

Best Evaluated Frontline Programs – A Government Perspective with Lessons from South Africa

Children and HIV & AIDS: Action Now, Action How
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Presentation Outline

1. Background information
2. Policy response
3. Research Conducted to inform programming
4. Key Strategies for Implementation
5. Capacity Building and M & E system
5. Progress and Lessons learnt
6. Challenges



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BACKGROUND

- National Integrated Plan for HCBC followed as a result of community response to the impact of the epidemic
- Goal: Mitigate the Impact of HIV/AIDS on vulnerable groups (Children, youth, older persons etc)
- Increased orphanhood and vulnerability on children
- 2001 Cabinet mandated DOH & DSD to develop an Integrated Home & Community Based Care (HCBC)
- Challenges: Capacity, Funding, Care giver training.
- Coordination, access to services
- Limited Information regarding the nature of the program.

Government Response

Development of guidelines for HCBC

Policy Framework for orphans and other children made vulnerable by HIV & AIDS; 2005

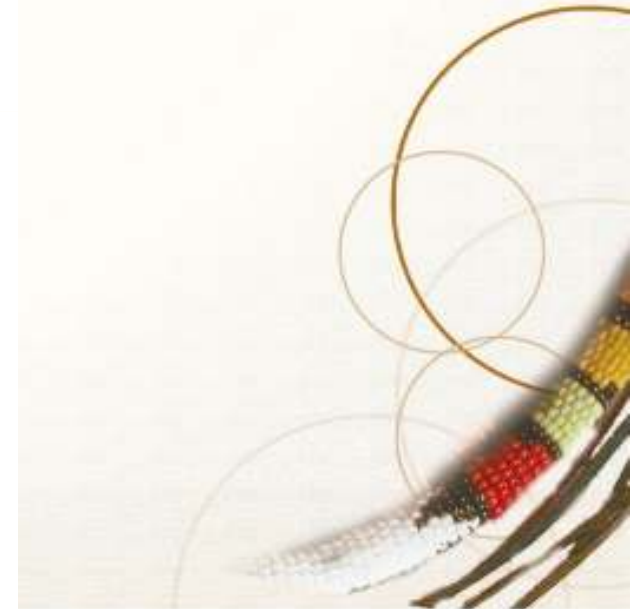
National Action Committee for Children Affected by AIDS (NACCA) at all levels of governance.

Development of a National Action Plan: 2006 to 2008

Alignment of the Policy Framework to the National Strategic Plan for HIV & AIDS & STI (2007 – 2011) with key indicators

Alignment to the Children's Act 38 of 2005 and the children's amendment Act No 41 of 2007

What do children need?



Key Strategic Areas:

1. Strengthen and support the capacity of families to protect and care for OVC
2. Mobilise and strengthen community-based responses for care, support and protection of OVC
3. Ensure that legislation, policy, strategies and programs are in place to protect the most vulnerable children
4. Ensure access of OVC to essential services
5. Raise awareness and advocacy to create a supportive environment for OVC
6. Engage the business community to play an active role in supporting the plight of OVC

Key Areas of Focus

- Capacity Building of NGOs to be able to deliver on the mandate
- Monitoring & Evaluation
- Donor Funding to start the process (DFID, USAID, JICA)
- Sustainability Plan

