

**Workshop on Household Surveys and Measurement of Labour Force
with Focus on the Informal Economy**

Maseru, Lesotho 14-18 April 2008

Final Recommendations

1. As a result of the benefits derived from the workshop, participants recommend the conduct of similar workshops at country level, to be coordinated by the NSO in collaboration with the Ministry of Labour and other relevant agencies, with feedback on the workshops to be provided to the Statistics Unit of the Secretariat of the Southern African Development Community (SADC).
2. Recognising the value of user-producer communication to improve the quality and relevance of statistics, participants recommended NSOs and other data producers to engage in dialogue with multiple stakeholders, including those involved in women's and gender issues.
3. Having realised the importance of contributing to the Working Group on the Measurement of Informal Sector and Informal Employment established by the Statistical Commission for Africa, participants recommended SADC members to join the Group.
4. Noting the diversity of the methodologies and periodicities used by SADC countries in conducting LFS, participants recommended a follow up meeting to focus on harmonisation in line with existing international recommendations.
5. Recognising the limitations of the concept of unemployment in the SADC region, participants recommended member countries to participate actively in the development of other related measures of labour under-utilisation.
6. After reviewing the strengths and weaknesses of the LFS instruments used by various SADC countries, participants suggested the development of a sub-regional model LFS questionnaire to improve the overall quality and comparability of the information collected.