

Increased effectiveness in fighting poverty

*Key issues in developing and
implementing Poverty Reduction
Guidelines for the East and
Southern Africa (SOSA) Division of
SDC*

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Why develop Poverty Reduction Guidelines now?

- ☞ Poverty Reduction is top priority of all development agencies
- ☞ Need to increase pro-poor effectiveness of our interventions
- ☞ Need to increase our accountability



What is Poverty ?

- ☞ Multi-dimensional phenomenon
- ☞ Many causes
- ☞ Many manifestations
- ☞ Issue of Power, therefore political
- ☞ SDC Definition: „*Exclusion, difficult or denied access to material, economical, social, political and cultural resources.*“



SOSA

Poverty Reduction Guidelines

KEY OPERATIONALISATION ISSUES



1. Analysing the Phenomenon

1. Understand Poverty

- *context*
- *causes*
- *focus*
- *areas*

2. Understand the Poor

- *who ?*
- *where ?*
- *why ?*
- *how do they cope ?*
- *what development potential ?*



2. Who to target?

In direct interventions:

📄 Should we target **the poorest of the poor?**

📄 Can we really **reach them ?**

📄 Can we have a **positive impact on their livelihoods**

📄 **How ?**



3. How do we ensure that supported activities actually benefit the poor?

- *Program/project Targeting*
- *Objectives definition*
- *Monitoring system*



4. Subsidies or fees to fund service and infrastructure provision?

- How do we ensure that the poor have access to quality services and infrastructure?
- In rural areas it is often difficult for service providers to reach the critical mass necessary to generate a profit, thus discouraging private investors.
- What should the the respective roles of community, government, private sector and donors be?



5. Macro level interventions

- What could/should be the role of the private sector in such interventions?
- What is SDC's comparative advantage?
- How do we define expected outcomes and impacts on the poor?
- How do we monitor progress towards objectives?

