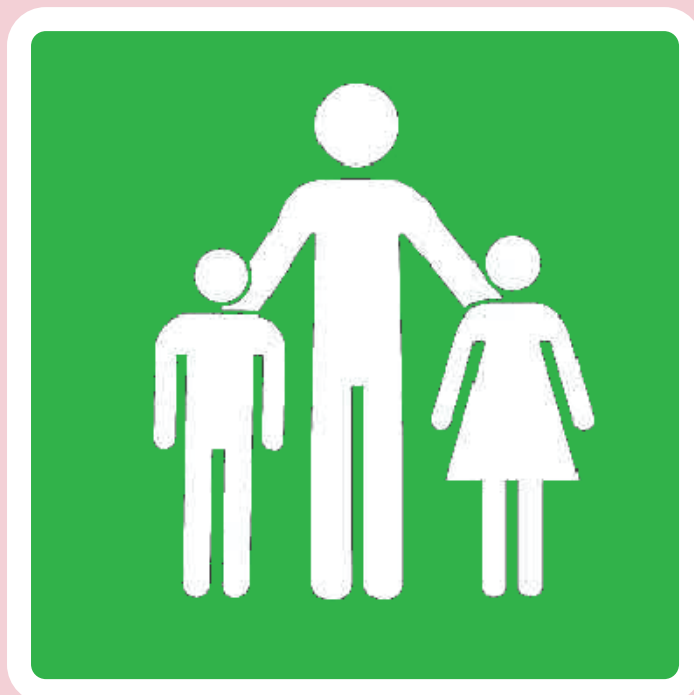


OVC Mapping and Directory Project: Prioritising the Children

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Introduction



Population Council, in partnership with the South Africa Department of Social Development, HIV-911/HIVAN, Westat and Trialogue, is producing the **Children Services Directory** for each province of South Africa. The directory is intended to facilitate access to and to help coordinate services for orphans and other vulnerable children (OVC). This PEPFAR-funded project will help:

- OVC and their caregivers identify sources of assistance,
- The Government of South Africa ensure services are available where needed,
- Donors better program their OVC activities, and
- OVC service providers better target their activities.

Objectives

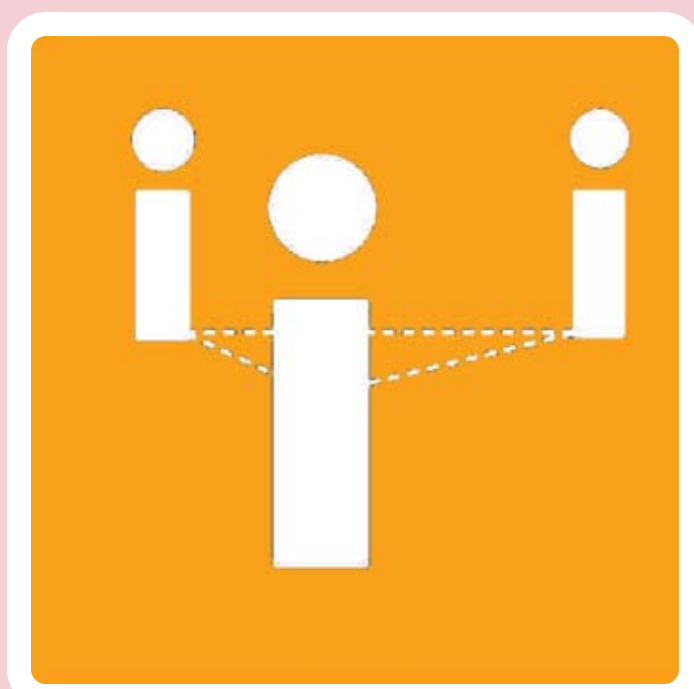
The **Children Services Directory** supports the national strategies in developing comprehensive, integrated and quality responses for vulnerable children at the programmatic level.



The six key strategies are:

1. Strengthen and support the capacity of families to protect and care.
2. Mobilise and strengthen community-based responses for the care, support and protection of orphans and other children made vulnerable by HIV and AIDS.
3. Ensure that legislation, policy; strategies and programmes are in place to protect the most vulnerable children.
4. Assure access for orphans and children made vulnerable by HIV and AIDS to essential services.
5. Raise awareness and advocate for the creation of a supportive environment for OVC.
6. Engage the civil society sector and business community in playing an active role to support the plight of orphans and children made vulnerable by HIV and AIDS.

Building the Directory



The directory will provide information on the areas of service for non-profit organisations (NPOs) registered with the Department of Social Development (DSD) and selected government services offered by other departments. It will serve as a guide to NPO resources for each province.

We have consulted over 72 civil society organisations, service providers, business, donors and government representatives to develop the format and information contained in the directory. HIV-911/HIVAN has been instrumental in ensuring that the information collected is correct and useful. We have involved the National Action Committee for Children Affected by HIV and AIDS in the process of developing the directory. We will build capacity in the use of the directory by introducing participants to the web service, both to search for a service and for strategic purposes; show how sections of the CD-Rom can be printed; and demonstrate use of the SMS function through provincial workshops involving HIV and AIDS stakeholders from DSD, other government departments and community representatives.

