

## **ANNEXURE 1(a): BABANANA FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION**

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TRANSCRIPT OF TRAVEL AND TRANSPORT NEEDS OF RURAL WOMEN IN THE  
CONTEXT OF BABANANA, IN THE BALOI TRIBAL AUTHORITY

FOCUS GROUP INTERVIEW (30 Rural Women)

DATE: 08/04/2000

TIME: 9H00 TO 14H00

The purpose of this focus group interview was to gather information on the following issues:

1. The roles of African rural women and how they use transport.
2. Whether the existing transport facilities meet their needs for travel and transport.
3. Opportunities denied to them when the system cannot meet their needs.
4. What their problems are in travel and transport.
5. The impact of travel and transport on their lives and livelihood?

The ultimate plan is to genderise the rural transport system.

**Abbreviations:**

**M:** moderator

**W1:** woman number 1

**FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION**

<p><b>Moderator:</b> <i>Good morning ladies. The guests here have noticed that there may be problems that need to be addressed concerning the status of living. When you are at a distance, you cannot notice the problems unless you come closer and talk to the relevant people. So, they decided to come closer to you so that they can discuss the problems with you.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Introduction</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Based on transport:</b></p>	
<p><b>M:</b> <i>Can you tell us about the present transport situation in this village?</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Transport situation</li> </ul>
<p><b>W1:</b> <i>In this village we have serious problems. Access to this village is constrained by poor, winding roads that at times are impassable during the rainy season The quality of roads is poor e.g. when you want to go to the clinic, you have to walk for a long distance because there is no transport. For health services we have to go to Mavele that is the neighbouring village or go to Mamitwa.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Transport constraints</b></li> <li>■ Poor quality of roads, no roads, no transport, long distance, seasonal constraints</li> <li>■ <b>Concern about accessibility of transport (issues)</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>W2:</b> <i>Like when we have to go to Musiphana where there is a health centre we have to walk to Mametwa first to get a taxi, bakkie or bus to Musiphana. The poor roads in most cases scarce away public transport such as buses and taxis. As a result we experience some delays and inconveniences in transporting our goods and ourselves. We wait for longer times at the bus stop, like you can wait for an hour for a bus that will never come. Remember there are no shelters; we depend on the shades from the trees.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Quality of roads, absence of transport, waiting time, lack of facilities, e.g. bus stops (issues) - inconvenient and sporadic transport services</b></li> <li>■ <b>impact on time</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>W3:</b> <i>But even before the heavy rains that damaged the roads, it was difficult to get transport. We even asked the government to make a road from Babanana to Musiphana, but unfortunately there is no reply till today.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Poor transport, aggravating conditions, e.g. rain, no roads (issues)</b></li> </ul>

<p><b>W4:</b> These heavy rains damaged the bridge linking Tzaneen and our village. Because of that taxi fares increased whereby they charged from Babanana to Mamitwa R3.50 and, Mamitwa to Nkowakowa is R5.50, but before the rains we paid R4.50 for the whole trip from Mamitwa to Nkowakowa and Babanana to Mamitwa R2.50. This is a problem because we cannot afford the high cost of transport.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Raising transport cost, lack of access to urban centres</b> (<i>concern about access problems, e.g. affordability</i>) <b>poor roads, aggravating condition - rain</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>W5:</b> The quality of roads within the village is very poor. This is not because of the heavy rains. They have been like this since. When one is sick in the family the ambulance has to wait at the main road from Mametwa which is about 6km from Babanana. The heavy rains have worsened the situation. One can even die because there is no transport.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Quality of roads has been ignored, aggravating condition, e.g. rain</b> (<i>impact, health concern</i>)</li> </ul>
<p><b>W9:</b> Our children have to walk for about 2 hours to school. As a result they do not concentrate and this leads to high failure rate. You must also remember that after accompanying them to school we still have other things to do at home. At the end of the day we are tired.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Distance and time, impact on children and education, impact on mothers</b></li> <li>■ <i>Impact</i></li> </ul>
<p><b>W10:</b> Another problem we have is water. There is only one tap in the whole village and you have seen how big this village is. Sometimes water does not come out of the tap and we have to fetch water from the fountains, which is dirty in most cases.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Poor access to sources</b></li> <li>■ <b>Impact on health</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>W11:</b> Because the tap is not in our yards we have to carry a 25 litre bucket on our heads or use the wheelbarrow for an hour or two, three to four times a day if you are lucky to have girl children who can relieve you. Even when we want to do some washing we have to carry the big washing-bath on our heads or use the wheelbarrow if you have it and do the washing around the tap.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Poor access to sources, impact on social, cultural and religious activities of the villagers</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>W12:</b> We spend almost the whole day at the tap because we are many we have to share one tap and get water in turns. A lot of time is spent doing one thing. If we can get</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Impact on time</b></li> <li>■ <b>Wasted time, caring</b></li> </ul>

<p>more taps life will be better for some of us. Remember that some of us have to take care of my mother-in-law and father-in-law, who cannot do anything. They cannot cook for themselves; they must be cleaned and even escorted to their pension pay-points. If there can be transport to help us during the day things will be better.</p>	<p><b>for the elderly</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Impact on other household responsibilities</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>W13:</b> My mother-in-law is not staying with us. She lives in another village and my husband is the one who must take care of her as he is the only son. As a result I must check on her almost every week and there is no transport, I have to walk for a long distance and even make sure that I take her to the doctor in town when she is ill. We have one clinic here and it is not working. It only caters for pregnant women, for other sicknesses one has to walk to Musiphana and is far from Babanana if you have to carry a sick person who cannot walk properly and faster. Otherwise it means spending the whole day escorting a sick person to the health centre.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Household responsibilities, caring for elderly – family welfare</b></li> <li>■ <b>Poor access to services - need for antenatal care</b></li> <li>■ <b>Impact on health</b></li> <li>■ <b>Impact on mothers</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>M:</b> Can you tell us: what do you need transport for?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Needs</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>W14:</b> We need transport to help us take our sick to hospital and health centres which are not available in our village and pregnant women to clinics and to go to town in Tzaneen for shopping. There is only one clinic, which is not in use because there are no nurses. The only service we have is provided by a mobile clinic for immunization of children and pregnant women. This clinic works once a month. If anything can happen during the days when the mobile clinic is not there we have to see how to come out.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Need for ante-natal care Health services</b></li> <li>■ <b>Impact on health</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>W15:</b> We also need transport to take our children to school because we only have a primary school and also to reduce the taxi fare. The taxi people know that we do not have transport, especially during this rainy season when most of the roads are damaged they charge more than they use to charge.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Education</b></li> <li>■ <b>Transport facilities</b></li> <li>■ <b>Unfair charges - abuse by taxi transport providers</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>W18:</b> We also need transport to go to the farms to get vegetables, fruit and chickens to come and sell here. Transport is a problem. I have to carry the goods on my head. Imagine having to carry a box of live chickens for about 10km. That is not nice. One cannot buy a big quantity because it is heavy. We therefore have to hire someone with a bakkie to save time. So all the profit money that one makes is spent on transport and we do not</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Trading</b></li> <li>■ <b>Impact on health, on cost</b></li> <li>■ <b>Impact on time, business</b></li> </ul>

