

National Youth Development Agency

REPORT

RAPID EVALUATION OF THE YOUNG PATRIOTS PROGRAM.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Department of Arts and Culture (DAC) and the National Youth Development Agency (NYDA) signed a cooperation agreement where the commitment to implement the Young Patriots Programme (TYPP) was established. The TYPP is a National Youth Service (NYS) programme of the DAC. The NYDA committed to implement the programme on behalf of the DAC since 2016 to March 2020.

The cooperation agreement was renewed for twelve months starting April 2020 to March 2021 but due to the pandemic the program had to delay with its implementation and as results roles of partners were drawn.

Through the Mzansi Golden Economy strategy the Department of Arts, Culture & Sports (DACS) aims to making radical socio-economic transformation a reality. The young people of South Africa, as her future, are not left out of participating in transforming this country, hence The Youth Patriots' Programme (TYPP) is being established.

Some of the salient programmes that the TYPP will implement are centred around, but not limited to:

- Programmes on national symbols, especially with schools, such as Popularisation of National Anthem and hoisting the National Flag.
- Shaping the Youth and instilling in them, as the future leaders of the country need to be aware of their history, heritage, arts & culture as instruments for building their nation and fostering national identity.
- Presenting the positive spin-offs of national identity, which are numerous, but key in this context are social cohesion, national pride & patriotism, productive & competitive nation well-being of youth and encourages them to participate in the economy.

The Main Focus of the TYPP

TYPP is multi-faceted in its approach as a movement of youth development focusing on nation building and social cohesion. The initiative will also focus on educating the youth about history and heritage landscape through practical experience. TYPP participants are required to be community activists and be actively engaged in the community where they live. TYPP has a component that is dialogue-based (intergenerational), debates, discussions and conversations about the challenges that confront the youth of today and how they can find their own solutions today and thus

promote better intergenerational understanding. TYPP participants participate in dialogues with the topics/themes around issues of nation building and social cohesion. One of the impact measurements of TYPP is how it extends the brand visibility of the DAC as it undertakes some of their projects under the banner of the DAC.

The DAC funds the programme through DAC Branch financial contributions and DAC Entities' "in-kind-support". This also includes TYPP participants being placed and 'working' at DAC Entities and Community Libraries. To promote intergenerational understanding, the selected young people will participate in Social Cohesion Advocates' programmes and Living Legends Legacy Programme (LLLP) and be able to learn in the process of being involved in these two programmes.

The evaluation of TYPP will elucidate among other findings, recommendations that can be used to further achieve the objectives.

Purpose and Objectives of the Evaluation

- To determine the impact of the program to the young patriots' lives.
- To determine the return on investment that both the Department and NYDA has invested in the program from the time it started in 2016 to date.
- To determine if the budgets committed by the Department to the programme is sufficient that can accommodate activities.
- To determine the number of patriots that have been linked to opportunities through the program.
- NYS Activities implemented through the program by patriots (patriots teaching school kids about national anthem and the flag, audit of human treasures in communities).
- The effectiveness of the coordination structures of the program.
- Social return on the investment made in the program.
- To measure the value of funds invested in program to benefit the young patriots since 2016.

Mixed Method Approach (Quantitative and Qualitative Methods) was utilised for this evaluation. Desktop Review, Surveys, Focus Group Discussions and Key Informant Interviews were used to collect data.

Evaluation Criteria and Questions

In order to obtain the views of the key stakeholders, the following four evaluation criteria were set:

I. Relevance of the Project

- The degree to which the project was justified and appropriate in relation to the need and situation on the national level.

II. Effectiveness and Efficiency of the Project

- The extent to which the project outputs are achieved
- The effectiveness of the project in accordance with the activities, indicators and outputs
- Factors contributing to and detracting from results

III. Sustainability of the project

- The extent to which benefits from the project will continue or are likely to continue afterwards (i.e. follow up projects, visible and permanent results)

42% indicated how they joined the program because they were unemployed. Projects like TYPP are designed to equip beneficiaries with the necessary skills to fight unemployment among the youth. The program is designed and presented in a way that attracts the right candidates.

Youth who are considered Artists and those interested in working in the Public Service recorded 14% each. Among the lessons to be learnt in the program is for the youth to have a better understanding of how government works. Self-Development, Networking and New Experience are closely matched at 11%, 10% and 9% respectively. The program is has different trainings that interest those seeking self-development and a new experience. This program is a national program that meets the needs of those interested in networking.

Throughout the program, patriots went through training and skills development in different subject areas; Soft skills was attended the most at 32%. This was mostly attributed to it being the first training they did. Business Development and Project Management follow closely at 27% and 24% respectively.

Approximately 36% indicated how they hadn't applied the skills learnt. From the focus group discussions it pointed out that the main reason was because most hadn't got the training(s) because of COVID-19 restrictions. Working in the community, public speaking and volunteering at community schools stand out at 10.7%, 10.7% and 8.9% respectively. The least applied skill is research.

We wanted to find out if patriots had gained employment or started their own businesses as a result of the skills learnt. 28% (31 patriots) indicated they had acquired employment; 11% went back to school. Employed patriots were mainly working in the retail sector (93%) , Public Sector and Business Owners accounted for 3.5% each.

The program had projects designed to meet the objectives. Patriots were asked to indicate which project that has participated in. Training on National Symbols at 73,5% was the project patriots were mostly involved in. Patriots indicated how they visited different schools in their communities and trained school kids about the national symbols. Patriots also indicated how this training was also extended to their communities. Participation in national days was the second most represented project with heavy involvement from the patriots. 70.6% patriots indicated they had been

involved in participating in national days like youth day and other national days where they would be invited by district and or municipality officials.

The budget for the program was estimated at R10,694,527 (NYDA Annual Audit Report 2020). This equates to R35,648.42 as the cost for each patriot of the 300 patriots in a given year. We calculated ROI based on (i) Actual Expenditure Incurred on Budgeted Items, and (ii) Budgeted Amount as per Project Proposal. Both calculated ROI indicate a negative return. This would typically mean the budget (cost) is more than the benefits derived which would indicate a bad investment. However, some projects do have intangible benefits that may not allow attaching an economic monetary value; this does not mean the program is not creating positive returns. TYPP is one of those projects. Patriots have other benefits derived from the program like tours, skills acquired and activities done which are without a monetary value.

For this program, social and economic benefits were considered as those patriots who gained employment / or started their own businesses after the program. Patriots were previously unemployed youth who upon completion of TYPP would start a new job or business, not only to increase their personal income, but also creating value for their communities in service delivery, government by paying taxes and no longer claiming welfare benefits. Thus, the impacts of the programme are both social and economic the value of which SROI was designed to measure. A social return ratio of 0.41:1 indicates that an investment in one patriot generates 0.41 units of blended socio-economic value. This does indicate that program is creating value in the society.

Results from the study indicate that given the high levels of unemployment in the country, studies have shown that there is are high expectation of gaining long-term employment after participation in a volunteering activity. Majority of the patriots are volunteering in their communities.

Youth in the country understand NYDA as a place to get funding. This understanding and the fact that NYDA is the biggest custodian of youth in the country, solutions to some of the challenges faced by youth should be incorporated in the program. It should be noted that the Business Grant and Voucher service are included in the program though not used by majority because they don't know how the process works. Training on how to access such government /NYDA programs/grants should be included in TYPP. Patriots expressed desire to have contracts extended to 2 years ; an extension of the programme could be developed to help patriots transition from patriots in the program to volunteering in the community and finally to be employee/employer.

INTRODUCTION

The Department of Arts and Culture (DAC) and the National Youth Development Agency (NYDA) signed a cooperation agreement where the commitment to implement the Young Patriots Programme (TYPP) was established. The TYPP is a National Youth Service (NYS) programme of the DAC. The NYDA committed to implement the programme on behalf of the DAC since 2016 to March 2020.

The cooperation agreement was renewed for twelve months starting April 2020 to March 2021 but due to the pandemic the program had to delay with its implementation and as results roles of partners were drawn.

The NYDA has a long standing partnership with the Flemish Government on youth development. The cooperation between the NYDA and the Flemish Government on up-scaling and promoting Youth Volunteering in civil society organisations was launched in 2012 and the new 5 year framework has been developed for 2015-2020, focusing on capacity building, knowledge generation, marketing and communication and lobbying and advocacy. The NYDA has identified the need to take practical steps to increase youth volunteering because of the significant benefits that are likely to flow from involving young South Africans in volunteering and community service programmes.

Through the Mzansi Golden Economy strategy the Department of Arts, Culture & Sports (DACS) aims to making radical socio-economic transformation a reality. The young people of South Africa, as her future, are not left out of participating in transforming this country, hence The Youth Patriots' Programme (TYPP) is being established.

Some of the salient programmes that the TYPP will implement are centred around, but not limited to:

- Programmes on national symbols, especially with schools, such as Popularisation of National Anthem and hoisting the National Flag.
- Shaping the Youth and instilling in them, as the future leaders of the country need to be aware of their history, heritage, arts & culture as instruments for building their nation and fostering national identity.
- Presenting the positive spin-offs of national identity, which are numerous, but key in this context are social cohesion, national pride & patriotism, productive & competitive nation well-being of youth and encourages them to participate in the economy.

Objectives of The Young Patriots Programme (TYPP)

- To engage South Africa's Youth in community development as active citizens through meaningful youth participation and opportunities by providing service for their country. Ultimately a movement of proud and caring Young South African citizens will be created.
- To promote social cohesion and nation building as young people become more conscious and take pride of their nationality.
- To instil a strong sense of South African Identity through articulating, acting and mainstreaming a true story of this country.
- To mobilise DAC and its Entities, government and all sectors of society to work together with the youth to consolidate socio-cultural and socio-economic freedoms
- To educate the youth about their history, heritage and the role played by young people in the struggle for national liberation and thereby appreciate South African democracy today
- To encourage dialogue (intergenerational), debates, discussions and conversations about the challenges that confront the youth of today and how they can take forward the of their struggles today in a positive manner
- Through TYPP Youth will participate in oral history, research and thereby etch on their memory, the experiences in the struggle and this will promote intergenerational understanding
- To highlight variety of DAC and government programmes for youth development and how the youth can access them.
- To establish a Young Patriots movement and network throughout the country, South Africans on the Continent and in the African diaspora
- To support other similar youth initiatives and programmes and encourage them to use the African perspective in their youth programmes
- To create a new cohort of Youth Leaders who are aware of their country's past, are innovators and with this are self-confident, fearless and are ready to serve their country

TYPP provides opportunities to serve and gain crucial professional experience, soft skills, social competence, international exposure and leadership skills;

BACKGROUND

Arts and Culture Minister, Mr Nathi Mthethwa launched the Young Patriots Programme at Freedom Park, Pretoria on the 25th of November 2016. The programme is supported by the Department of Arts and Culture through National Youth Development Agency (NYDA).