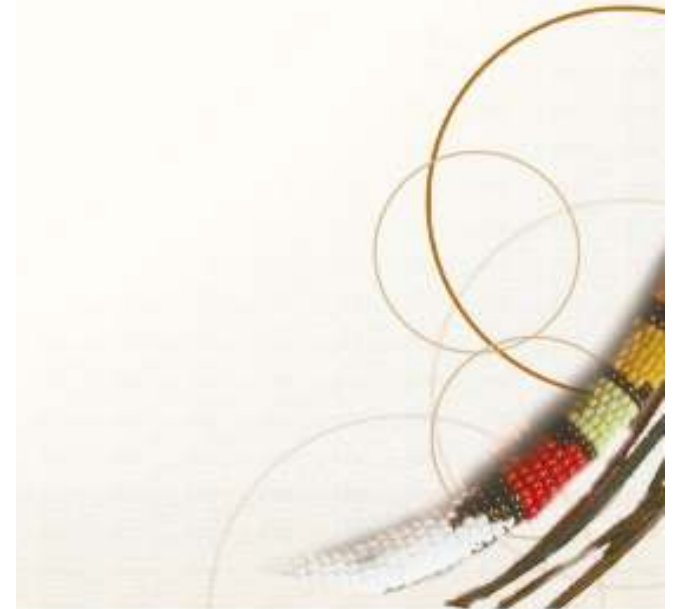
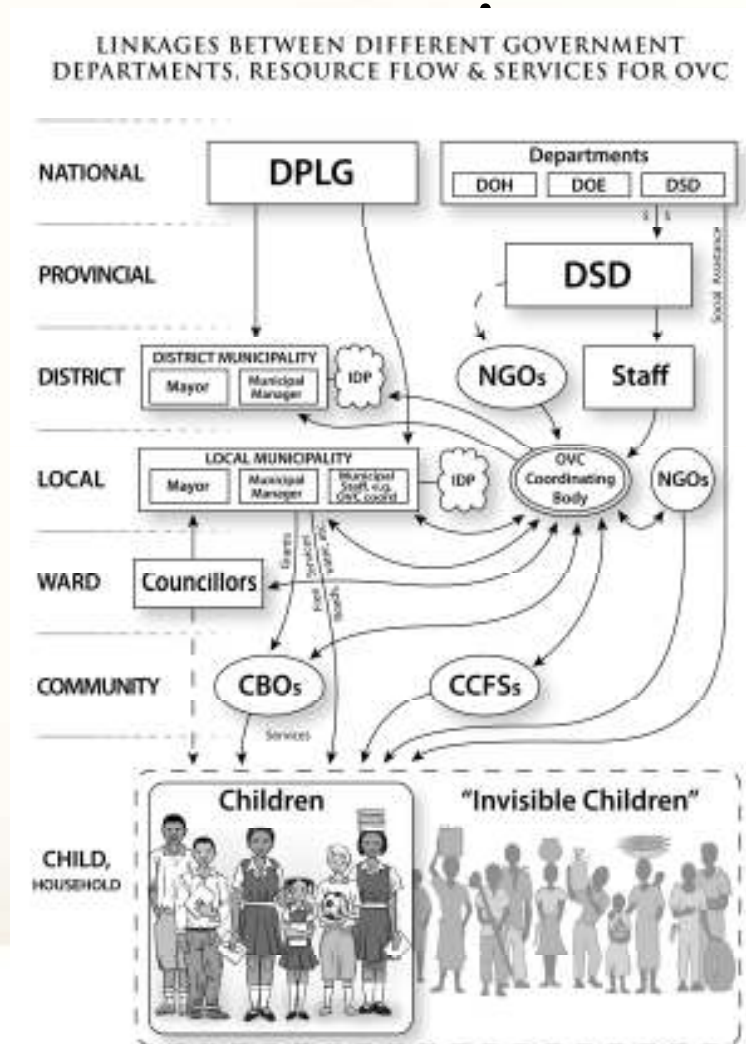
OVC Related Research