<p>see any benefit out of the businesses we run. So we are suffering.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Unprofitable business</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>M:</b> <i>What modes of transport do you presently use?</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <i>Modes of transport and use</i></li> </ul>
<p><b>W19:</b> Those who are working in Tzaneen and Nkowakowa use bus transport. They can only use taxis if they are prepared to walk to Nwametwa, and is far to walk in the morning.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Bus - employment</b></li> <li>■ <b>Taxi - employment</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>W20:</b> If there is something urgent we hire bakkies from those who have. Like when someone is ill and has to be taken to hospital.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Bakkies - emergencies</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>W21:</b> We use donkey-carts for collecting firewood and sand for building purpose and use wheelbarrows for fetching water or even head-loading.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Donkey-carts - goods</b></li> <li>■ <b>Wheelbarrows - goods</b></li> <li>■ <b>Head-loading - goods</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>W22:</b> In short, those women who are in paid employment use the bus, while those who are self-employed use either wheelbarrows to transport their goods to the local market where they sell or use the animal cart. In fact it depend on whether you can afford to pay for a hired cart. You must know that some of us are selling in our homes because we cannot afford to hire any means of transport. Alternatively we have to carry sweets, juices and fat cookies by head to the schools where we sell. If I want to buy stock from town I have to hire or take the morning bus and wait until late in the afternoon when paid workers return. This means I spend the whole day doing nothing.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Bus - employment and shopping</b></li> <li>■ <b>Wheelbarrows – goods</b></li> <li>■ <b>Hired carts - goods and people</b></li> <li>■ <b>Head-loading - goods</b></li> <li>■ <b>Time wasting</b></li> <li>■ <b>Impact</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>M:</b> <i>If government can buy a bakkie, what will you use it for? Do you think donkey carts can be good in this village or you prefer to use wheelbarrows?</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Perception about appropriate technology</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>W23:</b> We can use the bakkie to develop the community by reaching the TLC, go to the police station because presently it is far. Concerning carts, they can be good to transport us during the day when there are no buses and</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Development opportunities</b></li> <li>■ <b>For households and</b></li> </ul>

<p>vans. They can also help in the collection of firewood and transport for our school children and to pension-pay points. Remember we sell a lot of things at the pension-pay points, ranging from food to clothes besides transporting the older people.</p>	<p><b>community</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Trading</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>M:</b> <i>What do you think should be done to address your problems?</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Solutions/views</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>W24:</b> Government should build secondary schools in our village. Bring water because there are taps in our village but they do not have water. There is a clinic but it is not used. Nurses should be brought to the clinic and a doctor. As of now the clinic building is used for community meetings.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Practical need - building schools, bring tap water, bring nurses and doctors</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>W25:</b> Our roads should be improved because now the rain has caused terrible damage to an extent that bakeries no longer deliver; we have to hire vans to town to buy bread and other goods for our <i>spaza</i> shops. Remember we do not have shops in the village; we depend on <i>spaza</i> shops for our daily goods such as bread, milk, sugar and maize meal.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Practical need - road improvement to ease life</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>W26:</b> The government should come to us so that we tell them what we want. Now they say they do not have graders to repair the roads. This village has many people especially men, who are unemployed and many of them resort to drinking beer instead of repairing the roads and government should pay them.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Practical need - consulting with authorities</b></li> <li>■ <b>Concern about male unemployment - impact on community facilities</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>W27:</b> We need to talk to the TLC people to come here and repair the roads and also talk to the taxi association to come to Babanana and collect people because as of now there is no taxi coming in this village. Maybe because the roads are bad as you can see. If you have powers to go to government tell them they should bring services in this community such as roads, clinics, water and schools.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Negotiations with service providers, need for transport facilities - taxis</b></li> <li>■ <b>Practical need - infrastructure</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>M:</b> <i>Some of you are working and some are not. Can you show by raising your hands who is working? Tell us: you say the quests must go and tell government your problems and amongst others you need transport. What do you need transport for as women?</i></p>	
<p><b>W30:</b> You must also know that there is no woman who is not working. All of us here are engaged in some form of economic activities that bring in money to help in the family</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Economic activities - employed women, self-employed, concern</b></li> </ul>

<p>because many men here are not working. They remain at home drinking beer. We have to see to it that there is a bag of maize meal at the back of the kitchen door. We sell a whole range of things including fruit, vegetables and clothes. We also need transport to go and stock.</p>	<p><b>about unemployed men, need for transport facilities and services</b></p>
<p><b>W31:</b> We need clinics here maybe some of us can get employment. We can be cleaners and even make tea for the nurses. We also need nurseries for our children. I believe if someone can give us direction, we can run the nurseries ourselves. But now, we do not know where to start and what to do.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Practical need - clinics, employment</b></li> <li>■ <b>Strategic need - better facilities, e.g. nursery</b></li> <li>■ <b>Need for training</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>M:</b> <i>As women, do you have an organization, which addresses your problems?</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Emancipation</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>W32:</b> Yes, we have a care-group, but we do not meet because some women do not honour it. Only a few of us meet and then we elect a committee to take our problems to government but we do not get feedback.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Poor organization, lack of time</b></li> <li>■ <b>Practical need - recognition</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>M:</b> <i>If all these problems that you are indicating can be solved, what will you do with the time gained?</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Opportunities</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>W33:</b> We told you that we do not have time to attend community meetings; the availability of facilities will give us time to concentrate on real women issues. We can get someone to teach us how to use sewing machines, how to cook and to make vegetable gardens and sell, since we will be having enough water and time.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Practical need - need to attend meetings, capacity building, empowerment</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>W34:</b> Right now the village has electricity, but many of us cannot use it because we cannot afford it. Even those who have installed it use it for lights only. They still have to fetch wood for cooking. Obviously, if people can come here and teach us some of the self-help schemes we will be useful to our community and the village as a whole.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Practical need - need for electricity, affordability (impact) - fetching wood</b></li> <li>■ <b>Community role and empowerment</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>W35:</b> At the moment we concentrate on things that consume a lot of time and the village is not improving. We also want to have time to hold meetings with our men here and discuss things that affect our village.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Concern about development in the village, decision-making role</b></li> <li>■ <b>Strategic need - need to participate</b></li> </ul>

<p><b>W36.</b> You know what, some of the problems that we experience men do not know and they also do not understand. If we have time to ourselves we can take our problems straight to the TLC.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Strategic need - need to participate in decision making</b></li> <li>■ <i>Decision -making role</i></li> </ul>
<p><b>W37.</b> The lady who has just talked is right. You have seen when this meeting started that some of us could not say anything in front of them. You have also seen how they were responding to the lady who wanted to clarify our problems. They made it appear as if she was out of order, as if she was wrong.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Strategic need - need for recognition, concern about gender bias</b></li> <li>■ <b>Male domination</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>W38.</b> Our village is not improving at all. We tried, as a community to inform government about our problems but they never did anything up to today. So, I think it is time to stand up as women. (<i>She used the Northern Sotho expression saying "Mosadi o swara thipa ka bogaleng" meaning "A woman holds the knife at the sharp point especially when there is trouble." This is direct translation.</i>)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Strategic need</b></li> <li>■ <b>Need for change</b></li> <li>■ <b>Power and control</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>W39:</b> I really believe it is high time that we wake-up and not expect men to do things for us, we really need to help them and help ourselves. This is our village too and we are the ones suffering.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Strategic need</b></li> <li>■ <b>Empowerment</b></li> <li>■ <b>Emancipation</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>M:</b> <i>Do you participate in community development projects?</i></p>	
<p><b>W40:</b> We would like to participate in community development projects, but it is difficult because most of the time we are busy doing this and that. At the end of the day we have less time and energy to channel towards initiating and participating in the community development projects.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Participation in community development projects - impossible - heavy work schedule</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>W41:</b> Some of us want to participate and initiate projects, but I only passed standard 2, as a result it is difficult for me to give inputs and understand some issues relating to designing and planning projects, I can only provide labour.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Lack of education, opportunities denied, participation in project operation phase only</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>W42:</b> At some stage we attempted to initiate an agricultural project, and it failed not because we are lazy. But because of lack of the necessary resources such as water supply system and agricultural technological know-how. We have been pleading with authorities to bring water, but up till now we still survive by using one tap; many of them are dry.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Project failure, lack of resources, e.g. water, knowledge, practical need - need for resources</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>W43:</b> We do not have knowledge and information that is required to initiate development projects. As a result it is difficult to even suggest that we take initiative.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>No knowledge, no information, difficult to initiate projects</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>W44:</b> You know what, we use not to talk in front of the community or strangers, but things are changing, because</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Absence of men, sense of empowerment,</b></li> </ul>