Directory Formats

Users will have four ways to access the directory:

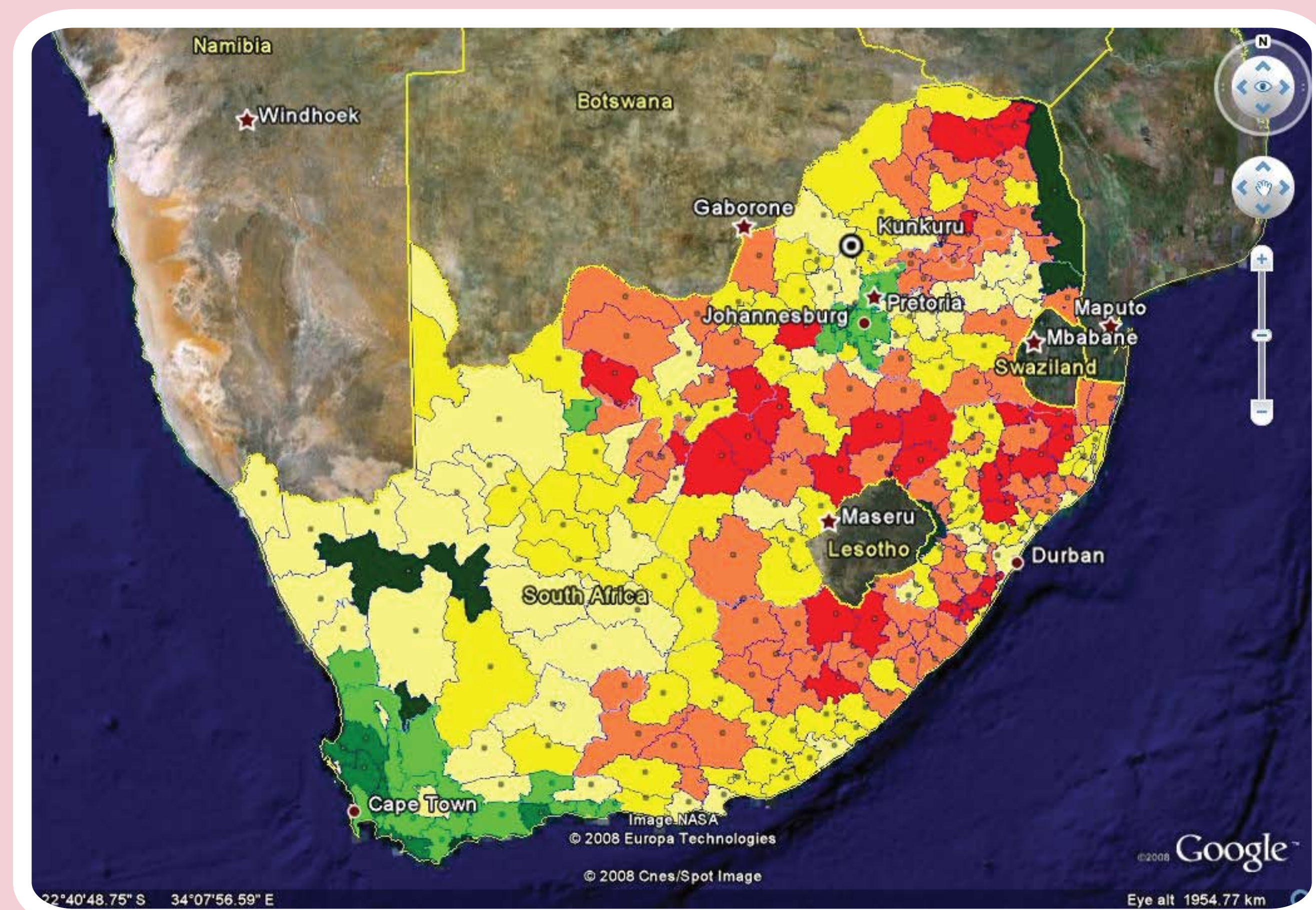
1. Hard copy. A version for each province which will be distributed to NPOs and other organisations and to government departments.
2. Websites of cooperating organisations. Anyone with access to the internet will be able to visit various organisations' websites to obtain the information they need for a vulnerable child. Westat has worked carefully to create a web service through which an NGO can provide a link to the directory.
3. CD-Rom. This will consist of a pdf file that may be printed out in full or by relevant section.
4. SMS. While the first three choices will be in English, the SMS service will use other official languages of South Africa. Anyone with a cell phone can get a name, address, and telephone number of desired services through the SMS system.



Mapping Option



The directory features a mapping option connected to the web service that will allow users to see what is happening in a specific area. Users will be able to identify service providers, determine where they are specifically located as well as relevant geographical features that may affect use of a service, and general statistical information on socio-economic data. This feature is being developed by Trialogue.



Poverty rate by municipality

Conclusion

The **Children Services Directory** will consist of all nine provinces by June 2010. This unique resource will enable users in many different situations to access specific OVC services more effectively than before. It also assists NGOs to be more proactive in their service delivery by providing a planning tool that identifies other local resources. Finally, it assists donors and businesses in identifying NPOs that are active in a particular geographical area.

NPOs interested in being in the directory should contact: Debbie Heustice, debbieh@hiv911.org.za, (031) 260 3052

NGOs interested in hosting the link for the directory should contact: Mary-Louise Bololo, mbololo@popcouncil.org, (011) 781 7590

NGOs or government departments interested in participating in a provincial workshop should contact: Julialynne Walker, jwalker@popcouncil.org, (011) 781 7590