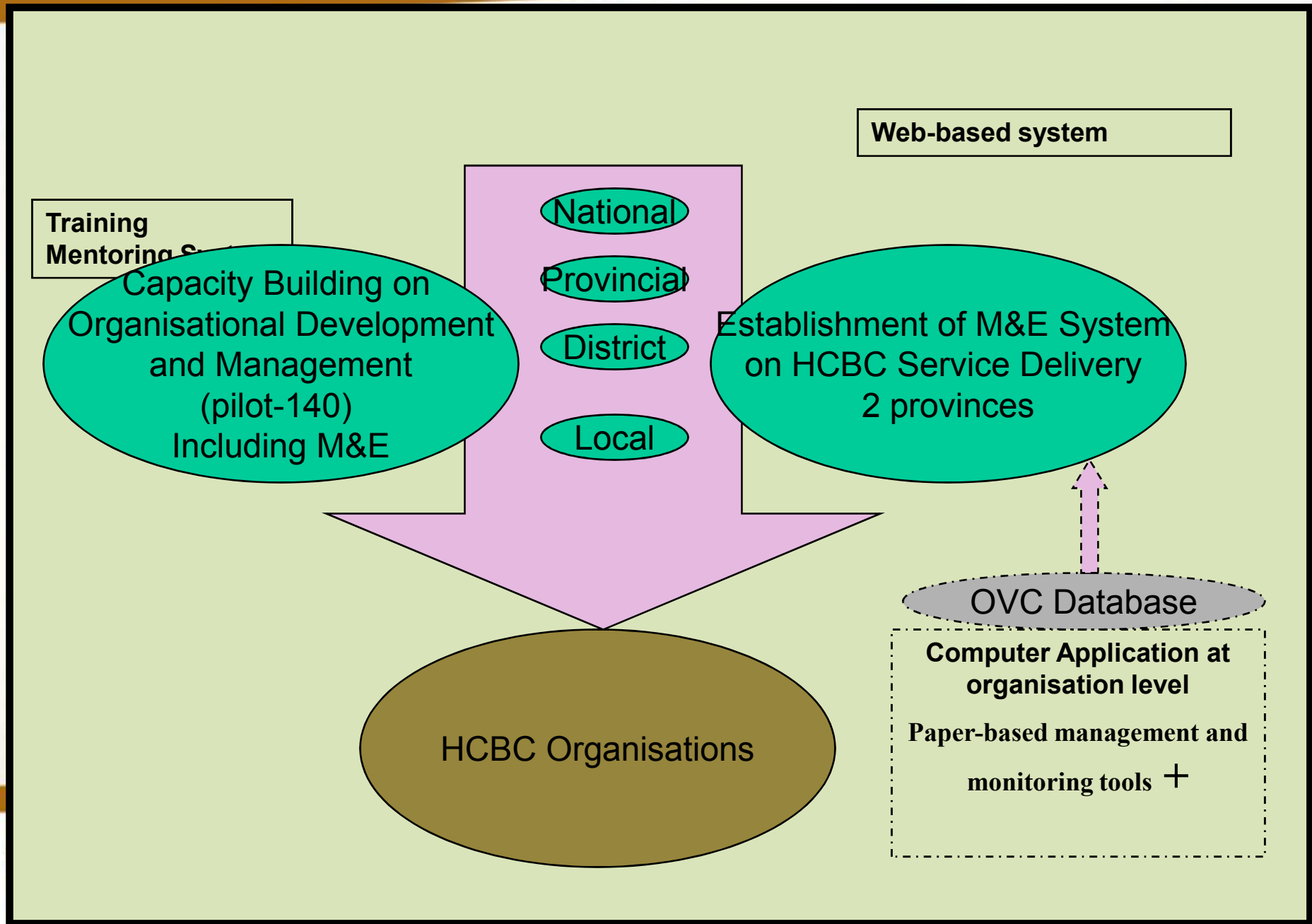
- Appraisal of Home/Community Based Care (HCBC) (2003/4 & 2005/6)
- Evaluation of costs and process indicators for HCBC Support Programme (2006)
- Audit of caregivers (2006)
- Situational Analysis on the management capacity of HCBC organisations (2007)
- Estimation of orphans using vital registration data (2007)
- Identification of data systems on OVC (2007)

OVC Related Research

- Analysis on the lessons learnt in addressing the OVC situation in Southern Africa
- Review, update and identification of key indicators for HIV & AIDS (2007)
- Assessment of local level integration of HIV & AIDS services 2006
- Identification of research gaps, information and priority needs on the impact of HIV & AIDS 2006
- Situational Analysis on Child headed household (2008)

Multisectoral approach for OVC





Web-based system

Training Mentoring System

Capacity Building on Organisational Development and Management (pilot-140) Including M&E