<p>most of our husbands are not at home to talk and do things on our behalf. Right now we are discussing with you issues of interest to us and the community as a whole. I think when you leave this place we will remain and do something to help our families and community. The other issues is the agricultural project which failed, we learn from mistakes and that was an initiative.</p>	<p><b>community role</b></p>
<p><b>W45:</b> We already told you that we have problems of water. At the moment we attend meetings with women from neighbouring villages to talk about what should be done to solve our problems. Unfortunately we walk to these villages as there is no transport.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Community role, Social obligations, opportunity to meet other women, need for transport</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>W46:</b> Some of us belong to care-groups which started because of health reasons. The problem of trachoma, which is a result of poor nourishment, led to the vegetable garden we mentioned earlier on. We also care for the sick, aged, orphans within our village and surrounding villages, But the plans are complicated by transport problems.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Participation in development projects, opportunity to meet other women, social obligations, transport problems</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>W47:</b> I think we need to participate fully in the local organizations such as the civics and many of those I do not know because we are the once remaining at home, in the villages so to say, when our husbands are away. We know how and what it feels to be in the village without water, fuel-wood and food. So we must take charge of the villages, especially projects that must come in to help us. Otherwise some of the young men who are involved in decision making of our village do not understand what we want as their mothers. We must get involved.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Strategic need - political participation, participation in development projects, impact</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>W48:</b> Some of us are able to do jobs they usually say are done by men. We organized ourselves, as women to make mud-bricks and even build house for ourselves. What happens is, we start with one person's house and then followed by the next until all the house are complete. In this regard we need transport to carry material.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Mainstreaming Gender issues, empowerment, practical need - transport</li> <li>■ <b>Facilities and services</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>W49:</b> We have been excluded from participating in the traditional leadership structures in our village. This denied us the opportunity to participate in the discussion of issues that affect our daily lives and that I think is a problem especially to the development of the community as we are always at home. At least now one or two women are included in the civic organization. We need more and more women to take part as they understand what it means to be a rural woman.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Strategic need, political activity, opportunity denied, (impact) more representation, understanding of gender needs, e.g. women needs</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>W50:</b> Some of us do not participate because we are afraid to take a stand before men. We think it is the responsibility of government and local leadership structures in the village to initiate development projects. So, someone should come to our rescue like Social Workers.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Practical need, e.g. need for training, capacity building</b></li> </ul>

<b>CATEGORIES:</b>	
1. Transport situation (problems)	
2. Transport uses	
3. Impact of transport	
4. Travel and transport needs	
4.1. Practical needs	
4.2. Strategic needs	
4.3. Social needs	
5. The need for Integrated Approach	<p>Schemata must include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>gender issues</b></li> <li>➤ <b>livelihood issues</b></li> <li>➤ <b>cross-sectoral issues</b></li> </ul>
6.1. Interaction of factors that affect their travel and transport needs.	
<p><i>The problems experienced by rural women in Babanana village do not seem to involve transport only. They reflect interaction of factors that affect their travel and transport needs. These factors, to a large extent, range from those that require transport solutions and those that require the siting of services. To a lesser extent they include emancipation and empowerment. Therefore, there is the need for an <b>integrated approach</b> in addressing rural women's travel and transport needs.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Interaction of factors</b></li> </ul>

## **ANNEXURE 1(b): MAMOLEKA FOCUS GROUP**

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### TRANSCRIPT OF TRAVEL AND TRANSPORT NEEDS OF RURAL WOMEN IN THE CONTEXT OF MAMOLEKA VILLAGE IN THE BOCHUM DISTRICT

FOCUS GROUP INTERVIEW (15 rural women)

DATE: 27 JUNE 2000

TIME: 11H00 TO 14H00

The purpose of this focus group interview was to gather information on the following issues:

1. The roles of the African rural women and how they use transport.
2. Whether the existing transport facilities meet their needs for travel and transport.
3. What their problems are in travel and transport.
4. The impact of travel and transport on their lives and livelihoods.

The ultimate goal is to genderise the rural transport system

#### **Abbreviations:**

**M:** Moderator

**W1:** Woman number 1

**FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION**

<b>Introduction:</b>	
<b>M:</b> <i>Good morning ladies. We have come here today to make friendship with you so that we can understand how you live your lives in this village. Let us start by introducing ourselves. We come from the University of the North and would like to know more about the transport situation in this village.</i>	
<b>W1:</b> I would like to welcome you here in our village. As you see us some of us come from the neighbouring villages such as Windhoek, Vergelegen, Grootdraai and Bultfontein. Some of us work in the Babina-Chuene project, while some remain at home doing other things.	<b>Employed women, self-employed and unemployed</b>
<b>W2:</b> Transportation system during our early childhood was very poor and the state of affairs is still continuing. We still suffer and live under appalling conditions like before.	<b>Poor transport, poor living conditions</b> <i>(issues)</i>
<b>W3.</b> The problems we experience have been existing since we started to stay here, some 40 to 50 years ago. We travel for longer distances on foot especially during the day when there are no taxis to take us to the clinics, to Bochum for our shopping and even to visit our relatives in other villages.	<b>Long distance travel, travel on foot, no taxis,</b> <b>Difficult shopping, visiting clinics and relatives</b> <i>(issues)</i>
<b>W4.</b> Our village as you can see does not have a clinic, a decent shop and many other good things that women need. As a result we rely on other areas for help like MyDarling clinic, which also far from Vergelegen. We use to have one bus in the morning. But because of the flood destruction on our roads, the bus has stopped to come. So we rely more on pick-up vans, taxis and donkey carts.	<b>Poor access to facilities</b> <b>No clinic, no shops, long distance travel,</b> <b>roads destroyed</b> <i>(issues)</i> <b>rely on other areas, one bus service, pick-up vans,</b> <b>donkey carts, one taxi</b>
<b>W5.</b> We also have one taxi which only operates in the morning and come back late in the afternoon. If you miss it, then you must see how to come out, either to walk or wait for a lift. If you can miss the taxi from Bochum afternoon you still have to devise some means on how to get back home.	<b>One taxi, operates in the morning, comes back</b> <b>Late in the afternoon, rely on lifts or walk</b> <i>(issues)</i> <b>limited transport facilities</b>
<b>W6.</b> You know the floods cause a terrible destruction on our roads, but we can not really put all the blames on the floods. Our roads were bad even before the floods, they are now worse	<b>Flood destruction on roads, bad roads worse, government visit during elections</b> <i>(issues)</i> <b>poor government delivery -</b>

