

**INTEGRATION AND COORDINATION OF YOUTH
DEVELOPMENT WITHIN THE SOCIAL CLUSTER OF
GOVERNMENT**

HOPE VIVIAN

A RESEARCH STUDY

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ABSTRACT

This study explored the challenges facing the Integration of youth development programmes within the Social Sector of government. The research involved the analysis of the internal and external factors that affected the integration and coordination of programmes and service delivery of youth development, with specific focus on institutional arrangements.

A qualitative study was conducted and a phenomenological study design was selected. Primary data was collected through the in-depth interviews of key informants and secondary data through a document review. Due to the paradoxical nature, it was not easy, or straightforward, to coordinate and integrate youth into mainstream development programmes without running the risk of originating a parallel society that is bizarrely dedicated to youth's problems and issues. The results reflected that the integration and coordination of youth development programmes is crucial. It also reflected that the State as the leading decision maker has been coordinating youth programmes via its many departments, but integration is not yet realised.

The results of some of the interviews revealed that integration may lead to other departments and institutions dominating and overshadowing the others, confusion of mandates. Most of the departments revealed that integration will fast track implementation and will save funds and reduce duplication.

The research will provide the Social Cluster with recommendations to strengthen and improve service delivered to youth in the country for future prospects and management of initiatives. The study concluded that coordination and integration of youth development is important and will assist in the institutional arrangement of where youth focal points should be placed and what will be their roles in each cluster departments. This will result in the reduction of duplication and wasteful expenditure. The impact of all this will be more effective.

DECLARATION

I declare that this research report is my own, unaided work. It is submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements of the degree of Master of Management (in the field of Public and Development Management) in the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg. It has not been submitted before for any degree or examination in any other University.

Hope Vivian

31st MAY 2013

Dedication

To William, Valentino and Vanessa,

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