National

Provincial

District

Local

Establishment of M&E System on HCBC Service Delivery 2 provinces

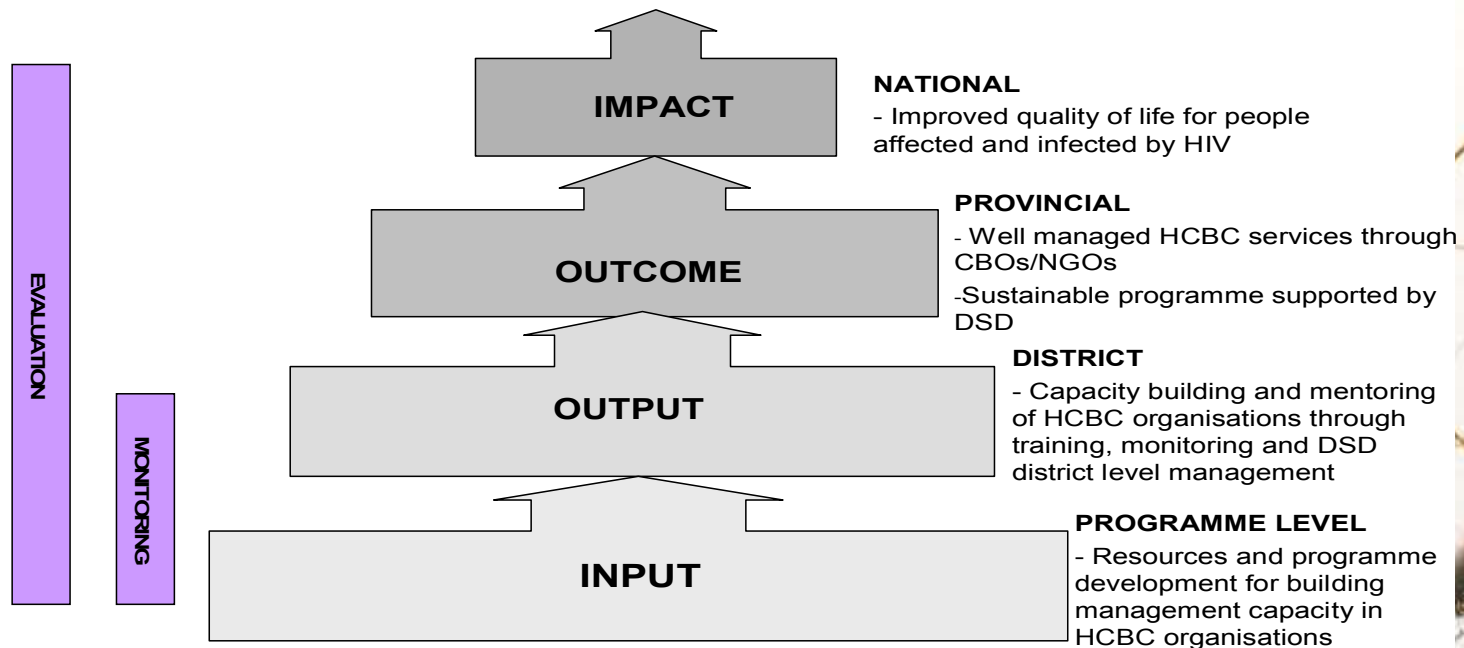
OVC Database

Computer Application at organisation level
Paper-based management and monitoring tools +