<p>than before. My problem is the people from government usually visit our villages only during the elections when they want us to vote. Thereafter, you will never see them.</p>	<p><i>transport disadvantage</i></p>
<p><b>W7:</b> If they could one day visit our villages and use the same roads that we use, they will understand our problems and what we feel everyday.</p>	<p><b>Politicians should reach out to villages, understanding of problems and livelihood issues (issues)</b></p>
<p><b>W8:</b> The other problem is that the possibility of the roads being repaired is minimal because the village is far from the nearest town, Dendron, and many of the people working in the town come home only during month ends.</p>	<p><b>Repairing of road minimal, village far from town, people work in town, come home month ends. Problems of distance decay</b></p>
<p><b>M:</b> <i>How do you visit other villages then if you only have one taxi to town and one bus?</i></p>	<p><b>Visit to other villages</b> <b>One taxi</b></p>
<p><b>W9:</b> Even though we do not have public transport, we depend so much on donkey carts and walking. We also use wheelbarrows to carry our heavy loads, such as goods for selling, sand for building purposes and water.</p>	<p><b>No public transport, survival transport strategies - depend on donkey carts, walking, wheelbarrows for heavy loads, selling, sand, water</b></p>
<p><b>W10:</b> If you can help, please tell us where we can get donkeys at a reasonable price because here they are expensive. They have realized that we need them so desperately, hence the high price.</p>	<p><b>Demand supply principle Need for donkeys (IMTs)</b> <b>Expensive modes, high prices charged</b></p>
<p><b>W11:</b> You were asking how we travel to other villages if I am not wrong. We either walk or get a lift from a tractor or pick-up vans and even donkey carts.</p>	<p><b>Travel to other villages; walking, lift from tractors, pick-up vans, donkey carts</b></p>
<p><b>M:</b> <i>What do you need transport for?</i></p>	<p><b>Transport uses</b></p>
<p><b>W12:</b> Transport is needed for a variety of purposes such as going to town for shopping, going to work, to school, to church and even to attend funerals in other villages. We also need transport to get to the health centres because we do not have one in our village.</p>	<p><b>General travel - shopping, work, school, church, funerals, health centres</b></p>
<p><b>W13:</b> Some of us are engaged in many activities for survival. For example we sell soft-drinks, home brewed beer, fruit, vegetables and poultry. But we do not have the means to go to areas where we can stock. Transport is a problems.</p>	<p><b>Income-generating activities - selling soft-drinks, home-brewed beer, fruit, vegetables, poultry; no transport for stocking, transport a problem (need for transport)</b></p>
<p><b>W14:</b> For some of us who work in the Babina-Chuene project, we walk for long distances to come to work. There is no local transport. Even for those working in white farms there is no</p>	<p><b>Accessing places of work; Employment in the project; long distance travel to work, employment in white-owned farms, no transport,</b></p>

transport; they walk to such an extent that when you arrive at work you are already tired.	<b>walking, arrive tired (<i>impact on production</i>)</b>
<b>W15:</b> There is no police station here. As a result we have to travel to either Bochum or MyDarling for such services and the places are far. From Vergelegen to Bochum is approximately 70km. It is not easy to walk. So, if you miss a taxi then you have to post-pone what ever you wanted to do on that day. That is inconveniencing.	<b>No post office, travel to far areas, not easy to walk, miss taxi, postpone, inconveniencing (<i>impact on time</i>)</b>
<b>W16:</b> Because of the distance taxis and buses have to travel and the bad road conditions we find ourselves with one taxi. Remember we also attend prayer meetings in this village and outside our village.	<b>Long distance travel for taxis, bad roads, one taxi (<i>impact on transport facilities</i>)</b> <b>Emotional work</b>
<b>M:</b> <i>Can you tell us what is the most important thing that you need?</i>	<b>Needs</b>
<b>W17:</b> We need roads, because if they can be improved then we can easily travel to other villages to sell our goods and we can open up small businesses, as there is no employment here.	<b>Improved roads, travel easily, selling of goods, open small businesses, employment creation (<i>empowerment</i>)</b>
<b>W18:</b> Even if we do not have other services such as clinics, we can easily travel to MyDarling and Bochum as more and more public transport will be attracted. As it is now, things are bad. No taxi owner would like to see his vehicle using the roads in our villages.	<b>Better roads; more public transport, travel easy (<i>emphasis on roads</i>)</b>
<b>W19:</b> Services should be brought to our villages because now we waste a lot of time walking and waiting for transport to come.	<b>Bring services; long distance walking, long waiting times, wasting of time (<i>emphasis on services</i>)</b>
<b>M:</b> <i>What is your view on non-motorized transport?</i>	<b>Perceptions on IMTs</b>
<b>W20:</b> We do not have any choice of mode. You can see that the dominant mode of transport here is donkey carts, wheelbarrows and walking. We only have a problem with walking because we get tired before engaging into the actual activity. Like if we attend funerals, you know both men and women have to perform some duties and we have different responsibilities. When you reach the place you are already tired to do the job perfectly. But with the other modes such as donkey carts and wheelbarrows they reduce the load of work and the time that one needs to travel either to the veld to collect wood or to fetch water.	<b>No choice, dominant mode of transport; donkey carts, wheelbarrows, reduction of load, travel time to fetch wood and water, walking; get tired, job not perfectly done (<i>impact</i>) men and women have different responsibilities (<i>gender awareness</i>)</b>

<p><b>W21:</b> Some people use wheelbarrows to transport wood and many other equipment that we need or that we buy from the shops, or sell wood and water using a cart. The only problem is many of us are unemployed. As a result we cannot afford to pay for the services rendered. We then have to resort to head-loading.</p>	<p><b>Wheelbarrows fetch wood; selling wood, water, and other goods; unemployment a problem, unable to pay services (<i>impact</i>) Head-loading solution</b></p>
<p><b>W22:</b> We have indicated earlier on that if you can get donkeys cheap elsewhere you should inform us as they are expensive in our village.</p>	<p><b>Cheap donkeys needed, expensive in the village</b></p>
<p><b>W23:</b> The donkeys are expensive because they know their importance. If you do not have one then you will struggle to travel and transport your goods.</p>	<p><b>Donkeys expensive; donkeys important, no donkeys, travel and transport difficult (<i>significance of IMTs</i>)</b></p>
<p><b>M:</b> <i>Are you prepared to invest time and effort in the construction or upgrading of roadways?</i></p>	
<p><b>W24:</b> We do come together to discuss the issue of repairing damaged roads. What we normally do, we gather stones and different soil as an attempt to stop gullies from getting worse. That allows tractors to pass with ease.</p>	<p><b>Community organization; repairing of damaged roads, gathering of stones, soil, stopping of gullies, tractors pass with ease (<i>empowerment</i>)</b></p>
<p><b>W25:</b> Women in another village called Sweethome (Sebotlana) had to construct a "toll-gate" by using stones and logs for vehicles to pass. Those who used the road had to pay R10. That is a sign to show that we are prepared to invest time in repairing and constructing our roads, but we need help and support in the form of trucks and vans to carry the material.</p>	<p><b>Women's organization; construction of toll-gate, payment for the toll-gate, time invested in repairing roads, need for help and support, carrying of material, trucks, vans</b></p>
<p><b>M:</b> <i>What development opportunities will be opened up as a result of transport improvements?</i></p>	<p><b>Expectations</b></p>
<p><b>W26:</b> We will be capable of transporting and selling of our farm produce to different communities outside the village, and much money and time will be saved as we will leave our homes in time and come back in time because most of the taxis will be encouraged to use our roads without any difficulty.</p>	<p><b>Selling of produce outside village, saving money, leave homes in time, more public transport available (<i>income-generating need</i>)</b></p>
<p><b>W27:</b> We can even hire a truck to transport our produce to the nearest markets in either Bochum, Dendron, MyDarling and Polokwane. We need some form of transport to carry our goods to the nearby communities. That can only happen if we have good roads.</p>	<p><b>Hiring of trucks, transporting goods to markets, good roads, more marketing (<i>impact</i>) (<i>income-generating need</i>)</b></p>
<p><b>W29:</b> There is no money circulation in this</p>	<p><b>Bad roads, (<i>issue</i>) No money</b></p>

