold their animals to have health care
2001	Hailstorm affected the village and destroyed the vegetation
2002	The community constructed the road that leads to the village from the tarred road. Public transport was made available by the presence of the road.
2004	People migrated to that village
2006	There is an outbreak of ticks in animals (it usually happens every year from April)

6. Seasonal Calendar

6.1 Table

Issues of analysis	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Rain season	X									XX	XX	X
Dry season					X	XX	XX	XX	X			
Land preparation									XX	X		
Planting										XX	XX	
Weeding	X											XX
Harvesting					XX	XX						
Hunger period	XX	XX	X	X	X	X	X	XX	XX	XX	X	X
Heavy storms	XX									XX	XX	XX
Snow							XX	XX	XX	X		
Crop pests. Esp vegetable pests										xx	xx	Xx
Crop worms	xx											
Lightening										xx	xx	xx

The above calendar of events provides some significant trends that need further analysis. It is clear from the table that this community is highly dependant on production of own crops. This can be safely deduced from the issues of analysis that are mostly agrarian related. The second most significant issue is extreme natural events that are caused by weather fluctuations that caused rainstorms and snow.

Positive impact of the rain season

Allows for easy land tillage, planting and growth of seasonal crops, the rain also fills up the dams.

Negative impact of rain

Gully erosion, too much rain has caused damage to infrastructure and disrupted people's lives.

Positive impact of the dry season

Negative impact of dry season

Dries up pastures, there are more vegetable pests.

7. Organisational capacities

Conclusions

The VCA looked at 7 organizations in Mapotsane community, the oldest of which was established in 1979 and the youngest in 2005. Sectors addressed through the organization include burials, water collection, electricity, community police, farming association, home-based care support, and a school committee. Lack of training and lack of financial resources are cited as the major challenges faced by the organizations. There is also minimal interaction between the community organizations. It was further mentioned that most of the organisations are not sustainable due to lack of funds. All the organisations mentioned there is a need for revival, as they really help them to maintain their livelihoods. They also urged the relevant stakeholders to provide the technical know how, as most of the organisations end up being a failure due to lack of skills.



Table 7
Organizational capacities – Stakeholder networking

	Mokhatlo oa Sefateng oa Metsi	Burial Association (Mpate Sheleng)	Electricity	Community police (Sepolesa sa motse)	Itjareng Basotho (Farming association)	St. Camillus HBC Support group	Home Based Care School committee
Who has founded the organisation	Mr. Tseko Edwin Phokojoe in 1979.	Mrs. Mapeiso Manosa in 1985	Founded in the year 2000 by three people: Tefelo Phokojoe, Richard Lekotje, Tlhabehe Lekoane	Founded by the Mohales Hoek police station in the year 2006	Founded by 18 members of the community in 1993	Founded in 2004 by the Government	Founded in 2005
What is the aims of the organisation	To prevent the community from travelling long distances to collect water, therefore to bring water closer the communities.	Bury community members and not exactly looking for profits Growth of the association	Install electricity in the village, streetlights too.	To keep peace in the community. i.e. prevent fights, theft, harassments etc.	Growth of the association	To help HIV and AIDS infected members of the community	To take care for and teach orphans
How many members has the organisation	8 members (6F, 2M) However, all members of the community are involved.	28 members	40 members	10 members	Not certain since some members are leaving the association	10 members	5 teachers/care givers
Internal structural organisation	President, Vice President, Secretary, Vice Secretary, Treasures and 3 members (one of the members is responsible for locking of the borehole between 6 am to 8 pm through the day)	Chairman Vice-chairman Treasurer Secretary Vice secretary Two advisors	Chairman Vice-chairman Treasurer Secretary Vice secretary Two advisors	No particular structure	Chairman Vice-chairman Treasurer Secretary Vice secretary Two advisors	Chairperson, secretary, treasurer, and 7 ordinary members	Principal, treasurer, and teachers
Main activities achieved	5 boreholes were constructed, with the	No major achievements up	Community members have	Arrests have been made	Bought tractor Cultivated sorghum,	Support to patients & orphans i.e. medicines, &	Care for orphans and other children