The key objective of the programme is to conscientious youth about the national identity and culture, and to create job opportunities for youth within the arts, culture and heritage sector.

Through the National Youth Development Agency, the Department of Arts and Culture began a process of recruiting 300 young people to participate on the Young Patriots Programme.

The Young Patriots Programme acknowledges the role played by young people during the struggle for liberation and to ensure that young people today, are involved in social cohesion and nation building initiatives.

The strategic objectives of the programme include activities aimed at popularising national symbols such as the national anthem, the national flag, the audit of human treasures in communities as well as the installation of flag poles in schools. These activities are intended to build awareness on the South African heritage and instil a sense of patriotism amongst the recruited Patriots and the young people in schools. The NYDA augmented the training offering with Entrepreneurship Development Programme, Business Management Training and Job Preparedness Training.

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TYPP is multi-faceted in its approach as a movement of youth development focusing on nation building and social cohesion. The initiative will also focus on educating the youth about history and heritage landscape through practical experience. TYPP participants are required to be community activists and be actively engaged in the community where they live. TYPP has a component that is dialogue-based (intergenerational), debates, discussions and conversations about the challenges that confront the youth of today and how they can find their own solutions today and thus promote better intergenerational understanding. TYPP participants participate in dialogues with the topics/themes around issues of nation building and social cohesion.

TYPP participants Youth will also be engaged in Research (organic research, PRA method research, writing and creativity around history/heritage/culture/socio-cultural and socio-economic issues) from their areas where they live. Young people will have

opportunities to be exposed to Oral history in order to have a firm understanding of their past, to create a contemporary memory and document the experiences that led to a democratic dispensation in South Africa. The TYPP will not only focus South African young people on South African, but on the African Union and African Diaspora agenda. TYPP will refocus and educate them about the heritage & history of South Africa, and promote shared values and discourse of Pan-Africa.

One of the Mzansi Golden Economy (MGE) funding focus is on arts and culture events linked to digital platform for the youth. TYPP will engage with MGE to promote and popularise the proper use of national symbols to the youth using their innovation, creativity, their capacities and spaces. These spaces can be physical, cyber/virtual and/or social media/network based.

Approach

In order to successfully implement TYPP, the following approach was put in place:

It was envisaged that the youth participants would be mobilised and recruited through the Community Arts Centres and Youth Civil society formations. It was envisaged that the formidable organisations such as the South African Youth Council, South African Youth for International Diplomacy (SAYID - is the South Africa Local Organizing Committee for the G8 & G20 Youth Summits) the National Youth Development Agency and the several of Offices of the Premiers.

The plan was to create guidelines and criteria for participation by young people, to ensure that there is transparency and fairness in recruitment process. In also mainstreaming this and sharing resource and expertise it was envisaged that an Inter-Departmental committee with members that are drawn from relevant departments at provincial & national level, be established. This way resources to implement TYPP would be optimised.

The youth who are DAC Bursary holders and recipients through the NAC, NFVF and DAC Heritage section would be required to 'give back' by participating in the programme. This would entail volunteering a number of hours per semester in a community social cohesion and nation building project of their interest. In a similar light to the bursary holders, the MGE funded organisations or beneficiaries and would be approached to absorb TYPP participants in their funded projects. This way TYPP participants would have meaningful skills and work experience.

TYPP would target Out-of-School youth, however their work would include working with young people in Schools. The programme has a specific target and approach for marginalised youth – youth at conflict with the law; youth in rural areas and youth with disabilities – to draw them in towards being supporters and activists for social cohesion & nation building initiatives.

One of the impact measurements of TYPP is how it extends the brand visibility of the DAC as it undertakes some of their projects under the banner of the DAC. The DAC will fund the programme through DAC Branch financial contributions and DAC Entities' "in-kind-support". This also includes TYPP participants being placed and 'working' at DAC Entities and Community Libraries. To promote intergenerational understanding, the selected young people will participate in Social Cohesion Advocates' programmes and Living Legends Legacy Programme (LLLP) and be able to learn in the process of being involved in these two programmes.

Thus the evaluation of TYPP will elucidate among other findings, recommendations that can be used to further achieve the objectives.

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- Social return on the investment made in the program.
- To measure the value of funds invested in program to benefit the young patriots since 2016.

DOCUMENT REVIEW

The concept of social exclusion has gained wide currency in the public policy context worldwide. It has been effectively used as a handle to reflect on the complex set of linked problems centred around lack of opportunity and diminished life circumstances, including unemployment, poor skills, low incomes, poor housing, high crime environments, poor health and family breakdown. Lately the concept has been associated with wider concept of citizenship.

Connections have been made between human and social capital formation and the impact of these on democracy. Social capital is increasingly seen as a useful concept tool for understanding the role of relations and networks in social and economic development. Social capital according to Putman refers to the “stocks of trust, norms, and networks that people can draw upon to solve common problems”. This then implies a richness and robustness of relationships among people, suggesting that the members of a community are willing and eager to invest in one another. Communities build social capital through the development of active relationships, democratic participation and the strengthening of community ownership and trust.

Evidence indicates that countries are concerned about the civic and political health of their nations. In the process of developing inclusion goals the citizenship status of young people has also come to the foreground. The issue of youth apathy has been a subject of debate and contention especially when the barometer used is voting. The seeming decline in youth voting, an indicator of alienation, as well as the growing evidence that as segment of the population they seem to feel the brunt of a combination of linked problems has been cause for concern. Indeed the report of the United Nations Secretary-General to the Fifty-Sixth Session highlighted the problems that confront young people as poverty, vulnerability to the infection with the Human Immunodeficiency Virus and Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome, access to education and unemployment. Recognising therefore that in both the developing and developed countries the situation of young people is precarious the United Nations General Assembly has called on all member states to implement the “World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond.” Member States are encouraged to formulate and implement national youth policies and programmes within the context of broad development strategies and a rights approach.

TYPP and other similar government initiatives are established to address problematic issues facing the youth of South Africa and the nation. Some of these are spelt out below:

- Negative polemic of racism, crime and unending poverty and overwhelming unemployment.
- Perception that South African Youth are on the forefront of xenophobic attacks.
- A need to improve investment climate among youth led initiatives
- Poverty due to lack of opportunities attributed from lack of infrastructure to boost employment opportunities for youth.

- A need to harness the youths skills and innovativeness due to globalisation and technology developments .
- A need to build institutional capacity, networks, quality programs and champions so these can be effective in responding to the needs of the youth.
- Need for the youth in South Africa and Africa to be aware of continental and national youth policies.
- A need to create social cohesion
- Opportunities for youth to be engaged as alternative voice to media and a source of positive image of South Africa
- A need to expose youth to heritage landscape that promotes intergenerational understanding against colonial and apartheid past.

African States and their policy-makers have one of the key issues that impedes youth development as lack of opportunities for youth of how to provide these. Tied to this is lack of clear policies and data to guide youth development in Africa. Africa has the youngest population in the world, with more than half of this population consisting of females, with an urban and rural mix of these young people. The challenge based on these facts is to harness this positive aspect to develop young people to the benefit of Africa's economic growth and its full potential. Whilst her youth is younger, other parts of the world's youth population are shrinking.

[The Young Patriots Program and African Youth Charter](#)

The African Youth Charter provides a strategic framework for youth empowerment and development activities at the continental, regional and national levels across Africa. It addresses key issues affecting youth, including employment, sustainable livelihoods, education, skills development, health, youth participation, national youth policy, peace and security, law enforcement, youth in the Diaspora and youth with disabilities. The Charter provides an avenue for effective youth participation in the development process. It defines youths as people between the ages of 15-35 years. It was developed after research was conducted on the state of the African Youth, commissioned by the African Union Commission.

South Africa has ratified the African Youth Charter, which was adopted in July 2006. The African Youth Charter serves as a political and legal instrument, to guide and enforce implementation of youth development imperatives. It also serves as a supporting mechanism towards the implementation of national youth policies, programmes and actions for effective youth development. Critical to its implementation is that South African youth need to understand and internalise it. It spells out the rights, roles, freedoms and responsibilities of the African youth.

Through the African Youth Charter, Africa and South Africa can fully empower its youth by ensuring their participation in policy decision making processes, political debates, youth development processes and social cohesion. There should be strategies for harnessing the potential of African youth to foster economic development through their participation in the entrepreneurial programmes, labour market and accelerated strategies to improve their living standards generally.

The Young Patriots Programme links to domestication of the African Youth Charter. TYPP will create leaders that are aware of Africa's development, capacitate South Africa's youth to assume leadership roles now and in the future, it will create dialogues and social networks on youth development issues.

[The Young Patriots Program and The National Development Plan](#)

The NDP envisions that in 2030 South Africans will live in a more cohesive society that shuns the divisions of race, gender, and class, and is more accepting of peoples' multiple identities. Nation-building and social cohesion create unity of purpose, which is needed to overcome the obstacles preventing prosperity and equality. South African youth have proven repeatedly that they can compete at all levels of the creative and cultural industries both locally and globally and their example should be emulated by others. For example, Trevor Noah's programme was in 2020 watched daily by millions of fans across the globe. South Africa has produced a number of Miss World and the 2020 Miss Universe was South African Zozibini Tunzi. As such, young people must take the lead in realising the constitutional vision of a united, non-sexist, non-racial, democratic, prosperous and equal society. Sport and the arts have a strong ability to support nation building. Government, through the Department of Sports, Arts and Culture and its agencies identify the arts, culture and heritage sector's role to "contribute to sustainable economic development and enhance job creation by preserving, protecting and developing South African arts, culture and heritage to sustain a socially cohesive and democratic nation" (Department of Arts and Culture, 2017).