<p>village, especially at this project because of bad roads. We produce but our goods get rotten, as you can see from the heaps of tomatoes on the ground. We lose quite a lot because there are no markets for our produce. Bad roads have to be put first on the list of improving the standard of living in this village.</p>	<p><b>circulation; rotten goods, no markets, run at a loss (<i>impact</i>), improvement of bad roads, improvement of standard of living.</b></p>
<p><b>W30:</b> If transport can be improved like to the markets where we can sell our produce, then it will be easy for us to produce more, and more goods will be available for sale. Remember we do not have transport to take our goods to the outside markets; we only depend on the people around for buying. If they do not buy, because they lack money, then our goods get rotten. We lose a lot. You can see from the tomatoes that are lying on the ground.</p>	<p><b>Improved transport; improved markets, more production, no transport to outside, rely on local markets, lack of money, rotting produce, tomatoes (<i>income-generating need</i>)</b></p>
<p><b>W31:</b> We told you that we travel for long distance to health centres, to shops and even to get transport to go to towns. So, if we can get better transport services like more buses and better roads, obviously we will have enough time to do other things such as hold meetings as women to discuss what we can do to help ourselves. Right now many of us are struggling because our husbands are in Jo'burg; they do not send money home. Personally, I can go and learn how to make dresses and sell.</p>	<p><b>Long distance travel; shops, health centres, to transport, better transport services; more buses, better roads, more time for meetings, absence of husband, no money, learning dress-making (<i>empowerment</i>)</b></p>
<p><b>W 32:</b> We can even request the social worker to organize someone who can teach us some of the skills of surviving. I also think if transport can be available, we will be able to transport farming inputs such as implements, fertilizers and better seeds to our village, and also transport harvest from the village to the market.</p>	<p><b>Organize social worker, teaching of survival skills, transit of agricultural inputs and harvest crops between village and market (<i>practical and income generating needs</i> )</b></p>
<p><b>W33:</b> My belief is, we can concentrate on small vegetable gardens in our homes as not all of us can get employment from the vegetable project here in Vergelegen.</p>	<p><b>Small vegetable garden (<i>employment creation, empowerment</i>)</b></p>
<p><b>W34:</b> I pay a lot of money to transport my goods to better centres such as Bochum. So, the profit that I get is consumed by the transport cost. As a result it is better to sell locally even if there are no better returns. Therefore, if transport can be improved, more taxis will come in even pick-up vans will be many and that will make transport cost low. Some of us will be left with some profit to do other things, such as paying for our children's school fees or even buy more goods for selling.</p>	<p><b>Pay lot of money for transport, profit consumed by transport, local market better, improved transport; more taxis, pick-up vans, low transport costs, make profit, payment of school fees, more goods for selling</b></p>

<p><b>W35:</b> Many of our children did not go to school because we cannot afford to feed them and pay school fees. If transport can be improved we will be able to go to different places for employment, like do washing for other families and even clean for those who need people. Right now it is difficult to work for more than one family because of poor transport.</p>	<p><b>Poor school attendance of children; (ability to labour and earn a living) no money for fees and food, improved transport; employment elsewhere, domestic work, poor transport; difficult to work for two families (impact)</b></p>
<p><b>W36:</b> If I can get employment, I will manage to pay for my societies and <i>stock-vel</i> moneys, which is the only way I use to generate income. Otherwise my family is suffering.</p>	<p><b>Employment; payment of societies, stock-vel (income-generating activities) (community development projects)</b></p>
<p><b>W37:</b> Our children cannot compete with others out there, but if we can have transport they can also visit places and know and see things. That will make them better off. They cannot compete with children from townships because they are just here. They only know Mamoleka and Vergelegen, the nearby villages only and that is bad.</p>	<p><b>Children isolated, poor competition, poor knowledge, no external experience, only local experience, not good (impact)</b></p>
<p><b>M:</b> <i>What do you think should be done to solve your problems?</i></p>	<p><b>solutions</b></p>
<p><b>W38:</b> Since we do not have health centres here, government should build such in this village, to avoid long distance traveling. They can also improve our roads, as you can see they are terrible. Hence we only have one taxi and we use to have one bus before the floods destroyed all the roads and the bus service stopped.</p>	<p><b>No health centres; building of health centres, reduce long distance traveling, improve roads, bring public transport (practical needs)</b></p>
<p><b>W39:</b> The people who have been coming here to look for votes they should still come and see the conditions that we are in so that they can help us out of the mess we are in.</p>	<p><b>Politicians venturing into villages, first hand experience of situation (practical need)</b></p>
<p><b>W40:</b> If building a clinic is expensive, then they can improve the roads so that a mobile clinic can visit the village on certain days of the week. Doctors can also come in this village if roads are good. But now, no one is coming to this village because of the roads.</p>	<p><b>Building of clinic, improve roads, mobile clinic, bring doctors and nurses, poor roads, no service (access needs)</b></p>
<p><b>W41:</b> They must also sell donkeys to us so that we can use them as transport to carry goods, or use them to draw carts in the meantime. But we need someone who can make cheap carts because at the moment carts are so expensive that many of us cannot afford to buy. There is one white person who is selling carts and he only wants cash. There is no credit nor deposit.</p>	<p><b>Sell donkeys for goods transport, drawing of carts, manufacturing of cheap carts, no credit, (practical needs)</b></p>

<p><b>W42:</b> Roads must be improved so that more buses and taxis can come. In that way transport will be cheap. At the moment transport services are poor and expensive because there is no competition. That one operator knows that we do not have any choice, ours is to pay or remain at home.</p>	<p><b>Improve roads, more buses and taxis, cheap transport, poor and expensive transport services, no competition, no choice (<i>practical needs</i>)</b></p>
<p><b>W43:</b> Improved transport will bring job opportunities and we will be able to pay for transport and to fulfill our responsibilities at home and in the society.</p>	<p><b>Improved transport, job opportunities; ability to pay for transport, ability to take household and community responsibilities (<i>issues, access to employment, impact</i>)</b></p>
<p><b>W44:</b> Water is also a problem using wheelbarrows because the source is far. Hence we think the only solution should be donkey carts or bring water to the village. If we had money we would buy big water tanks and store rainwater so that in times of need we use it.</p>	<p><b>Water problem; source far, use wheelbarrows, donkey carts to bring water, buy water tanks, rainwater storage (<i>access needs</i>)</b></p>
<p><b>W45:</b> What I can say in short is that whatever we do as women is not taken seriously by both our husbands at home and even government because they think when you sell something at home is just a play, you are whiling away time. No, this is serious; we want to do so many things with the income such as buying a wheelbarrow for transporting goods, water, fire wood and pay societies.</p>	<p><b>Women not taken seriously, both husbands and government, selling at home not taken serious, income used for household and community development. (<i>Opportunities denied, Gender bias system</i>)</b></p>
<p><b>W46:</b> I am going to say something different from what they have said. We all know that the rural woman is a mother and a father when her husband is gone to work in <i>Joburg</i>, a farmer, a builder and a provider of the daily needs of her family. So, if we do not change and wait for our husbands to provide our village will never get out of poverty.</p>	<p><b>Women as household heads and breadwinners; need for women to change their attitudes, need for progress and to restore self-reliance</b></p>
<p><b>W47:</b> She is right, the only way to get out of poverty and get rid of those things that oppresses us and build a better future for us and our children is to take responsibility to change our life situations.</p>	<p><b>Need for women to change their attitudes, Need to restore self-reliance</b></p>
<p><b>M:</b> <i>How do you intend to change your life situation?</i></p>	
<p><b>W48:</b> We have to create jobs ourselves, like working as domestic workers in many families per week. There is no job for us.</p>	<p><b>Need for job creation - women taking responsibility</b></p>

## **ANNEXURE 1(c): THE TSHITWI GROUP IN VENDA**

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### TRANSCRIPT OF TRAVEL AND TRANSPORT NEEDS OF RURAL WOMEN IN THE CONTEXT OF TSHITWI IN VENDA

FOCUS GROUP INTERVIEW (25) rural women)

DATE: 15 JANUARY 2000

TIME: 11H00 TO 14H00

The purpose of this focus group interview was to gather information on the following issues:

1. The roles of the African rural women and how they use transport.
2. Whether the existing transport facilities meet their needs for travel and transport.
3. What their problems are in travel and transport.
4. The impact of travel and transport on their lives and livelihoods.

The intention is to genderise the rural transport system in Limpopo Province.