	Mokhatlo oa Sefateng oa Metsi	Burial Association (Mpate Sheleng)	Electricity	Community police (Sepolesa sa motse)	Itjareng Basotho (Farming association)	St. Camillus HBC Support group	Home Based Care School committee
	first one in place since 1979 and the remaining 4 were constructed between 1980 and 1983. However, there is only that is functioning.	to date, they just follow their mandate which is to bury people	wired their houses. They are awaiting installation		maize, and beans Built a store Opened a bank account	food	
Future Plans	The community has identified a reliable water source. Constructions materials are already at site. An engineer participated in mapping the site for the intended borehole.	Acquire a tent Acquire cooking utensils and chairs	All villagers should have electricity	Get training Ensure dedication to ensure cooperation from the community	Repair of the tractor Acquire technical expertise	IGA's to raise funds for medicines & logistics for referrals	Upgrade school and get trained teachers
Fund raise mechanisms	Initially when the association was formed, each household paid a once off payment of R10.00 to raise funds, later the subscription was increased to R20.00. Now the subscription is R50.00 for anyone who starts a new family.	They have not started to raise funds, they use monthly (payments) or emergency contributions when necessary	Members pay M500 joining fee and have to pay M1500 per member, in small instalments as connection fee.	They are currently not engaged in any fund raising activities, and have no plans to undertake any.	Local stock fare	No current fundraising activities. But previously reared pigs & chickens	none
Difficulties and challenges encountered in	The crank connected to the borehole is not user friendly. One	Some members of the community do	Lack of funds	No training No cooperation from community	The tractor broke down Members are not dedicated	Family members of patients sometimes refuse care givers access to	Getting orphans beyond the free primary education. Untrained

	Mokhatlo oa Sefateng oa Metsi	Burial Association (Mpate Sheleng)	Electricity	Community police (Sepolesa sa motse)	Itjareng Basotho (Farming association)	St. Camillus HBC Support group	Home Based Care School committee
<i>the past and present</i>	<p>person cannot draw alone.</p> <p>Some sites dry up faster.</p> <p>Poor siting of boreholes</p> <p>Non availability of tools to maintain the boreholes</p> <p>Efforts by the community to have their members trained to repair the boreholes are hampered by the absence of maintenance tools. Accountability of the funds generated under the project is lacking.</p>	not contribute right away		<p>Insults from community Members quit because there is no pay</p> <p>No interaction with community based organisations</p>	Lack of technical expertise	patients. Difficult to support patients that live alone. No refresher courses for care givers.	teachers.
<i>Interaction with other community organization in the island</i>	No formal interactions with other organizations	No interaction	No interaction	No interaction	No interaction	Government provides medicines	Government provides teaching materials through the department of education.
<i>Interaction with other community organization in</i>	The only interaction that exists is between the association and the Department of	No interaction	No interaction	Interaction with Local police	Interact with Sekhutlong Ha Potsane farming association. Participate in		Home Based Care School committee

	Mokhatlo oa Sefateng oa Metsi	Burial Association (Mpate Sheleng)	Electricity	Community police (Sepolesa sa motse)	Itjareng Basotho (Farming association)	St. Camillus HBC Support group	Home Based Care School committee
<i>the atolls/country</i>	Rural Water Supply in the district.				agricultural shows		
<i>Other</i>	Due to frequent breakdowns of the boreholes, arrangements have been made by the community to have members trained in the maintenance of boreholes. Policies have been drafted to prevent children under the age of 14 years are forbidden to draw water from the boreholes. The water association is working together with the department of Rural Water to initiate the sanitation programme.						Founded in 2005

8. Livelihood

Livelihoods Profile

A focus group discussion was conducted with about 15 members of the community, which comprised of mainly women. Results of the discussion revealed that the main source of income for the women is traditional beer brewing and housekeeping, while shepherd work and part time agricultural jobs provide income to men. Generally, irregular and non-payments of wages threaten the income generation activities undertaken by the community. Intervention plans to solve the problems encountered during the income generation activities include formation committees, involvement of community leaders in signing employment contract.

Conclusions

The primary livelihood for men is shepherding, gardening or carrying, for women it is beer brewing or housekeeping. 40% of the working sector of the community are pensioners.

The main threat to most livelihood opportunities is irregular payment, long distances to travel to work, and non payment. Food aid and NGOs provide much of the coping mechanisms for people in the community when they experience a gap in their source of livelihood.

Increased training around writing and signing employment contracts and diversification of crops are seen as the most appropriate ways to reduce the livelihood losses associated with potential risk and future hazards in Mapotsane community.