Chapter nine of the National Development Plan (Vision 2030), states that South Africa should "expose learners to history, heritage and culture. History, heritage and culture are important for understanding the past, analysing the present and planning for the future. They foster social understanding and cohesion, which is important for social and economic stability and growth. The Overview section of the NDP document mentions the situation with South Africa's youth as needing to be prioritized. It further states that South Africa has an 'urbanizing, youthful [population]'. It states that this has a positive aspect in which economy can be boosted, employment could be increased and can lead to reduction of poverty.

While statistics on the number of jobs created by arts, culture and heritage sector are not available, the sector has enormous potential for job creation for young people and must be nurtured. Any programme aimed at creating job opportunities for young people and helping them to be independent should mainstream arts and culture promotion and development and heritage preservation.

The Young Patriots Program and The National Youth Development

National Youth Service (NYS) is a concept that is transformative in nature and is broadly defined as the “involvement of young people in activities which provide benefits to the community whilst developing the abilities of young people through service and learning.” Informed by an understanding that: young people are disengaged because of a sense of powerlessness and irrelevance as opposed to apathy or disinterest; overcoming this sense of powerlessness and irrelevance requires access to opportunities for participation as individuals as well as a generation; their sense of efficacy increases when they are connected to issues that matter and key civic actors and institutions are encouraged to see young people as valuable resources; and meaningful opportunities to participate must be provided today to secure tomorrow. Thus NYS, as a special government initiative, seeks to contribute to the enhancement of youth as present and future social capital. An enhanced citizen status of young people means that they can participate meaningfully in the political, social and economic life of the country.

The National Youth Service Programme is a South Africa government youth development intervention that aims at inculcating moral values in the youth by instilling the culture of patriotism through volunteerism. National Youth Service has consistently been motivated by the South African youth sector as a programmatic vehicle which can respond to the multiple needs of young people and enable them to access new opportunities for employment and income generation, skills development and personal development, while contributing to national objectives for reconstruction and development of South Africa. The principles, values and purpose of a National Youth Service Programme have remained consistent since 1992.

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The National Youth Service Programme is implemented through partnerships with Government Departments, State Owned Entities, Private Companies and Civil Society Organisations. Therefore, recruitment of young people into NYS Programme takes place at project level (where the project site has been identified). Each NYS project has differing recruitment criteria in line with the established NYS Norms and Standards.

The TYPP is a National Youth Service (NYS) programme of the DAC. The NYDA committed to implement the programme on behalf of the DAC since 2016. TYPP engaged 300 young patriots across the country to activate the strategic objectives of the DAC. The key areas of work for the young patriots include activities aimed at popularising national symbols such as the national anthem and the national flag in schools, the audit of human treasures in communities as well as installation of flag poles. These activities are intended to build awareness on the South African history and instil a sense of patriotism amongst the recruited patriots while up-scaling and promoting Youth Volunteering in civil society organisations, focusing on capacity building, knowledge generation, marketing and communication and lobbying and advocacy.

METHODOLOGY

Mixed Method Approach (Quantitative and Qualitative Methods) was utilised for this evaluation. Desktop Review, Surveys, Focus Group Discussions and Key Informant Interviews were used to collect data.

Evaluation Criteria and Questions

In order to obtain the views of the key stakeholders, the following four evaluation criteria were set:

I. Relevance of the Project

The degree to which the project was justified and appropriate in relation to the need and situation on the national level

II. Effectiveness and Efficiency of the Project

The extent to which the project outputs are achieved

The effectiveness of the project in accordance with the activities, indicators and outputs

Factors contributing to and detracting from results

III. Sustainability of the project

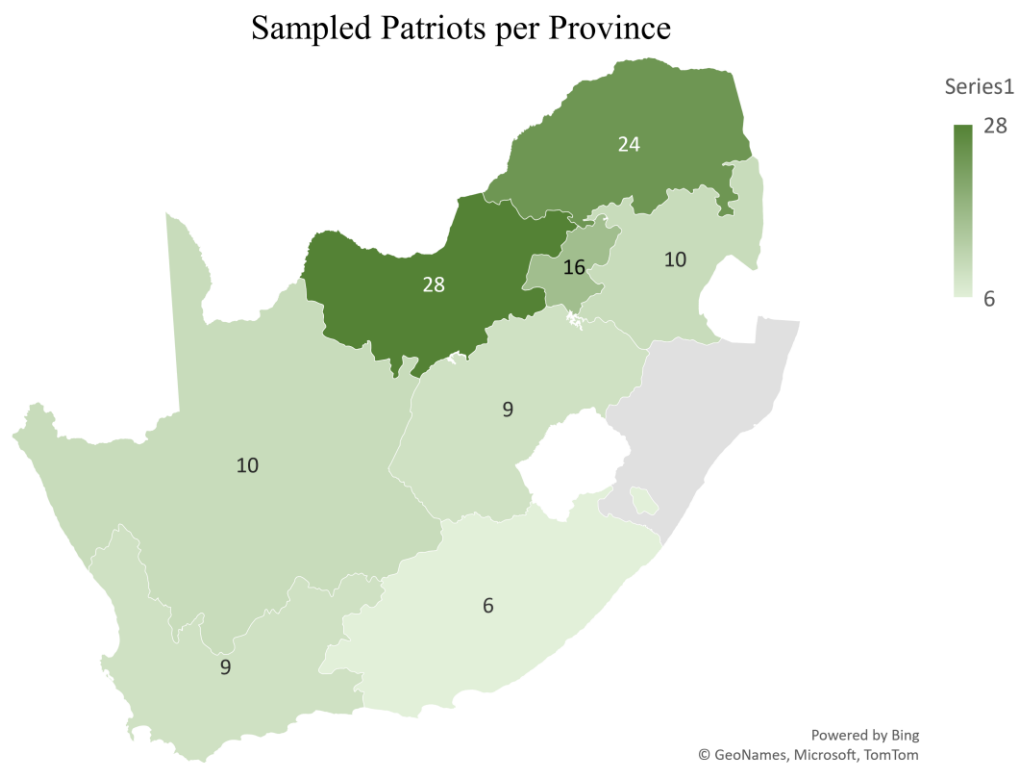
The extent to which benefits from the project will continue or are likely to continue afterwards (i.e. follow up projects, visible and permanent results)

Sampling

The sample consulted covered all represented provinces with at least 25% of the total population coming from the represented provinces.

- 280 Patriots.
- 8 Provinces Represented
- 40% Patriots Sampled

Figure 1: Sampled Patriots



Data Collection Methods

4- Focus Group Discussions were conducted with past and present patriots.

5- Key Informant Interviews were carried out with officials from DSAC and NYDA both on National and Provincial level.

70- Patriots from across the country took part in the survey. The survey data was collected through face to face interviews and the use of Computer Assisted Telephonic Interviews (CATI).

FIELD WORK REPORT

TOOL DEVELOPMENT

A questionnaire to be used in the field for FGD, Face-to-face interviews and KIIs guide were developed.

PILOTING

Tools piloted before being deployed.

DATA COLLECTION

Data was collected from all sampled patriots as per the data file received. 8 provinces were represented. FGDs in LP & NW, CATI, KIIs, Literature and Case Studies were the utilized methods.

CHALLENGES

About 50% of the patriots could not be reached on phone to arrange for interviews.

We had a province which only had contact numbers for supervisors and not patriots

CONCLUSION

Despite the challenges, data collection was successfully done.

We recommend a regular update of patriots contact details

Step 1

Step 2

Step 3

Step 4

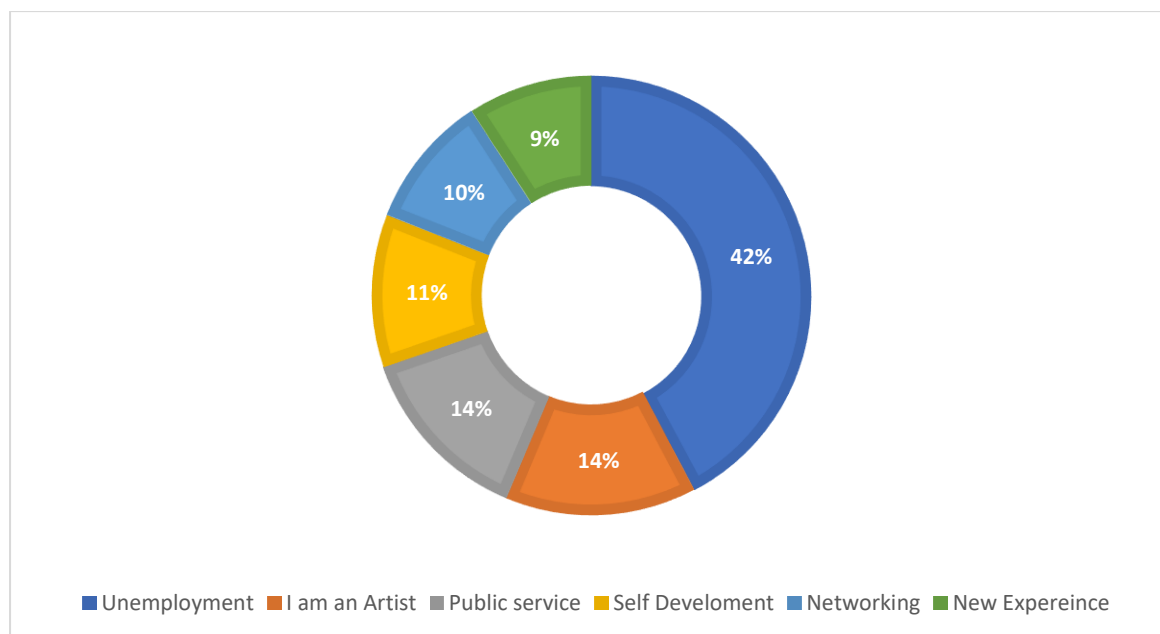
Step 5

FINDINGS

Reason for Joining the Program

Patriots were asked why they joined the program to ascertain the why these youth thought TYPP was a good program for them to join.

Figure 2: Reason for joining the program



42% indicated how they joined the program because they were unemployed. Projects like TYPP are designed to equip beneficiaries with the necessary skills to fight unemployment among the youth. The program is designed and presented in a way that attracts the right candidates.