#### **Abbreviations:**

**M:** Moderator

**W1:** Woman number 1, and so on

**FOCUS GROUP INTERVIEW**

<b>Introduction</b>	
<b>M:</b> <i>Good morning ladies. We have come here today to understand how you live your lives in this village. Most of us come from urban areas where life seems to be different from rural life. We come from the University of the North and would like to know more about the transport situation in this village. Let us start by introducing ourselves before discussing other issues.</i>	
<b>W1:</b> You are welcome to this village, Tshitwi. As you can see this is a small isolated village full of women. I do not want you to ask questions why? What I can tell you is many of our husbands went to <i>Jo'burg</i> for work. Let me give chance to others to talk to you.	<b>Isolated village, migratory labour system - more women than men</b>
<b>W2:</b> This village is far from urban areas. It is approximately 40km north of Makhado township, 70km northeast of Makhado, 70km northwest of Thohoyandou and 70km east of Musina. If we want to go for shopping, we go to those places and there is no transport.	<b>Concern about distance to shopping, no transport</b>
<b>W3:</b> Our village is very poor with high levels of unemployment. The many people you will find here is many women and young children and the elderly people.	<b>Poverty, unemployment, aggravating condition - absence of men</b>
<b>W4:</b> We are in desperate need of employment because there is nothing here. I hope after this discussion you will help us get jobs.	<b>Need for employment</b>
<b>M:</b> <i>You said there is no transport. Tell me more about how you use transport?</i>	<b>Transport use</b>
<b>W5:</b> We use transport for many things such as transporting water to our homes. There is no water in this village; we depend on one water tap, which is nearby other people and far for others. In most cases we transport 25 liters of buckets and jars in the wheelbarrow. Those who do not have carry water on their heads.	<b>Household use - water, modes - wheelbarrows Inaccessible water tap - head-loading of water</b>
<b>W6:</b> Some of us need transport to take us to employment areas. Remember we said this village is far from urban centres where we can get employment. From Tshitwi to Straidhart we walk because there is no transport. Straidhart is about 7km, which must be walked everyday if one is employed and then pay for the other transport. This is the best village where almost everything is available except jobs.	<b>Employment, no transport, impact - long distance walk</b>
<b>W7:</b> There is no formal business in Tshitwi. Only one <i>spaza</i> shop caters minimal human needs of the community. Most of us travel to other neighbouring villages for other things. The distance that we travel for buying food only, the average is 22km. Most of travel is	<b>Concern about lack of business/shops, no transport for household shopping - means of transport is walking to</b>

done by foot because there is no transport.	<b>shops</b>
<b>W8:</b> I am selling vegetables so as to make money for my family and in many cases I need transport to go and borrow money from 'Matshonisa" in Makhado to strengthen my business. Unfortunately you find that there is no transport during the day for that. We end up postponing the trip and even doing shopping once a month because it is expensive to do it frequently	<b>Income generating activity, need for access to credit facilities - impact on shopping, absence of transport during the day</b>
<b>W9:</b> I hope you have seen people busy building a road, we hope this will link us with the other villages. As it is now, to walk alone for a long distance is not safe. But usually government builds roads without providing us with vehicles. I think this road, without vehicles to operate on it, is useless.	<b>Building of road, concern about distance and safety, concern about supply of transport services - <i>practical need</i></b>
<b>W10:</b> There is no school at Tshitwi. No primary, pre-primary nor secondary school available. School children walk an average distance of 11.4km to and from school. The distance is covered on foot. Because of the distance some of us mothers have to escort them in the morning and in the afternoon when they come back we have to fetch them.	<b>Concern on education, impact on travel distance, escorting children - impact on mothers</b>
<b>W11:</b> Remember some of us are self-employed. After dropping them at school I still have to come back home and put my vegetables on the wheelbarrow to sell in the market at Straidhart because that is the only place which has a good market since they have a clinic, schools and many people use taxis and buses passing to other villages. So it is at the bust stop where we get more sales done.	<b>Impact on self-employed mothers - escorting, income generating activities</b> <b>Poor access to market</b> <b>Means of goods transport - wheelbarrows</b>
<b>W12:</b> There is no clinic at Tshitwi. Many of us have to walk to Straidhart for medical treatment, for vaccination children and for pregnant mothers' consultation. Those who can afford better medication go to Makhado for treatment as there is a doctor there. Some of us depend on traditional healers for medical attention because Makhado is 40km away and Straidhart is 7mk away. In the case of serious illnesses we have to hire a bakkie to help, especially from villages which are 3 to 4 km away such as Sane and Afton. We walk for almost all the trips to Straidhart to connect transport.	<b>Concern about accessibility of health facilities - clinic, no transport - long distance travel to facilities (<i>impact on time</i>) health services <i>inaccessible</i></b>
<b>M:</b> <i>Do you have electricity in this village?</i>	
<b>W13:</b> No. We depend on firewood collected from the veld. Normally we go in groups to collect firewood, as it is not safe to go there alone. Those who can afford but from cart owners who sell both water and wood to us. Sometimes we send our children, especially during the school holidays. Both Girls and boys help us to fetch water and wood.	<b>Concern about accessibility of household necessities - firewood, safety, affordability, boys and girls play a helping role</b>

<p><b>W14:</b> The wood is carried on our heads or in some cases we go to the veld, cut the wood and pack it accordingly, then after school request boys and girls to fetch with wheelbarrows.</p>	<p><b>Head-loading - mode</b> <b>Helping role of boys and girls</b></p>
<p><b>M:</b> <i>Tell me briefly about the present transport system in this village.</i></p>	
<p><b>W15:</b> you know what, the transport system in this village is very poor. We walk and carry our goods on our heads. It is only for those who can afford, maybe because the husband has sent some money from <i>Jo'burg</i>. Then, that month one can buy water and wood.</p>	<p><b>Poor transport system - walking and head-loading, concern about affordability</b></p>
<p><b>W16:</b> There is no road to connect us with other villages. Our village is isolated to such an extend that when it rains our children cannot go to school because the pond that is between us and Afton gets so full that no one can cross and many of our children go to school in that village.</p>	<p><b>No road, isolation, aggravating condition - rain, impact on children's education</b></p>
<p><b>W17:</b> We hope the new road will help in solving some of the problems we experience. Remember there is no bus, no taxi, nothing. We depend on walking and pick-up vans, which sometimes leave us on the road, and the road you have seen is not so good for motor vehicles. Those who persist using our roads end up paying a lot of money repairing their vans. That is the reason why taxi people do not even attempt to come this way.</p>	<p><b>Impact of new road on transport facilities, e.g. vans, buses ad taxis</b> <b>Bad roads - impact on costs of repairing vehicles</b></p>
<p><b>M:</b> <i>Tell me about the new road.</i></p>	
<p><b>W18:</b> The Tshitwi Road Upgrading Project commenced in March 1997 with a budget of approximately US\$300 000 to upgrade fifteen kilometers of road. The project recruited locals, 47 women and 67 men on a rolling basis, largely from within walking distance of the road.</p>	<p><b>Road upgrading project</b> <b>Men and women employed</b> <b>Locals employed</b></p>
<p><b>W19:</b> I was not happy with the way people were employed in the project. Already you can see that there were more men than women and the type of jobs we performed was different. Women's tasks on this project were to carry stones while men were doing everything, all technical jobs. Remember the type of job that one performs correspond with the amount paid. In short, men were paid better wages than women in the project.</p>	<p><b>Concern about gender bias in employment, impact on women's income</b></p>
<p><b>W20:</b> Some of us were employed in the project for 12 months. All of us were paid according to the tasks which we performed</p>	<p><b>Payment according to task - impact on women's income</b></p>
<p><b>M:</b> <i>What did they use to upgrade the road?</i></p>	