8.3 Livelihood table

Income generation activity	Who does it	What % of the people employed	What % of income does it provide (Rands)	What social security exist	What are the threats	What alternative livelihood exist	What alternative could be considered	How do people cope	What preparedness would reduce loss of livelihood	How could be satisfied
Beer Brewing	Women	70%	100 / Month	Nothing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non – Payment • Shortage of capital • Less Customers 		Alternate turns to brew	Begging and Food aid from NGO's	Plant sorghum in the form of block farming.	Streamline sorghum planting
Shepherd	Men	90%	175/Month	Nothing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Irregular payment • Limited Graze land • Diseases for the shepherd 	Art work like brick laying	Group Heading followed by turns	Begging and Food aid from NGO's	Creation of paddocks	Community Paddocks
Part – time jobs (Garden digging)	Men	80%	10/Day	Nothing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Irregular payment • Limited tools 	Explore other part-time jobs opportunities	Introduce Employment contract, and involve the community leaders	Begging and Food aid from NGO's	Contracts between employees and employers	Design a contract form and the involvement of local chief and at least three witnesses
Carriers	Men	50%	3.50/Load	Nothing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long distance travelled • Heavy Loads 	Explore other part-time jobs opportunities	Formation of the association to standardize charges	Begging and Food aid from NGO's	Contracts between employees and employers	Design a contract form and the involvement of local chief and at least three witnesses
Housekeeping	Women	90%	175/Month	Nothing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Irregular payments 	Explore other part-time jobs opportunities	Introduce Employment contract, and involve the community leaders	Begging and Food aid from NGO's	Contracts between employees and employers	Design a contract form and the involvement of local chief and at least three witnesses
Formal Employment (Teacher's and	Men/women	20%	500/Month (Teachers)	Pension	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non Increments 	Start own business	Adhere to the contents of the contacts.	Begging and Food aid from NGO's		

Soldiers)										
Pensioners	Men/ Women	40%	150/Month	Pension	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disorder in the beneficiary management Exclusion error 	None	Establishment of pensioners' society	External assistance from existing organization		
Vegetable Sales	Men/W omen	10%	2.50/Bunddl e	Pension	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non – payment by customers Shortage of seeds Pests infestation 	Start own business	Provide seeds and trainings on how to find pests	Begging and Food aid from NGO's		



9. Focus group discussions

As a result of participatory discussions 6 focus groups took place at the same time with different members of the community. These groups were made up of women, men, the elderly, the youth and children. The main objective of formation of the groups was to validate the 18 main issues that arose during the previous discussions, taking into consideration gender and age. The process involved each group to look into main issues identified during the VCA and each member of a group was given 7 stones to select seven issues from the total that they felt they were a concern. Each stone represented an issue.

Some of the key issues that were discussed:

1 HIV/AIDS and Orphans	2 Decrease in livestock	3 Inadequate Water Supply	4 Increase in Households and population numbers	5 Environmental Degradation	6 Sanitation
7 Decrease in Number of Trees	8 Absence of Social Services	9 Food Production and Food Insecurity	10 Diseases Outbreak	11 Peace Keeping	12 Income Generating Activities
13 Men Dominating in all IGA's	14 Traditional Practices	15 Drifts on Dongas	16 Late On set rains	17 Drought	18 Immigrations

A total of 43 community members gathered (25 women, 6 men, 6 youth and 6 elderly). After prioritization exercise was complete, the following seven issues came out strongly:

- HIV/AIDS
- Absence of Social Services
- Income Generating Activities
- Inadequate Water Supply
- Sanitation
- Food Production and Food Insecurity
- Diseases Outbreak

Gaps

Questions Posed to Community fill up the gaps	Answers
What Prompted the formation of the water committee?	This was initiated by the department of Rural Water Supply after it had realized that the community draws water from the spring.
Was food security and crop production improved by the farmers' association?	Minor changes were witnessed because the tractor that was bought by the association to address some of the problems due to limited access to draught power broke down.
Why was the community police post formed?	There was high crime rate within the community.
What were the problems associated with burials?	The National poverty motivates the communities to make contributions towards burial schemes.
What were the effects of snowfall and drought?	Animals dies and the was hunger due to non production
Why is the lean period throughout the year?	Late onset rains
How do you perceive drought in the coming future?	It is expected to decrease with time.
What do you intend to do with the malfunctioning boreholes?	To repair them as contingency plan in case the electricity generated taps fail.
Why do women participate more in IGA's.	Men lack interest.