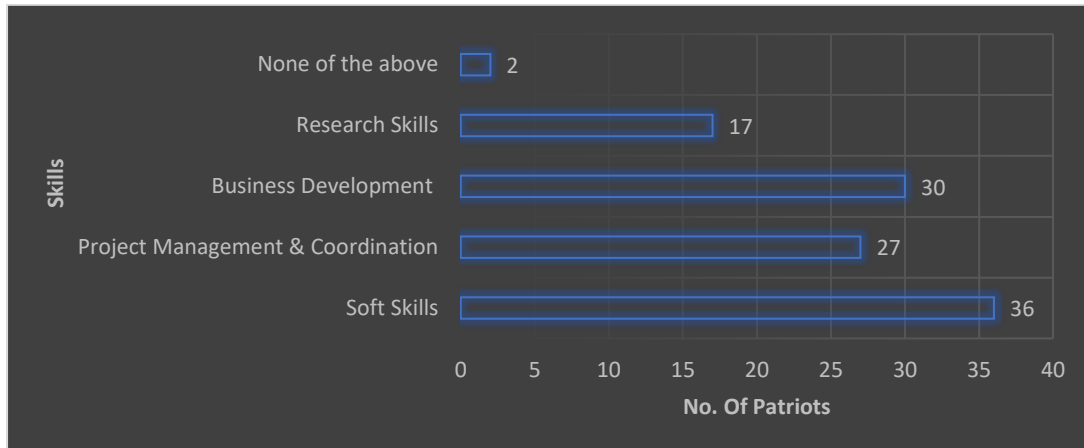
Youth who are considered Artists and those interested in working in the Public Service recorded 14% each. Among the lessons to be learnt in the program is for the youth to have a better understanding of how government works. Youth who have interest in Public Service found this program to meet their needs. Youth who are considered Artists e.g. Musicians and craftsmen, found this program to be an opportunity for them to improve their skills as artist since it is a DSAC program. It should be noted that, there is no significant difference in terms of benefits derived between those in the Arts and Culture sector and from other sectors. The trainings offered equip the youth with a range of different skills to prepare them for life after the program.

Self-Development, Networking and New Experience are closely matched at 11%, 10% and 9% respectively. The program is has different trainings that interest those seeking self-development and a new experience. This program is a national program that meets the needs of those interested in networking.

Skills Acquired

Throughout the program, patriots went through training and skills development in different subject areas as indicated below.

Figure 3: Acquired Skills



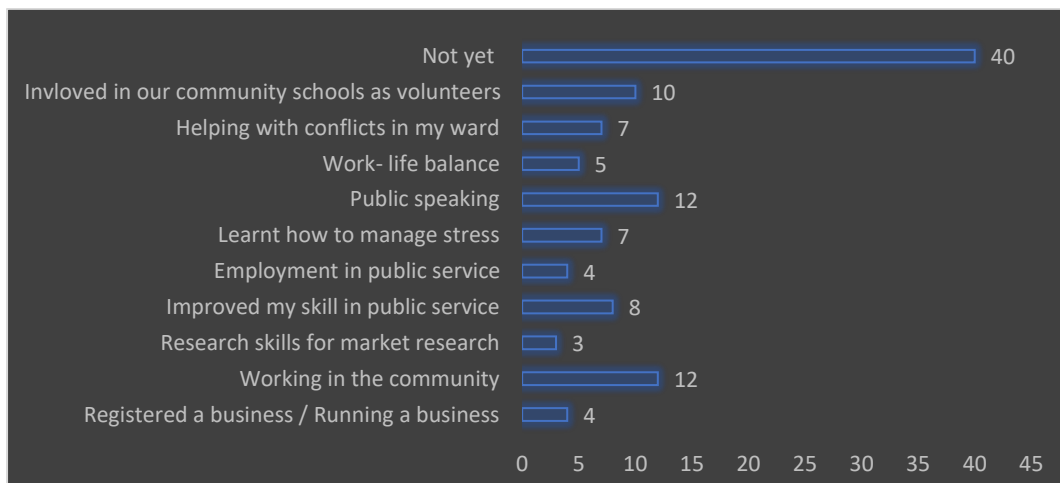
Soft skills was attended the most at 32%. This was mostly attributed to it being the first training they did. Business Development and Project Management follow closely at 27% and 24% respectively.

There is a low attendance across all trainings. This was attributed to Lockdown due to COVID-19. Generally, a big shift in attendance can be expected as Lockdown restrictions are lifted.

Application of Skills Acquired

Patriots were asked how they had applied and still apply the skills learnt. Responses were recorded as below;

Figure 4: Application of acquired skills

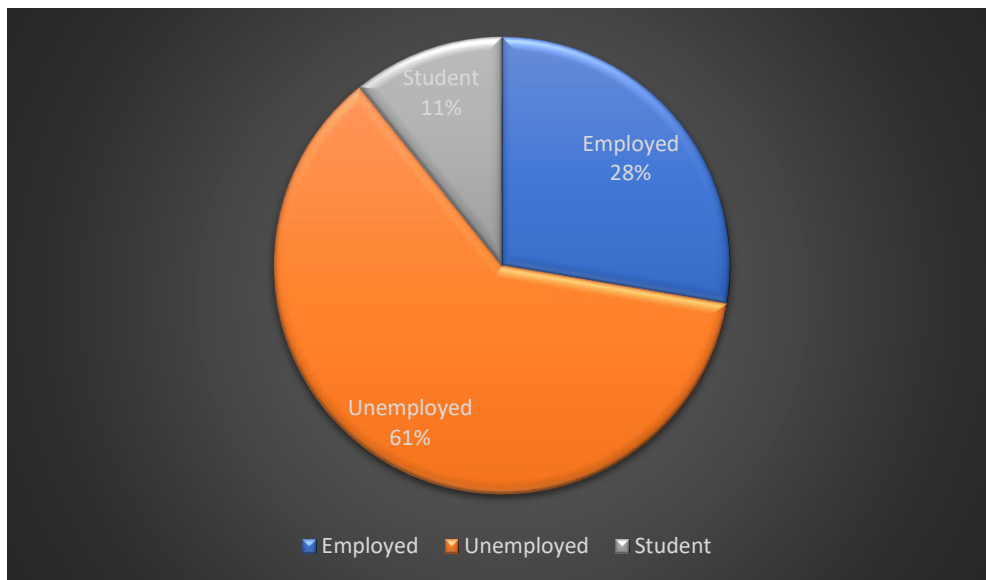


Approximately 36% indicated how they hadn't applied the skills learnt. From the focus group discussions it pointed out that the main reason was because most hadn't got the training(s) because of COVID-19 restrictions. Working in the community, public speaking and volunteering at community schools stand out at 10.7%, 10.7% and 8.9% respectively. The least applied skill is research.

Employment Status

It was understood that one had to be youth and unemployed among other requirements to be able to become a patriot. We wanted to find out if patriots had gained employment or started their own businesses as a result of the skills learnt.

Figure 5: Employment Status



28% (31 patriots) indicated they had acquired employment; 11% went back to school. Employed patriots were mainly working in the retail sector (93%), Public Sector and Business Owners accounted for 3.5% each.

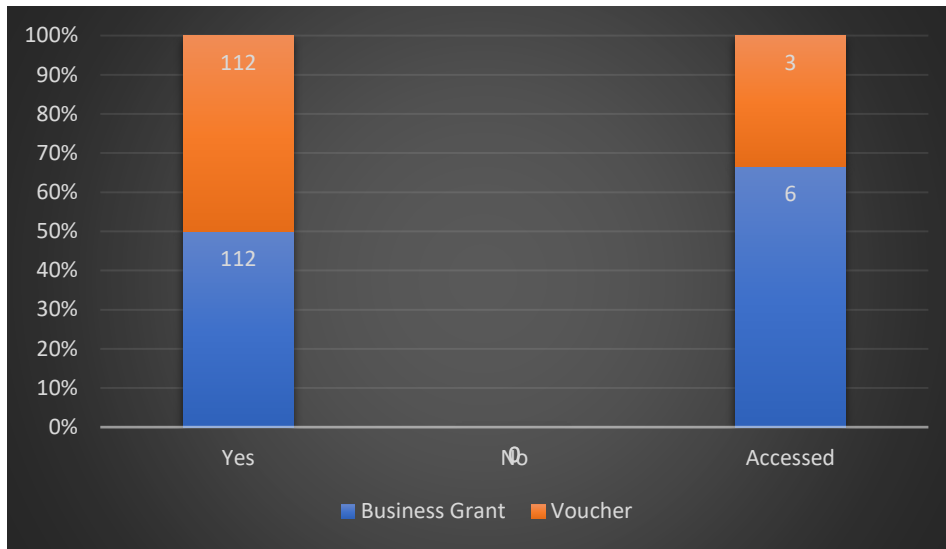
61% of unemployed patriots is a high number especially for a program that has skills development and other services like the Business grant and Voucher Program from the NYDA. This is related to the low training attendance and application of skills.

NYDA Services

Patriots were asked if they were of the services NYDA offers as presented to them in induction.

All 112 sampled patriots indicated how they were aware of the Business Grant and Voucher Program from NYDA.

Figure 6: NYDA Services



When asked if they had accessed these services, only 8% indicated to have applied for services at the NYDA. Those who did not apply or try to access those services indicated the main reason was because they were not aware of the procedures and requirements.

Purpose of Services Acquired

Those who applied for services from the NYDA were asked for the purpose of the service applied for.