<p><b>W21:</b> There was no machinery used in the project except for the wheelbarrows, old trucks to carry stones and the stumping material. We used our hands and the local material such as stones and gravel.</p>	<p><b>Labour-based techniques</b> <b>Local material used</b></p>
<p><b>W22:</b> It was very difficult to build the road because the village is located on the slopes of the mountains. It even took more than the expected time to finish the road.</p>	<p><b>Difficult terrain - impact on completion of project</b></p>
<p><b>M:</b> <i>Did you gain anything from the project?</i></p>	
<p><b>W23:</b> Yes, to a certain extent we managed to get employment for sometime. When the project ended it was not nice because our source of income was over even though very little.</p>	<p><b>Project - Source of employment</b> <b>Ending of project - impact on income</b></p>
<p><b>W24:</b> But I think the road will help in opening up for other transport modes to come such buses and taxis. That will reduce the distance we travel to other villages to get transport. I think it will also help in bringing more public transport to take us to government offices, which are in most cases, located in urban areas. We need to apply for ID documents and birth certificates for ourselves and children.</p>	<p><b>Reduction of travel distance, supply of transport facilities, need for visiting government services inaccessible - available in urban areas, (impact on time)</b></p>
<p><b>W25:</b> It can also help us to transport our goods easy to the market place in Straidhart. Even if one pushes a wheelbarrow, it will be easier that on a rough surface with all the forest surrounding the place. One can even organize with taxi drivers to collect my veggies at home and drop them for me at the market.</p>	<p><b>New road -access to markets</b> <b>Positive expectations - ease travel and transport</b></p>
<p><b>W26:</b> The government will bring doctors and nurses to the village maybe once per week for check ups because the road is there than before.</p>	<p><b>New road - access to health facilities, services - positive expectations</b></p>
<p><b>M:</b> <i>Beside temporary employment that you gained from the project, What else improved after the project?</i></p>	
<p><b>W27:</b> The problem with this road is that it was built at the time when there was no much rain. The road is not bringing any new motor vehicles as we thought. There is still no taxi, no bus services, we still depend on donkey carts, wheelbarrows and bicycles, for those who have them. As for most of us we still travel and transport our goods for long distances on foot.</p>	<p><b>Concern about transport facilities and services - aggravating condition - rain</b> <b>Concern about long distance travel and transport; and no benefits yet</b> <b>Use of IMTs - no benefits yet</b></p>
<p><b>W28:</b> Our concern is those men who own carts have increased our distance of collecting firewood. We walk even further than before to collect firewood. We also walk long distances for things like furniture, clothes and farming implements.</p>	<p><b>Concern about distance to facilities in providing household necessities</b> <b>Long distance walking - household necessities,</b></p>

	<b>agricultural implements</b>
<b>M:</b> <i>As women, do you play any role in the community?</i>	
<b>W29:</b> We play the most important role in the community. Remember most of our spouse are not here. We have to see to it that there is water for all of us, We have even organized a place where we can worship together.	<b>Community role - organizing water availability, place of worship</b>
<b>W30:</b> There is no church building in this village, but we are responsible for clearing the trees and constructing a shelter of about 2m using mud-bricks. We do it ourselves. The collection of water, soil and sand for manufacturing bricks is done by us.	<b>Community role - organizing of church building</b>
<b>W31:</b> Those are not the only things we do in the church. We also hold prayer meetings for the elderly and the sick. We visit them in their homes, within this village as well as the neighbouring villages such as Afton, Sraidhart and Sane. We actually walk to these villages.	<b>Community role - visiting elderly, sick</b> <b>Internally and outside the village - walking (Spiritual role)</b>
<b>W32:</b> We have also established a society in which we contribute R5 if any community member has lost a loved one. The society is not helping in burials only, but also during celebrations we bring our big pots, plates and all the necessary utensils that are required to make the occasion a success.	<b>Community role - women's club, funerals, celebrations</b> <b>Contributions made - money, utensils</b>
<b>W33:</b> We also attend meetings at the schools to see to it that the school is running properly and check those parents who are not paying building funds. The fund is paid by every parent who has a child. Otherwise your children will not be admitted in the school.	<b>Community role - school meetings, proper running of schools, e.g. school fund, building fund (Impact on admission of children)</b>
<b>W34:</b> It is very difficult to survive in this village, but we usually organize ourselves and plant in our small gardens. We plant vegetables such as beans, maize, chillies, tomatoes, cabbages, spinach and even beet-root for selling purposes.	<b>Income-generating activity - community garden - vegetables</b> <b>Sense of Empowerment</b>
<b>M:</b> <i>What should be done to solve your problems?</i>	
<b>W35:</b> The first thing that must happen is to improve the road. If this road can be improved more public transport will be attracted.	<b>Road improvement - more public transport</b>
<b>W36:</b> Government should give us buses just like in other villages. Life will be better even if there is no employment; we can easily look for employment elsewhere and commute from our homes to work daily.	<b>Road improvement - more public transport, better provision of transport facilities, e.g. buses</b> <b>Employment opportunities elsewhere</b>
<b>W37:</b> Some of us are prepared to work as domestic	<b>Need for proper transport</b>

workers in townships such as Makhado. That can only happen if there is proper transport daily.	<b>Need for employment opportunities</b>
<b>W38:</b> We can produce more vegetables if they can improve transport and water supply	<b>Opportunity for agricultural expansion - more market</b> <b>More production</b>
<b>W39:</b> Right now there is no public transport; we depend on walking, which takes a lot of time. If we can have good roads, one will travel very fast to go to town for stocking the goods that I am selling and even come back on time to sell before long break. Otherwise one spend the whole day in town and lose that day. Which means there will not be any income that day when you go for stocking.	<b>No public transport - impact on walking, opportunities to make more income threatened</b> <b>Expectations from good roads - ease trade</b> <b>Poor roads - deprived of making income</b>
<b>W40:</b> If this road can be improved, more cheap public transport will come to this village and exploitation by van owners will stop.	<b>Improved roads - cheap public transport</b> <b>More income, no exploitation by vans</b>
<b>W41:</b> If projects like this one comes to the village, they should not give men better jobs than us. I can also push a wheelbarrow just like many men, even use the stamping equipment. We all need money just like men.	<b>Concern about gender bias; deprivation of job opportunities; equality with men</b>
<b>W42:</b> I can also drive a cart just like any other man with the help of my children.	<b>Concern about gender bias</b>
<b>M:</b> <i>Tell me, do you tell your girl children not to push wheelbarrows and carry water jars on their heads? Do you also tell your boy children push wheelbarrows and not carry water jars on their heads?</i>	
<b>W43:</b> No. It happens automatically. Boys are always with their fathers, especially when coming to the type of job they are suppose to do. They drive carts with their dads, while girls are always at home with us helping.	<b>Concern about gender roles - boys with fathers</b> <b>Girls with mothers</b>
<b>W44:</b> In my case I usually instruct my boys to help the girls fetch water. What counts to me is more water collected by a joint venture. The advantage with boys is they can push close to four jars of 25l on one wheelbarrow while my daughter carries one jar on her head. This makes life better for all of us.	<b>Gender consideration - boys helping girls</b>
<b>M:</b> <i>What you are saying is, it does not matter who uses the wheelbarrow, as long as there can be water or wood at home is fine?</i>	
<b>W45:</b> Exactly. My girls get tired too.	<b>Gender sensitive</b>

**IMPORTANT ISSUES EMERGING:**

- Road upgrading project - temporary employment (positive impact on household income)
- Gender bias in the project - impact on women's income
- Positive issues about project - labour-based, use of local labourers
- Project yielded no benefits yet - concern about weight of infrastructure provision
- Gender sensitivity in projects

## ANNEXURE 2: THEMES AND CATEGORIES

### 2 (a) RURAL WOMEN'S ROLES

THEME NO. 1	CATEGORIES AND SUBCATEGORIES OF RURAL WOMEN'S ROLES
Roles of rural women	<p>Household role</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Productive role               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Income generating activities,</li> <li>▪ production of subsistence income and capital,</li> <li>▪ engage in formal employment.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Reproductive role</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Provision of household necessities( water fuel-wood, food),</li> <li>▪ child care-givers,</li> <li>▪ caring for the sick and aged,</li> <li>▪ escorting elderly to pension pay-points,</li> <li>▪ escorting children to school.</li> </ul> <p>Community role</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Social obligations               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Management and maintenance of community infrastructure (water, schools, place of worship, clinics, roads),</li> <li>▪ visiting the sick,</li> <li>▪ Visiting the elderly internally and externally,</li> <li>▪ attending school meetings,</li> <li>▪ attending funerals and celebrations,</li> <li>▪ engage in community farming,</li> <li>▪ building houses,</li> <li>▪ natural resource management (forestation, soil protection, water conservation).</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	➤ Each of these sets of activities involves travel and transport