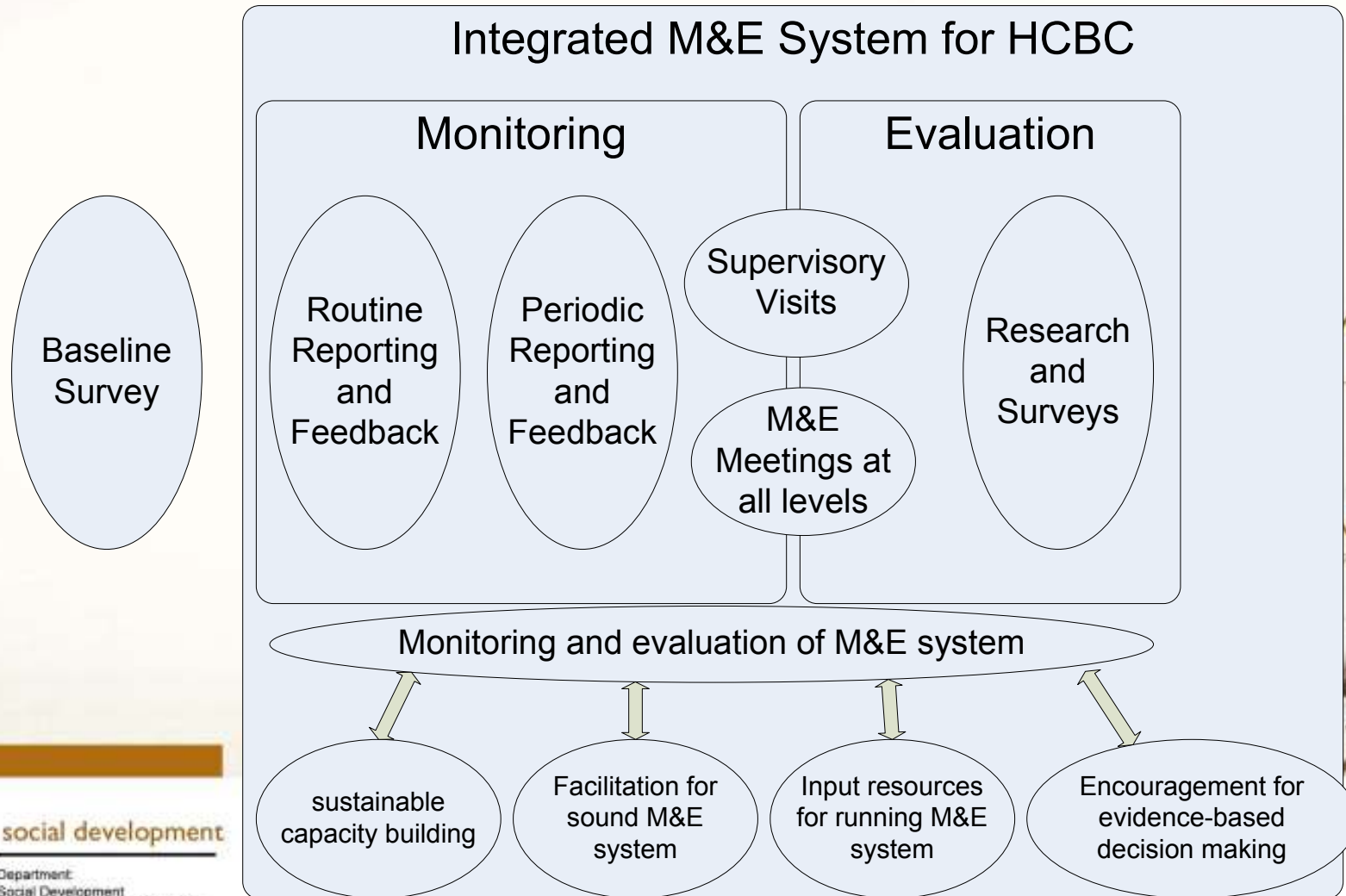
HCBC Organisations

Monitoring and Evaluation of Management Capacity Programme results chain

Tracking progress made in achievement of programme objectives



Overview of the M & E system

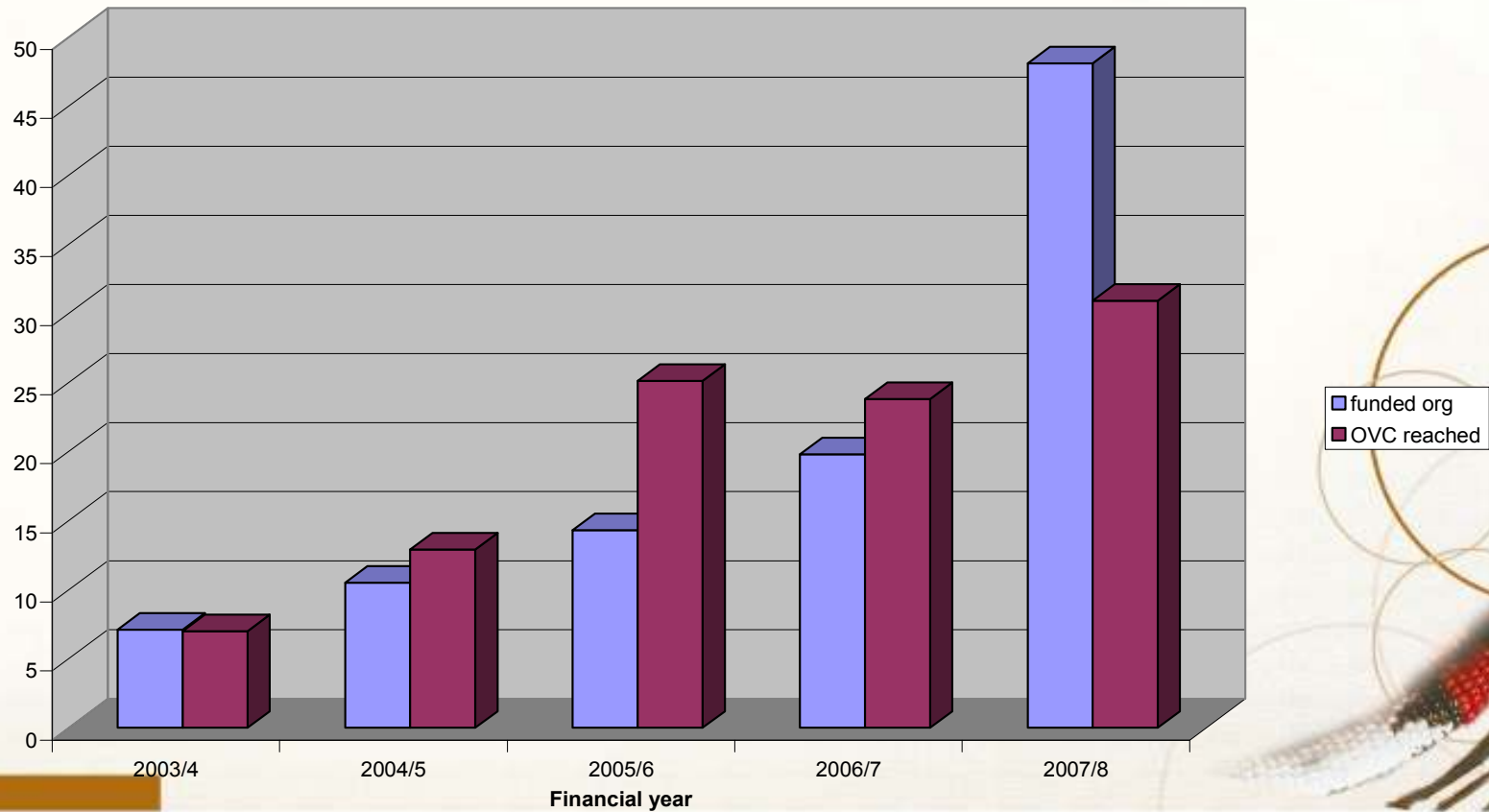


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Progress

Distribution of funded organisations and OVCs benefiting per year



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Progress made

- Provision of HCBC has grown rapidly over the last five years with increase numbers from 13 organizations funded in 2001 organisations compared to 1823 in 2007/8.
- Over 600 community care centres/drop-in-centres developed
- This constitute 70% of the sub-districts in the country with up to 35 000 community care givers trained.
- Number of beneficiaries for the social assistance has increased from 3,5 million in 1999 to 12 million in 2008
- Of the 9 452 409 children eligible for social security, 8 838 963 are in receipt of grants including 98 000 care dependency grant and 412 000 benefiting from foster care grant

Progress made

- Substantial Increase in budget for HCBC
- HCBC part of the Government Expanded Public Works program
- Budget made available in both National and provinces for capacity building. Increased donor funding for the program
- Technical support for the Monitoring and Evaluation
- Development of core indicators for the HCBC and the OVC programs
- Increased number of care givers receiving government stipend

Challenges

- Critical Shortage of health and social service professionals
 - Expanded Public Works Program
 - Training of community care givers
 - Training of Child and Youth Care workers
 - Retention strategy for social workers
 - Task Shifting
- Caregiver support: there has been increased funding to NGOs to fund stipends
- Alignment of stipends.
- Norms and Standards to improve quality

Lessons learnt

- Success of programmes depend on the following:
 - Evidenced based approaches to program implementation.
 - Training coupled with Mentoring are key to implementation of programme and sustainability.
 - It is important to build the capacity of the emerging CBOs and utilise the established NGOs for mentoring.
 - Commitment of staff and supervision especially at local and district level, Leadership at district/regional level
 - Built in Sustainability of the program during program design.

Lessons learnt

- Capacity building and monitoring systems compliment each other
- Implementing both at the same time tends to overwhelm the organisations and affects service delivery negatively
- Allowing participants to evaluate themselves is a powerful tool for self-reflection, monitoring and inculcates capacity building outcomes.
- Need for norms and standards to ensure quality.

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