Figure 7: Utilisation of acquired NYDA Services

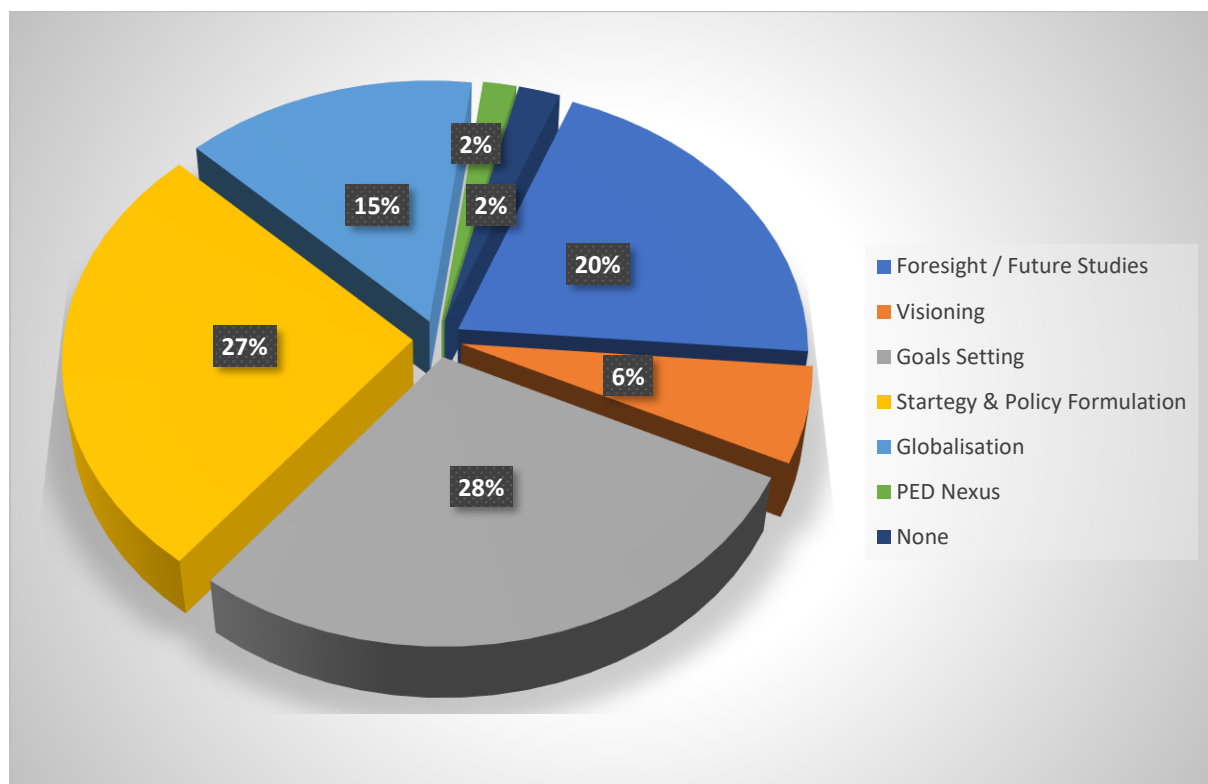


44.4% indicated they applied for bridging finance and working capital. Business Plan, Website Development, Bookkeeping, Co-funding and Purchase of Movable and Immovable Assets were the other reasons for applying for NYDA services.

Special Learning Areas

There were special learning areas in the program and patriots were asked to highlight which areas they had been taught in.

Figure 8: Special Learning Areas



Majority(28%) indicated they had acquired knowledge in Goals Setting. This as close followed by Strategy and Policy formulation at 27%. Foresight and Globalisation have a representation of 20% and 15% respectively. Visioning and PED Nexus have the lowest representation at 6% and 2% respectively.

Considering the sample of this study, results indicated represent a dismal representation toward these special learning areas. Lockdown played a huge role. Patriots showed an eagerness to learn and it can be concluded that as restrictions on Lockdown are eased, positive changes will be noticed

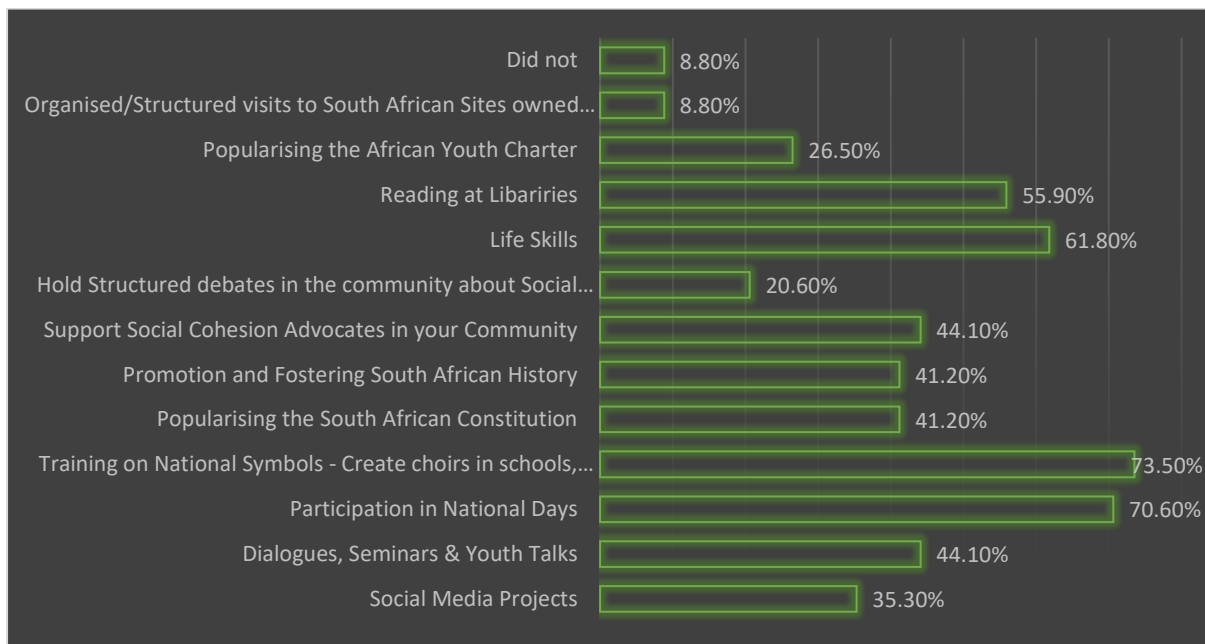
Projects Involved in

The program had projects designed to meet the objectives. Patriots were asked to indicate which project that has participated in.

Training on National Symbols at 73,5% was the project patriots were mostly involved in. Patriots indicated how they visited different schools in their communities and trained school kids about the national symbols. Patriots also indicated how this training was also extended to their communities.

Participation in national days was the second most represented project with heavy involvement from the patriots. 70.6% patriots indicated they had been involved in participating in national days like youth day and other national days where they would be invited by district and or municipality officials.

Figure 9: Projects involved in

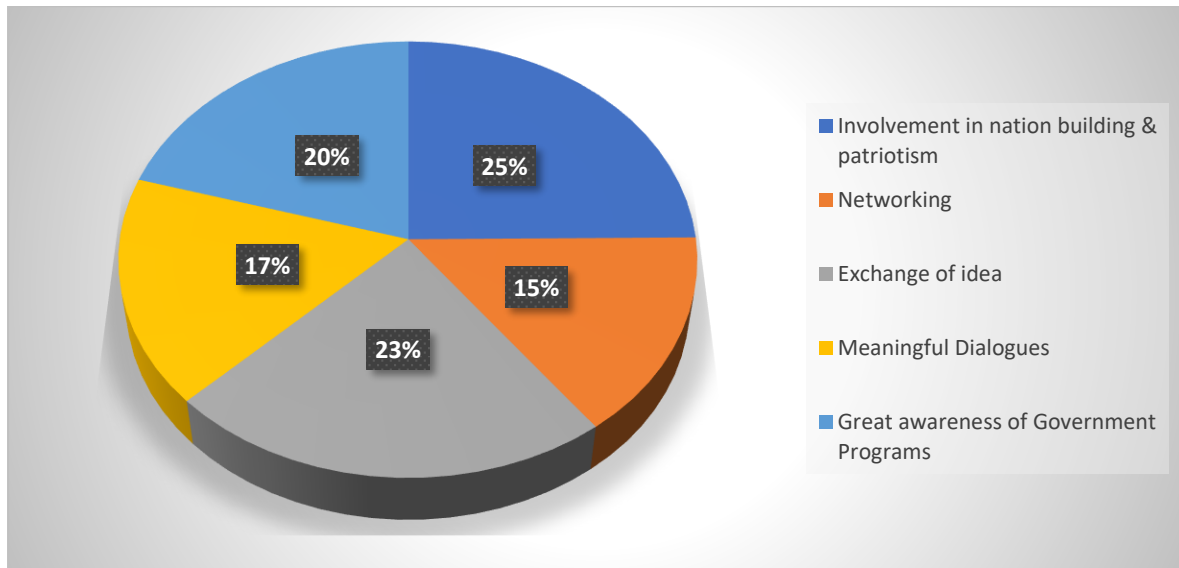


It should be noted that these 2 specific projects (Training on National Symbols and Participation in National days) experienced this big involvement because they partly well organised and planned well ahead. Preparations done at district level were credited for this big involvement.

Goals Met

Patriots were asked to indicate which goals had been met during their time in the program.

Figure 10: Goals Met



Involvement in nation building & patriotism was indicated as the biggest goal met with 25%. Exchange of Ideas (23%) and Great awareness of Government programs (20%) are the third and fourth goals met. Patriots indicated Meaningful dialogues as the least lesson learnt.

Budget And Return On Investment

The budget for the program was estimated at R10,694,527 (NYDA Annual Audit Report 2020). This equates to R35,648.42 as the cost for each patriot of the 300 patriots in a given year.

ROI is represented as a ratio of the expected financial gains (benefits) of a project divided by its total costs. As a formula it appears as:

$$\text{ROI} = (\text{net benefits}/\text{total cost})$$

TYPP has helped participants by providing them with a stipend, skills to adapt to the labour market and obtain a more paying job or start a business as well uniforms when performing their roles. These are considered as the direct benefits to the patriots.

Using the Ingredients methods and shadow pricing technique, we bring costs and benefits together to derive an economic metric that is informative. It is determined that 1-year program costs R35,648.42 per patriot. During the program, patriots' direct benefits as indicated in the above paragraph ((Stipends+Training+Uniform), equate to

R33,908 per patriot. The sample provided had a total of 280 active patriots. The total assumed benefits for 280 patriots amount to R9,494,240 for the year and total assumed costs for 280 patriots amount to R9,981,557.6 for the year.