Communities prioritising their problems:

Through a highly participatory process, community members in different focus groups were requested to prioritise their main problems. In the picture, the women focus group after finalising the task, started to sing songs, not only to motivate and inspire their views in regards their main needs, but also recognising the hard work they put in.

Table 9. Prioritising main issues

The following table reflects the combine votes from the different focus groups, in relation to the main community needs and issues that require more attention.

	Issues					Total
1	HIV/AIDS and Orphans	21	3	3	4	31
2	Decrease in animals	11	3	2	1	17
3	Insufficient water	19	2	1	2	23
4	Sanitation	11	4	4	4	23
5	Decrease in Trees	1	0	1	2	4
6	Absence of social services	14	4	4	6	28
7	Peacekeeping	4	4	2	0	10
8	IGA's	15	0	6	6	27
9	IGA's – Male Dominance	7	0	4	3	14
10	Late rains onset	3	0	4	0	7
11	Drought	6	1	4	0	11
12	Immigration	1	0	2	0	3
13	Population increase and households	18	0	2	6	26
14	Food Production and food Insecurity	8	6	4	4	22

15	Tradition	5	0	2	0	7
16	Disease outbreak	15	6	0	1	22
17	Environmental Degradation	6	5	3	1	15
18	Drifts	3	4	1	2	10

Main vulnerabilities identified	Vulnerability prioritisation (Number of votes)	
HIV/AIDS and Orphans	31	HIV/AIDS and Orphans
Decrease in animals	28	Absence of social services
Insufficient water	27	IGA's
Sanitation	26	Population increase and households
Decrease in Trees	23	Insufficient water
Absence of social services	23	Sanitation
Peacekeeping	22	Food Production and food Insecurity
IGA's	22	Disease outbreak
IGA's – Male Dominance		
Late rains onset		
Drought		
Immigration		
Population increase and households		
Food Production and food Insecurity		
Tradition		
Disease outbreak		
Environmental Degradation		
Drifts		

12. Vulnerability Actions for Transformation

Following an analysis of all the information presented in sections above, the Lesotho VCA team proposed ten significant issues that are important to the Maotsane community. The table below reflects the main vulnerabilities identified by the participants, with initial ideas for the actions for transformation. An indication of the level of intervention required in order to convert the actions for transformation into reality, or implement change is proposed in the right hand column of the table. Three categories are provided, C, I and T, which are detailed as:

C = change. Indicates that change could be bought about through community intervention, and that change could occur immediately or in the short term

I = influence. Indicates that some level of influence would be required to bring about change, for example the initiative requires the approval and backing of the island office, additional assistance at the local level

T = full transformation. Indicates that a high level of intervention, support and assistance (i.e. from government, regional groups or an outside agency) would be required to bring about any change.

It should be noted that additional consultation, verification and analysis by the wider community is required before this list can be validated.

Table 12.1 Main vulnerabilities and initial ideas for Transformation

As a result of the consultation process with the communities the group of VCA facilitators discussed the above vulnerabilities and actions for transformation with representatives from the communities.

Issues (vulnerabilities identified)	Capacities identified	Actions for transformation	Prevention	Mitigation	Preparation	CHANGE C	INFLUENCE I	TRANSFORMATION T
1. HIV/AIDS and Orphans	Spirit of voluntarism HBC school Soccer Field Income Generation Spirit Support Groups.	Increase a number of volunteering community workers to support patients and orphans;			X	X		
		Train and recruit HBC schoolteachers, rehabilitate the school building and upgrade to primary;		X			X	
		Promote sporting activities to keep youth from engaging in illicit activities;	X			X	X	
		Income can support special dietary needs treatment of opportunistic infections and local support for orphans;		X	X	X	X	
		Provision of psychosocial support, and community sensitization.		X	X	X		
		Encourage the community to go for VCT.		X				X
2. Decrease in Livestock	Dam River Graze Lands Income Generating Spirit Farmers' Associations Community Police.	Keep water in dams safe from contamination;	X			X	X	
		Irrigate more grazing land;		X			X	
		Adopt sustainable grazing practices;			X	X	X	
		Establish revolving fund to have medium to long term disease control program;			X	X		
		Train association members, utilize association to manage livestock issues and activities;			X	X	X	
		Prevent livestock theft, increase members, and training and purchase tools			X	X		
3. Inadequate Water	Spirit of Voluntarism River Boreholes Income Generating Spirit	To maintain and repair the established water sources;			X	X		
		Tapping and treat water for domestic use;			X		X	
		Repair broken down borehole;			X	X		