**2(b) RURAL WOMEN'S USE OF TRANSPORT**

<b>THEME NO. 2</b>	<b>CATEGORIES AND SUB-CATEGORIES</b>
Rural women's use of transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Transport to meet subsistence needs               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Water collection</li> <li>◆ Food production</li> <li>◆ Fuel-wood collection</li> </ul> </li>   <li>➤ Transport for economic purposes               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Agricultural activities                   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- purchasing agricultural inputs</li> <li>- taking produce to the markets</li> <li>- going to the farm</li> </ul> </li> <li>◆ Non-agricultural work                   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- seeking work</li> <li>- visiting credit institutions</li> <li>- travel to work</li> </ul> </li> <li>◆ Transport for trading</li> <li>◆ Provision of services</li> <li>◆ General commerce</li> </ul> </li>   <li>➤ Transport for social purposes               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Visit to friends and relatives</li> <li>◆ Church visits</li> <li>◆ Visits to government offices</li> <li>◆ Shopping</li> <li>◆ Maintaining social networks</li> <li>◆ Hospital visits</li> <li>◆ Travel to community meetings</li> <li>◆ Getting to the sites for natural resource management</li> </ul> </li>   <li>➤ Transport for development of human capital               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Transport to educational centres</li> <li>◆ Transport to health centres</li> <li>◆ Transport to meetings</li> <li>◆ Visiting technical assistance institutions</li> <li>◆ Attending training meetings</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

**2(c) TRANSPORT CONSTRAINTS AND THE IMPACT**

<b>THEME NO. 3 &amp; 4</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Impact of transport on rural women	<b>CATEGORIES</b>			
Constrains	Impact			
	<i>On community</i>	<i>On employed women</i>	<i>On unemployed women</i>	<i>On self-employed women</i>
<b>Lack of good transport services</b>	Time wasted in getting to facilities and services	Time constraints	Jobs inaccessible	Limited market and lower sale prices
<b>Poor access to educational and health facilities</b>	Low optimization of human assets	Lack of capacity	Poor capacity and self-esteem	Lack of skills
<b>Lack of access to clean water</b>	Poor health	"	"	"
<b>No cheap transport</b>	Long distance walking	Reduced benefits from wages	Limited affordability	No profit from sales
<b>Lack of access to employment</b>			Household and community roles difficult	
<b>Gender bias transport system</b>	Household and community roles impossible or difficult	"	"	"
<b>Heavy work schedule</b>		Poor attendance of meetings	"	"
<b>Lack of transport services</b>	Lack of information	Community and household roles difficult	Jobs inaccessible	Limited market and access to credit
<b>Inadequate transport system</b>	Constrained ability to use services to fulfill roles	"	"	Limited access to technical assistance
<b>Lack of access to formal sector</b>			"	Restricted ability to marketable skills
<b>Lack of employment</b>	No educational improvement			

<b>Time consuming tasks</b>	Women's multiple roles hampered	No time for self development	Participation in decision-making roles reduced	"
<b>Poor accessibility to infrastructure</b>	"	"	"	Limited productive potential
<b>Lack of schools</b>	Poor education	Limited productive potential	No productive potential	Limited productive potential
<b>Long distance travel to schools</b>	Negative impact on social life		Negative impact on time	"
<b>Poor quality of roads</b>		Household and community roles difficult or impossible	"	Limited ability to expand
<b>Rising transport costs</b>	Negative impact on affordability	"	"	Raise costs of commodities
<b>Poor location of resources</b>			Household and community roles difficult or impossible	"
<b>Sporadic transport services</b>	Negative impact on time	"	"	"
<b>Poor government delivery</b>			Transport disadvantage	"
<b>Lack of access to credit</b>				Limited ability to expand
<b>Limited access to technical assistance</b>	Negative impact on the development of human capital	Limited ability to expand		Limited ability to expand
<b>Policy focusing on roads rather than footpaths, footbridges, tracks</b>				Difficult for small entrepreneurs to compete for road maintenance

**2(d) OPPORTUNITIES DENIED**

<b>THEME NO. 5</b> □ Opportunities deprived to rural women	<b>CATEGORIES OF OPPORTUNITIES DENIED</b>		
Constrains	<b>Employed women</b>	<b>Un-employed women</b>	<b>Self-employed women</b>
Poor access to educational and health facilities	Opportunity to improve	Opportunity to labour and earn a living	"
Poor access to employment		Mobility deprivation	Opportunity deprivation
Lack of access to formal sector-employment		Opportunity deprivation	Deprived of marketable skills
Lack of transport		Information deprivation	"
Time consuming tasks	Deprived of self-development	"	- "
Poor accessibility to infrastructure		Deprived of productive potential	"
Lack of good transport services		Deprived of full utilization of potential	Deprived of economic expansion
Heavy work schedule	Deprived of participation in decision-making roles	"	"
Poor and no transport	"	Opportunity to change balance of power denied	"
Gender bias transport system		Opportunity to perform denied	"

**2(e) RURAL WOMEN’S TRAVEL AND TRANSPORT NEEDS**

<input type="checkbox"/> <b>THEME NO. 6</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Rural women's travel and transport needs	<b>CATEGORIES OF RURAL WOMEN’S TRAVEL AND TRANSPORT NEEDS</b>		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Practical needs with regard to travel and transport	<b>Employed women</b>	<b>Unemployed women</b>	<b>Self-employed women</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Productive needs	Employment programmes	employment	market
		Accessible and cheap water	"
		Educational facilities	"
	Better wages	Accessible and cheap health facilities	"
	Reliable public transport	Transport facilities and services	"
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reproductive needs		Shopping facilities	"
		"	Health care
	nurseries	"	"
		Energy source	"
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Strategic need with regard to travel and transport	Participation in decision-making	"	"
	Training at work	Capacity building	Training outside work
		Empowerment	"
		Changing attitude of women	
	Equal pay for equal job	Recognition By policy	"
		"	Access to credit
	Changing attitude by men	"	"

**2(f) AN INTEGRATED APPROACH**

<b>THEME NO. 7</b>	<b>CATEGORIES AND SUBCATEGORIES OF AN INTEGRATED APPROACH</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ Need for integrated approach in transport planning</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Cross-sectoral thinking</li> <li>➤ Equal weight in infrastructure provision                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Building of roads</li> <li>◆ Upgrading of paths</li> <li>◆ Upgrading of tracks</li> </ul> </li> <li>➤ Appropriate modes of transport                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Use of donkey carts</li> <li>◆ Use of wheelbarrows</li> <li>◆ Use of tractors</li> <li>◆ Use of bicycles</li> <li>◆ Use of vans</li> </ul> </li> <li>➤ Improved location of facilities</li> <li>➤ Mainstreaming gender and transport</li> <li>➤ Mainstreaming livelihood issues</li> </ul>

## **ANNEXURE 3(a): Baloi Tribal Authority**

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Private Bag X1106  
Sovenga  
0727  
12/03/2000

Baloi Tribal Authority  
Mamitwa  
Tzaneen

### **To whom it may concern**

This is to request for permission to hold focus group discussions with the women in Babanana village. The discussions are meant to help find out what women's needs are in travel and transport.

Participants are taking part in the discussions at their own will, nobody is compelled to join. Should any of the participants feel like withdrawing from the discussions she will be free to do so at any stage of our deliberations.

Thanking you in anticipation

Sabina Mahapa (Facilitator)

## **ANNEXURE 3(b): Participants**

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**08/04/2000**

Dear participant

In order to understand travel and transport needs of rural women in our province, Limpopo, we would like to hear your views on some of the issues relating to such needs in this discussion. No one is forced to participate; any of you taking part is doing it on her free will. Should any of you decide to withdraw from the discussion, she will be free to do so.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Sabina Mahapa