To calculate for Net Benefits the primary economic metric is Net Present Value (NPV). To discount, we apply the following formula using a discount rate of 8% as indicated in the Overview of Assets Classes by The Savings Institute South Africa. (<http://www.savingsinstitute.co.za/resources/overview-of-asset-classes/>).

$$B_{PV} = \sum_{t=1}^n \frac{B_t}{(1+i)^{t-1}}$$

$$B_{PV} = \frac{9,494,240.8}{(1+0.08)^0}$$

$$B_{PV} = 9,494,240.8$$

Since the costs are incurred immediately the discounted cost is as follows:

$$C_{PV} = \sum_{t=1}^n \frac{C_t}{(1+i)^{t-1}}$$

$$C_{PV} = \frac{9,981,557.6}{(1+0.08)^0}$$

$$C_{PV} = 9,981,557.6$$

Since we have the present value benefits and costs, we can derive the Benefit- Cost ratio. BCR compares the economic benefits of the program with the cost of the program.

$$BCR = \frac{B_{PV}}{C_{PV}}$$

$$BCR = \frac{9,494,240.8}{9,981,557.6}$$

$$BCR = 0.95 : 1$$

This ratio is less than one which indicates that the program is not a good investment with a discount rate of 8%. However, there are certain types of projects that need to be conducted even if they are not generating sufficient quantifiable benefits to cover the costs. TYPP is such a project.

Calculating the Program ROI

The ROI is calculated using the **program benefits and costs; the benefit/cost ratio.**

We calculated ROI based on (i) Actual Expenditure Incurred on Budgeted Items, and (ii) Budgeted Amount as per Project Proposal.

$$\begin{aligned}\text{ROI (\% (Actual Expenditure))} &= \frac{\text{Net Program Benefits}}{\text{Program Costs}} \times 100 \\ &= \frac{9,494,240.8 - 9981557.6}{9981557.6} \times 100 \\ &= -4.88\%\end{aligned}$$

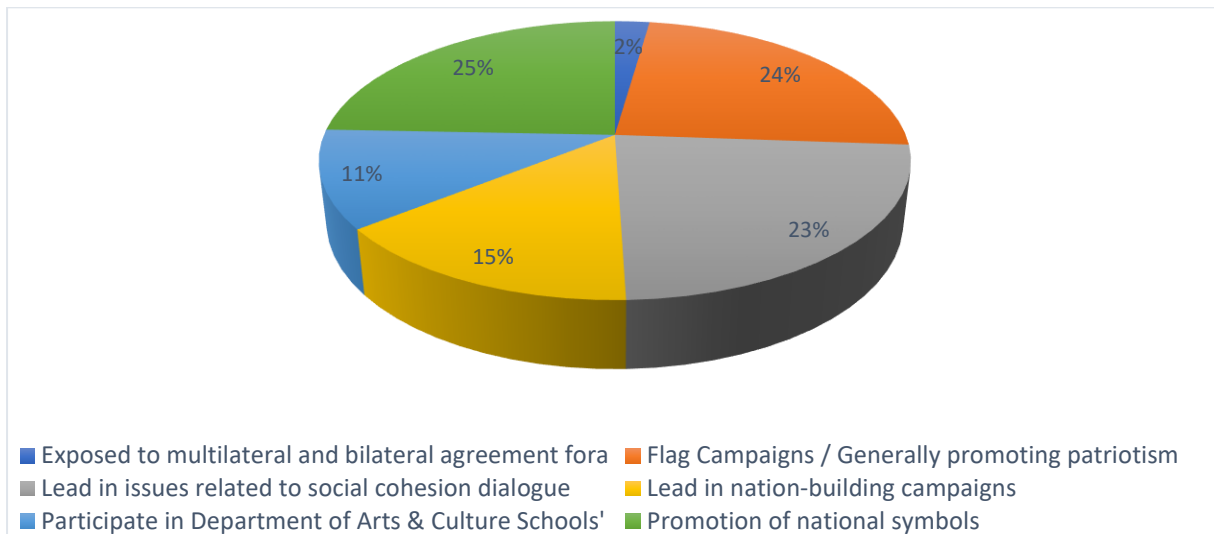
$$\begin{aligned}\text{ROI (\% (Budgeted Amount))} &= \frac{\text{Net Program Benefits}}{\text{Program Costs}} \times 100 \\ &= \frac{8,073,333 - 8,870,400}{8,870,400} \times 100 \\ &= -8.9\%\end{aligned}$$

Both calculated ROI indicate a negative return. This would typically mean the budget (cost) is more than the benefits derived which would indicate a bad investment. However, some projects do have intangible benefits that may not allow attaching an economic monetary value; this does not mean the program is not creating positive returns. TYPP is one of those projects. Patriots have other benefits derived from the program like tours, skills acquired and activities done which are without a monetary value. TYPP is creating an impact and justifies the funds allocated. Considering the difference between the Actual Expenditure and Budgeted Amount, the Actual Expenditure is closer to delivering a positive ROI.

It takes an ROI ratio greater than zero for a program to be attractive, typically. A sub-zero ratio may not automatically “kill” a project, because it may result in a required capability that doesn’t currently exist. Government is required to provide certain services to the public, and so can be more tolerant of low ROI. The budget is sufficient for the program.

NYS Activities

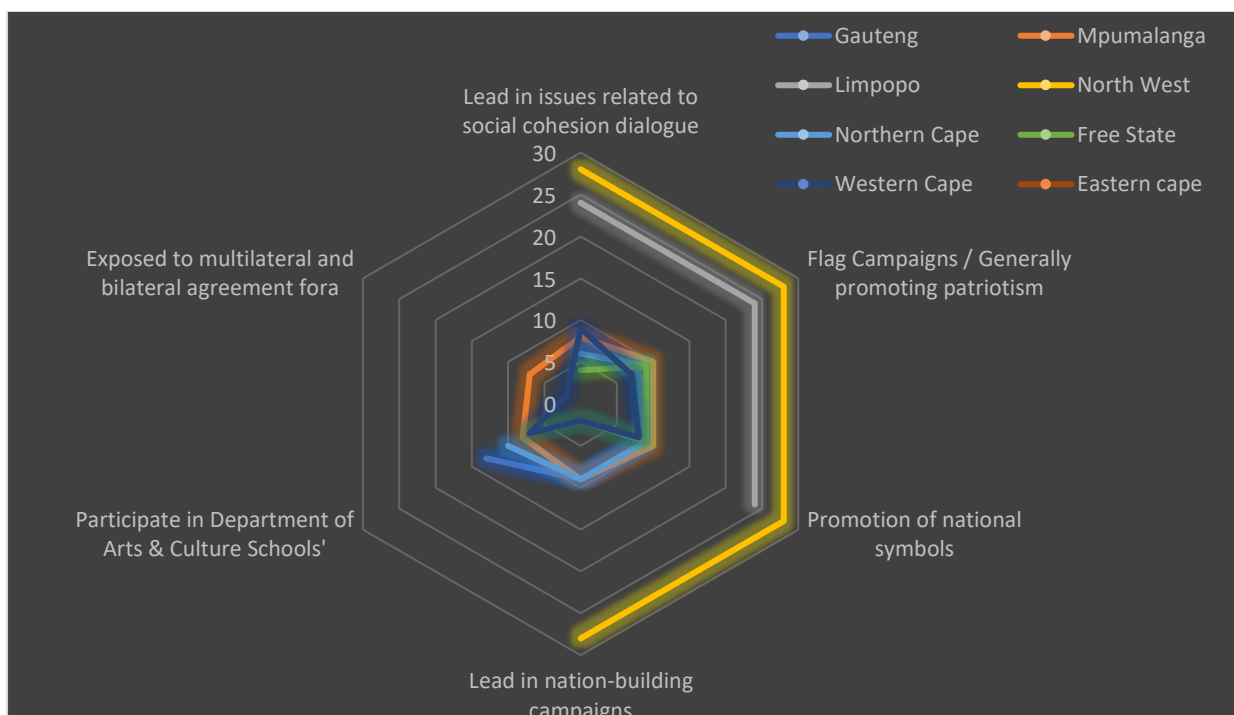
Figure 11: NYS Activities



The figure above indicates Patriots were involved in all activities though with varying representation. Promotion of National Symbols (25%) , Flag Campaigns (24%) and Social Cohesion Dialogue (23%) as the mostly done activities.

In the figure below, we take a closer look at how provinces performed in each of the activities. This will help with focusing the right resources where lacking.

Figure 12: Province Participation in NYS Activities



Eastern Cape province only participated in one activity and that was Flag campaigns. Data collected from interviews indicated that the understanding was that this program was about Flag campaigns and patriotism in general. . In one district, a total of 910 schools were identified for flags and poles but these were never fulfilled. They have only managed to place the patriots to do some part time jobs within the department or in the communities. These sentiments were shared in Limpopo Province as well although the initiative of the district officials saw patriots taking part in the other activities. However it should also be noted that in Limpopo and North West Provinces, current patriots were also included in the sample.

Western Cape and Mpumalanga Provinces had patriots who indicated they had been exposed to multilateral and bilateral agreement fora. No other province had representation in this activity. This also indicates that only these 2 provinces had 100% representation on all 6 activities. They were closely followed by Gauteng , Northern Cape and Free State all with representation in 5 activities out 6. North West Province had representation in 4 activities out 6. They indicated they had not participated in DACS Schools' Programs.

Patriots indicated a willingness to learn and take part in these activities. The Covid-19 pandemic was pointed out as the main reason why most of these activities were not done. With this in consideration and data published on the impact of the pandemic, this attendance can be considered a success. Current patriots who have seen Covid-19 restrictions lowered have taken part in most activities already and yet they are only half way into their contracts. This was evidenced with current patriots in North West and Limpopo.

Effectiveness of the Coordination Structures of the Program.

The DAC collaborated with the National Youth Development Agency (NYDA) on the implementation of TYPP. This is based on NYDA's knowledge of the youth sector, their provincial chapters and their ability to mobilise youth and relevant partners. The DAC has a MoU with the NYDA that it will seek to review and revitalise through TYPP. The MoU is based on similar collaborations on the National Youth Service of the DAC.

The NYDA through their NYS unit will participate in the recruitment process of the patriots, provide soft skills training (Mental toughness, Life skills), project management and coordination, and deliver Business Development, Business Grants and Voucher Programme as part of project exit.

Data collected indicated roles were understood at departmental level. Department heads interviewed illustrated a clear understanding of the different roles the two entities played. Below are extracts from interviews conducted with DACS and NYDA officials.