	Human Resource Water Association.	Raise funds for repair and maintenance of existing water points and digging new ones;	X			X		
		Provide labour for the repair and maintenance and establish new water sources;			X		X	
		Administration and coordination of issues surrounding water and facilitate education on roof harvesting and conservation		X			X	
		Strengthen relations with the Department of Rural Water Supply		X		X		
4. Environmental Degradation	Sprit of Voluntarism Plantations Graze lands Basic Farming Knowledge.	Engage in soil conservation activities (e.g. Tree planting and gully reclamation);		X		X		
		Use plantations as wind breaks;		X		X		
		Used as cover vegetation;		X			X	
		Use to promote sustainable farming practices		X			X	
5. Poor Sanitation	Spirit of voluntarism River Rocks Boreholes Roads Water Association Chief's Office	They can volunteer to communicate their plans and supply for Labour;		X		X		
		Water association can facilitate the collected funds to improve sanitation;	X			X		X
		The natural resources i.e. water from river and rocks can be used for construction of toilets;			X		X	
		The man made resources like roads can use to access materials for construction and water can be drawn from the borehole;		X		X		X
		Local authorities can use their contacts to acquire assistance.		X		X		
		Sensitize the Local Community Counselors about the importance to of having toilets so that they give the community permission to use locally available construction materials.		X		X		
6. Decrease in number of trees	Spirit of voluntarism Farmer's Association River Dam Basic Farming Knowledge Learned Chief Chief's Office	They can volunteer to communicate their plans and supply for Labour;			X	X		
		Farmer's Association can coordinate efforts;			X	X		
		Resources to use include river and dam to irrigate the sites;		X		X		
		The farming knowledge will assist them to sustain the planted trees and develop seedlings and identify suitable trees for their environment;		X		X		

		The chief can allocate the appropriate land for planting trees and influence the community involvement;		X		X	X	
		The chief office will the can be the point of entry for external help.			X	X		
7. Absence of social services	Sprit of Voluntarism Income generating Sprit Community Based Organization Roads	Utilize community labour to construct buildings for social services;			X		X	
		Raise funds for buying construction materials;		X		X	X	
		Social mobilization, coordination and monitoring;		X		X		
		Transportation of construction materials.		X			X	
8. Food production and Food insecurity	Grinding Mill Dam and river Animals Shops Plantations Road Income Generating Spirit Human Resources Farmer's Association Basic Knowledge about farming	Processing of grains		X		X	X	
		Irrigation of crops	X			X	X	
		Draught power for tilling and planting	X			X		
		Retail outlets			X		X	
		Soil conservation	X			X	X	
		Easy delivery of commodities from outside	X				X	
		Raise funds for purchasing of farming inputs and pesticides;		X		X	X	
		Provision of labour		X		X		
		Administration and coordination of farming activities		X		X	X	
		Improved farming practices.		X		X		
9. Effects of Drought	Dam and River Graze Lands Farmers' Association	Irrigation during the dry spells;		X		X		
		Cover vegetation to maintain soil moisture and improve soil fertility;	X				X	
		Dissemination of information on early warning.			X	X		
10. Disease Outbreak	Communication Facilities Spirit of Voluntarism Vehicles/Roads St. Camilla's HBC Support Group	Alert relevant authorities of the disease outbreak			X	X		
		Provide back up to professionals;			X		X	
		Access to the village during emergencies;			X		X	
		Community mobilization, sensitization and distribution of medicine.			X	X		

The issues that require full transformation (i.e. in the T category) were not considered in this preliminary phase of analysis as invariably the level of assistance or support is complicated and high.

The how to reach the transformation process

Based on the developments of day the day before continue with the last step of the analysis. In this step of the process you should count with the presence of the community leaders and a representative of the different focus groups of the day before.

From the identified actions from transformation agreed the day before, the task of the team is to determine the way forward to operationalise the potential solutions. The idea for the team will be to understand the following:

A: Can the actions for transformation be undertaken immediately, in medium or long term?

B: Does it require resources?

C: Can the community find the resources themselves? If yes, how?

D: Does it require technical support? If so, Where from?