“Roles were outlined right from the beginning. DACS could not go to provinces to recruit young people and that’s where NYDA comes in. We own the program and I have been involved in conceptualising so we do understand our roles and responsibilities which is what we have been doing on provincial level as well. Provincial level leaders in the program should be aware of these roles. The Provincial DACS Coordinators as well as NYDA Provincial Coordinators who then get in touch with National are responsible for the activities and other roles”. (Key Informant – 5)

However, on the municipality and district level, there was a misunderstanding of who plays which role. Majority of patriots did not attend some trainings and tours. This was attributed to the fact that the patriots leaders did not know who is responsible of assigning duties. Patriots use DACS district offices other their meeting points, interviews with DACS district officials in charge of the patriots indicated they were aware of the activities but could not assign them as they were not sure if it was the NYDA supposed to assign the activities or DACS. Below is are some extracts from the interviews with some district officials:

“There is no clear guideline of what we patriots must be doing. We were told that the program is about flag verification. Since then there is nothing more that has happened. They only get exposure in terms of work. We went to schools and promised flags but these were never delivered and we look liars in our communities.” [Key Informant – 1]

“We have a problem with transport for patriots. The service provider that was selected does not stay in this area and because of that he doesn’t understand the areas in this district. He told patriots to transport themselves to another location that was convenient for him to pick them and yet this was never the agreement. As district officials we are responsible for these patriots from the time they leave their homes to the time they come back home. We must account for their whereabouts when they are our responsibility. When they get on a different transport and anything happens, what do we then tell the parents? I think transport responsibilities should be dealt at district level because we understand the areas”. [Key Informant – 2]

“How do we champion a program and supervise patriots on something we don’t fully understand ourselves? The kids go for training and all these other things but we as their leaders are not invited to understand what they are being trained about so we can guide them. Instead we are told to organise this number of patriots, transport will come to collect and that’s it. We need to be involved so we know how to guide them.” [Key Informant – 3]

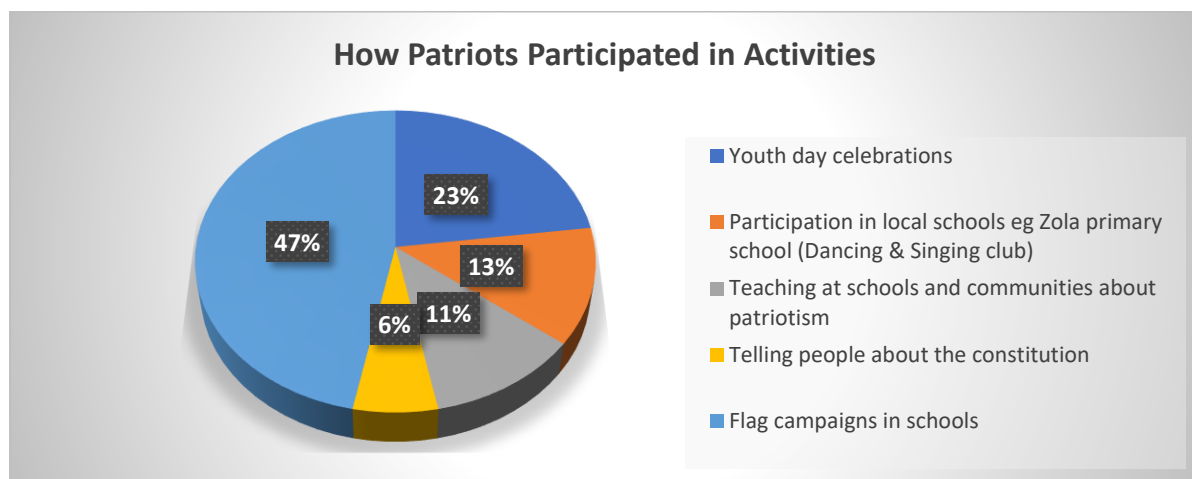
Because of this uncertainty, patriots are left wondering what is required of them:

“The whole year we did nothing. Covid came in and nothing happened. We got an extension and still nothing much happened. We had a WhatsApp group and no communication. We got forms to indicate we were doing things to get a stipend. We could have done more. The program is a brilliant idea. It should not stop”. [Patriot Interviewee(A team leader) – 1]

“The bureaucracy is killing this program. We were promised many things but we got almost nothing. Yes COVID happened but why extend our contracts if we are still going to be doing nothing. In our district we were active but then things stopped happening. Stipends also stopped coming for about 6 months and when they came we still missed one month which still hasn’t been paid. When we ask they say it’s do with national. There is so many people to go through and we as patriots we never really see these people. May be only during induction.” [FGD -1].

Patriots Participation in Activities

Figure 13: Patriots Participation in NYS Activities

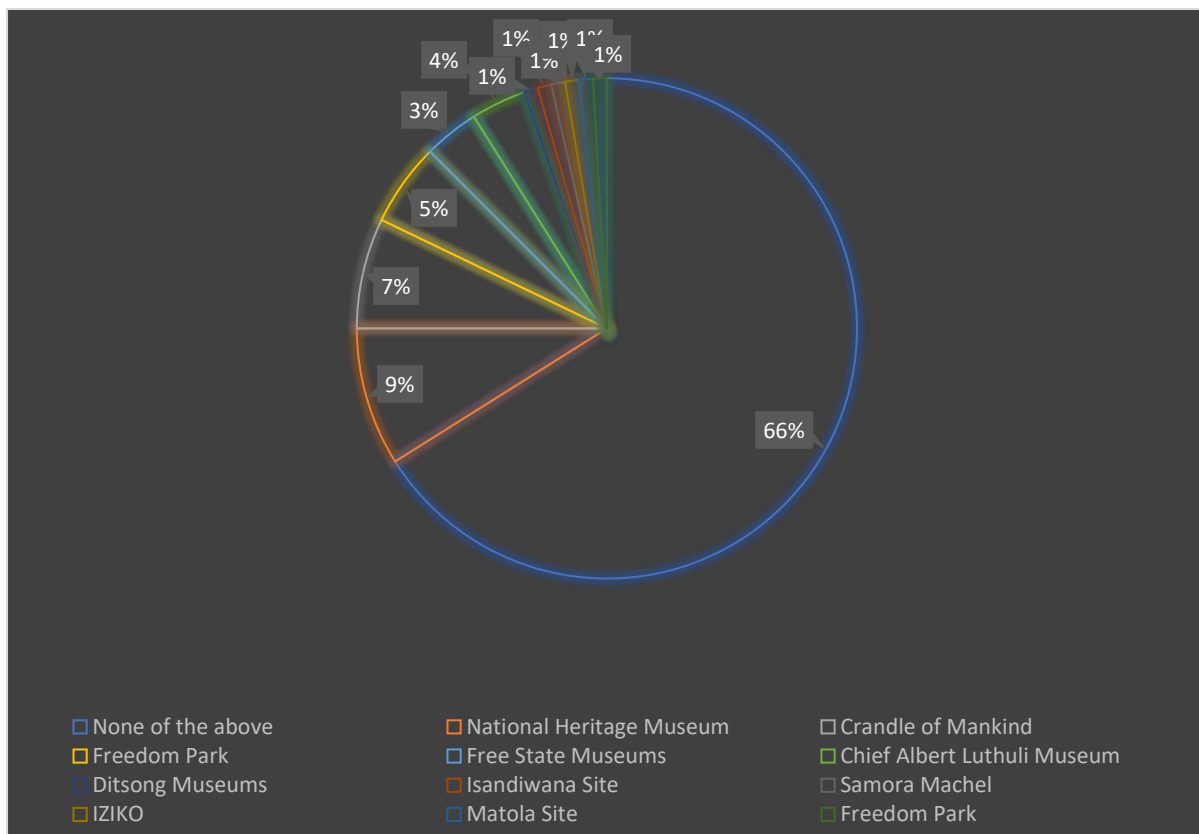


It should be noted that district leaders understood the key objectives of the program to be Flag campaigns and Patriotism in general which is what they focused on but were not assigning activities as they should have because of lack of directive and uncertainty on whose role it was. 47% of patriots participated in flag campaigns by visiting schools in communities to gather data on flags and flag poles so schools can be supplied with these items. In Eastern Cape, 910 schools were verified by the responsible district however these flags and poles have never been delivered and that led to other activities slowing down or not even happening at all in other areas other there was uncertainty. This was case in most provinces. In Gauteng, Mamelodi received 13 Flags and these were supplied to the schools that were verified.

Youth day celebrations had 23% representation and participating in local schools (13%) were the ways in which these activities were done mostly. Choirs and singing clubs in schools like Zola primary school in Gauteng have been introduced by the patriots in the Mamelodi area.

Data also indicated that Patriots were not heavily involved in tours that were supposed to have happened. Some showed surprise when asked about these tours. This was also attributed to not knowing whose was responsible for organising these tours. For some districts that had these tours, they were only attended when the program had started or through other activities some directly related to TYPP program and some not directly related to TYPP but used it as an opportunity.

Figure 14: Patriots' Participation in Tours



There is a clear indication that there is misunderstanding regarding roles to be played at different levels. The MOU signed clearly stipulates the roles for each entity and at the top level management, these roles are clearly understood and executed. It is the delivery that is lacking. However, looking at the representation of the activities and how those activities were performed according to data, it can be concluded that with improved communication flow especially to the municipality and district level, the efficiency of coordination structures will greatly improve. This will be evidenced by the increase in participation of activities on the next evaluation. It should also be noted, that from our review of the contracts, MOU and other documents, we did communicate to the district officials about the different roles to ensure that going forward the officials are aware of

their roles so the program can add more value for the patriots. This kind of sensitisation needs to be done for all districts in the country.

Social Return , Value of funds and Opportunities

For social sector organizations, there are very real financial and human capital costs associated with the delivery of your programs and services. From managing facilities and payroll to many other assorted operating expenses, it is critical that organisations know whether or not the cost and effort of delivering a program is producing real value, in sustainable and meaningful ways. A powerful way to look at an organization's success is through the cost per success. An organization's cost per success is a measure of effectiveness and efficiency. It communicates the cost of getting a single client to achieve a desired outcome. The first step in measuring cost per success is to define the desired measure of success. While programs may have multiple measures of success, the best success measure is the one that is most global to the program and/or most directly linked to the broader mission (e.g., improving life outcomes).

For this program, social and economic benefits were considered as those patriots who gained employment / or started their own businesses after the program. Patriots were previously unemployed youth who upon completion of TYPP would start a new job or business, not only to increase their personal income, but also creating value for their communities in service delivery, government by paying taxes and no longer claiming welfare benefits. Thus, the impacts of the programme are both social and economic the value of which SROI was designed to measure.