The solutions need to be part of the existing skills and/or resources of the community. If the solution requires money, finding this financing needs to be part of the solution (with creative ideas such as raffles, parties, collections etc). If it requires certain skills, these need to be found within the community itself, including friends, relations etc. The last resort should be to have to turn to people who are outside the affected community.

Actions for transformation	C	I	T	Can be done with own resources and capacities			Requires financial support		Requires technical support	
				S	M	L	Yes	No	Yes	No
Period of time to implement				S	M	L	Yes	No	Yes	No
Increase a number of volunteering community workers to support patients and orphans;	C			S			X		X	
Train and recruit HBC schoolteachers, rehabilitate the school building and upgrade to primary;		I			M		X		X	
Promote sporting activities to keep youth from engaging in illicit activities;	C	X		S			X		X	
Income can support special dietary needs treatment of opportunistic infections and local support for orphans;	C	X			M		X		X	
Provision of psychosocial support, and community sensitization.	C			S				X	X	
Encourage the community to go for VCT.		I		S				X	X	
Keep water in dams safe from contamination;	C	I								
Irrigate more grazing land;		I								
Adopt sustainable grazing practices;	C	I								
Establish revolving fund to have medium to long term disease control program;	C									
Train association members, utilize association to manage livestock issues and activities;	C	I								
Prevent livestock theft, increase members, and training and purchase tools	C									

To maintain and repair the established water sources;	C			S			X	X	
Tapping and treat water for domestic use;		I		S			X	X	
Repair broken down borehole;	C			S			X	X	
Raise funds for repair and maintenance of existing water points and digging new ones;	C				M		X		X
Provide labour for the repair and maintenance and establish new water sources;		I							
Administration and coordination of issues surrounding water and facilitate education on roof harvesting and conservation		I		S			X	X	
Strengthen relations with the Department of Rural Water Supply	C				M		X	X	
Engage in soil conservation activities (e.g. Tree planting and gully reclamation);	C								
Use plantations as wind breaks;	C								
Used as cover vegetation;		I							
Use to promote sustainable farming practices		I							
They can volunteer to communicate their plans and supply for Labour;	C			S			X		X
Water association can facilitate the collected funds to improve sanitation;	C		T	S			X		X
The natural resources i.e. water from river and rocks can be used for construction of toilets;		I		S			X		X
The man made resources like roads can use to access materials for construction and water can be drawn from the borehole;	C		T	S				X	X
Local authorities can use their contacts to acquire assistance.	C			S			X	X	
Sensitize the Local Community Counselors about the importance to of having toilets so that they give the community permission to use locally available construction materials.	C			S			X		X
They can volunteer to communicate their plans and supply for Labour;	C								
Farmer's Association can coordinate efforts;	C								
Resources to use include river and dam to irrigate the sites;	C								
The farming knowledge will assist them to sustain the planted trees and develop seedlings and identify suitable trees for their environment;	C								
The chief can allocate the appropriate land for planting trees and influence the community involvement;	C	I							
The chief office will be the point of entry for external help.	C								
Utilize community labour to construct buildings for social services;		I			M		X		X
Raise funds for buying construction materials;	C	I			M		X		X
Social mobilization, coordination and monitoring;	C				M		X		X
Transportation of construction materials.		I		S				X	X
Processing of grains	C	I		S			X		X
Irrigation of crops	C	I		S	M		X		X
Draught power for tilling and planting	C			S			X		X
Retail outlets		I		S			X		X
Soil conservation	C	I		S			X		X

Easy delivery of commodities from outside		I		S			X		X	
Raise funds for purchasing of farming inputs and pesticides;	C	I		S			X		X	
Provision of labour	C				M			X	X	
Administration and coordination of farming activities	C	I		S				X	X	
Improved farming practices.	C			S				X	X	
Irrigation during the dry spells;	C									
Cover vegetation to maintain soil moisture and improve soil fertility;		I								
Dissemination of information on early warning.	C									
Alert relevant authorities of the disease outbreak	C			S			X		X	
Provide back up to professionals;		I		S			X		X	
Access to the village during emergencies;		I			M		X		X	
Community mobilization, sensitization and distribution of medicine.	C				M		X		X	

Vulnerability prioritisation (Community Issues- Actions for transformation)

- HIV/AIDS
- Drought
- Poverty
- Lack of social services
- Lack of income
- Physical Environment
- Poor Roads
- Migration to neighbouring town