From data collected from a sample of 112, all believed to have been unemployed by the time they joined the program, 31 (28%) Patriots indicated they had gained employment or started businesses after the program.

To calculate social return, we will consider those patriots who gained employment or started their own businesses. It should be noted that there are host of other patriots not in employment are mostly doing volunteering work for instance like the group of patriots in Gauteng and Eastern Cape that took part in the recent concluded elections by assisting in their communities.

The following formula is used to calculate the social return on investment for a program:

$$\text{Social Return on Investment} = \frac{\text{Net Program Benefits}}{\text{Net Program Costs}}$$

From the data available, we derive Net Program Benefits based on those patriots who reported to be employed since leaving the programme (Approximately 6 months of employment or running a business). All benefits figures are recalculated to show values on a monthly basis for 31 patriots who are employed.

$$\begin{aligned}
B_{PV} &= \sum_{t=1}^n \frac{B_t}{(1+i)^{t-1}} \\
&= \frac{77500}{(1+0.006)^1} + \frac{77500}{(1+0.006)^2} + \frac{77500}{(1+0.006)^3} + \frac{77500}{(1+0.006)^4} + \frac{77500}{(1+0.006)^5} + \frac{77500}{(1+0.006)^6} \\
&= 455\,389.13
\end{aligned}$$

$$C_{PV} = \sum_{t=1}^n \frac{C_t}{(1+i)^{t-1}}$$

$$C_{PV} = \frac{1105101.02}{(1+0.08)^0}$$

$$= 1105101.02$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{Social Return on Investment} &= \frac{\text{Net Program Benefits}}{\text{Net Program Costs}} \\
&= \frac{455389.13}{1105101.02} \\
&= 0.41:1
\end{aligned}$$

A social return ratio of 0.41:1 indicates that an investment in one patriot generates 0.41 units of blended socio-economic value. This does indicate that program is creating value in the society. It should be noted that the value is a representation of a small sample of patriots. A bigger sample would have different results and based on the evidence illustrated from data collected, it can be projected that social value ratio would be high as more patriots would indicate gaining employment or starting a business. For instance in Mpumalanga and Eastern Cape, there is Patriots who are well known artists but did not participate in the study.

For a program of this nature, social return would not just be monetised, opportunities gained from this program and benefits from this program to the community and patriots also contribute to social value. Data collected indicates how there was a change in employment status and other benefits as indicated by extracts from interviews and focus groups with the patriots.

“I have learnt how to run my own projects. I started an Entrepreneurship hub in Hammanskraal and Art Workshops called Beyond 19 in Vaal Sponsored by NAC and Barloworld as well other projects like Empowerment Foundation, Pillars of the New Generation Artis Project in Hammanskraal and Clothing Line called Black & Rich Clothing. I applied to NYDA for Voucher to help with my marketing.” (Patriot Interviewee 11)

“Since I was unemployed, It gave me something to think about and equipped me with skills. I am now using those skills to start my own business.” (Patriot Interviewee – 3)

Patriots who were not in employment indicated they were taking part in voluntary activities in their communities. Below are examples of what majority of the unemployed patriots indicated;

“We started school drama groups. Community has benefited through schools drama group. Every term a project is done to include young people and go to the communities and showcase their skills while teaching the community about our country”.(Patriot Interviewee -4)

“Most people did not more about government services and through the patriots program, I have learnt about policies that I have taught to my community members.” (Patriot Interviewee -45)

“At first the community did not know about what national symbols and now they know what they are and what the national colours. We started art programs(poetry, cultural dances) and we experiencing a steady growth of beneficiaries in our area here in Orange Farm.” (Patriot Interviewee – 6).

Impact of the Program to Patriots and their Communities

Some of the comments from patriots regarding the impact of TYPP:

“Being at the library has allowed us to teach kids about our country”.(Patriot Interviewee -7)

“It has served as a centre of information - people did not have information and through this program we get information and give it to people in our communities.” (Patriot Interviewee -8)

“I wasn't good at interacting with different crowds and now I can communicate to any crowd.”(Patriot Interviewee -9)

“I have managed to grow my fan base .”(Patriot Interviewee -10)

“Informative to the community since they know about policies “.(Patriot Interviewee -71)

Lessons Learnt by Patriots

“Preservation of heritage and culture is important because it keeps our history .”(Patriot Interviewee -69)

“The importance of having life skills, respect, networking and social media” (FGD 2)

“The importance of exchanging ideas and being open to new ideas” (FGD 4)

“Learnt how structures work in different government department” (FGD 3)

“To the be change you want in the community .”(Patriot Interviewee -17)

CONCLUSIONS

Relevance of the Project

Young South Africans have consistently affirmed the need for national cohesion. In 2011, more than eight in 10 young people said that citizens should prioritise their national identity above that of their ethnic group (86%) and that it is desirable to create a united country (84%). Furthermore, South African youth were optimistic about prospects for national cohesion: 84% believed that it is possible to create a united country. (AfroBarometer, 2015).

The NYDA identified the need to take practical steps to increase youth volunteering because of the significant benefits that are likely to flow from involving young South Africans in volunteering and community service programmes. Research suggests that volunteering helps youth break the poverty cycle by facilitating access to decent work. This could therefore assist in alleviating South Africa's high unemployment levels which affect mostly young people. In addition, youth volunteering can develop young leaders to take responsibility, foster social cohesion, encourage greater citizen participation, generate respect for equality, promote diversity and develop individual and collective voices.

TYPP addresses a number of issues faced by the youth through participation as evidenced by some of the comments below

“Being at the library has allowed us to teach kids about our country”.(Patriot Interviewee 87)

“It has served as a centre of information - people did not have information and through this program we get information and give it to people in our communities.”
(FGD 1)

Effectiveness and Efficiency of the Project

The effectiveness of this program is measured from the data collected. 70% of all respondents indicated how they had taken part in the program activities and from this participation, it allowed them to find employment or in the process of starting their own businesses to some patriots learning more from life skills as presented by some of the comments below.

“The program is a brilliant idea. It should not stop. This program should be implemented from grade one so kids can grow up with the idea.”(Patriot Interviewee 23)

“Capacitated me with knowledge about how to professionally conduct myself and manage my business.” (FGD 2)

Sustainability of the project

South Africa has a persistent problem with youth unemployment. Programs like TYPP are aimed at dealing with this issues through promoting social cohesion and patriotism.

As indicated in findings, 42% of patriots joined the program because they were unemployed. It is also indicated how through the program patriots have gained different skills and exposure to other services like the Business Grant and Voucher services. These services have used to open up business or support already existing businesses

Benefits from this program are expected to continue as evidenced by the work being done in the communities by the patriots.

However it should be noted that for full the full effect of program to be realised and create sustainability, factors detracting the program from success mentioned earlier should be checked.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation are presented in 2 forms. First, the challenges identified are listed with possible recommendations. Secondly, we highlight objectives with key findings and our recommendations.

Challenges Faced By Patriots

Table 1: Patriots' Challenges & Recommendations

Challenge	Recommendations
Patriots indicated that they needed there is minimal follow up / check-ups on their duties.	Regular monitoring of patriots by district leaders/supervisors.
A perception of no program exit plan. Patriots indicated how they felt there was no plan put in place for them when they exit the program.	Municipality and District coordinators/supervisors involved in this program need to be sensitised more about the objectives of the program. Services like the Business Grant and Voucher were included in the program so patriots can utilise them on completion however this is something they were not aware of. As consultants who have done work with NYDA on different occasions, we advised the patriots and gave them the required information. This same information was shared with some district supervisors to share with their teams.
Misunderstanding of roles. Patriots indicated that that they had not done many activities as they did not know where to get those activities and this was supported by the district coordinators/ supervisors who confirmed that they were not sure who would be giving the directive.	All those involved in the program at municipality and district level should be trained / sensitised on their roles. Patriots are missing out some of the activities because of the misunderstanding regarding roles.
Delayed / Unpaid Stipends; Patriots indicated that there was a time when stipends delayed for 6 months and when they finally got Paid, still not month was not paid for. They claim to still not have been paid this stipend. However an NYDA official did clarify that strict steps are taken to ensure payments are done correctly and if there is any issue, its communicated to district leaders/ supervisors.	All stake holders should be made aware of all the procedures regarding stipend payments.

<p>Small foot print in communities; it was observed that there some communities that had no representation of patriots or not enough patriots compared to community size. This also meant not many were aware of government offerings, etc</p>	<p>Implement the program from lower grades. Also consider exchange programs to expose the patriots to different cultures.</p>
<p>Training not being aligned; patriots pointed out how training was not aligned to their needs. Some patriots wondered why a musician for instance would be interested in a strategy and policy training and not something to in music sector.</p> <p>Still on the matter of training, patriots pointed out how they attended the last training on the last day of the contract and the trainer was overloading them with content.</p>	<p>Training should be industry/sector specific. This will develop their skills further as it will be skills they are mostly interested in.</p> <p>Training service providers need to be monitored more and dates / periods should be agreed upon on when these training will be done.</p>

The following table highlights the objectives, key findings and recommendations.

Evaluation Objective	Finding	Recommendations
<p>To determine if the budget committed by the Department to the programme is sufficient to accommodate activities</p>	<p>Both calculated ROI indicate a negative return. This would typically mean the budget (cost) is more than the benefits derived which would indicate a bad investment. However, some projects do have intangible benefits that may not allow attaching an economic monetary value; this does not mean the program is not creating positive returns. Government is required to provide certain services to the public, and so can be more tolerant of low ROI. The budget is sufficient for the program.</p>	<p>The ROI indicated is a negative return but this does not necessarily mean it's a bad investment. TYPP has more intangible benefits offered to patriots which add value e.g. Tours taken. However for the intangible benefits to be realised, patriots have to take part in the activities to acquire the knowledge skills.</p> <p>Emphasis should be put on activities within the program being implemented. There is a significant low registration across all activities.</p>
<p>To Determine the number of patriots that have been linked to opportunities through the program</p>	<p>From data collected from a sample of 112, all believed to have been unemployed by the time they joined the program, 31 (28%) Patriots indicated they had gained employment or started businesses after the program.</p>	<p>Patriots need to be made aware of different program exit strategies available. Those who are aware do not know how to access those services. More sensitisation on programs like the Business grant and Voucher need to be promoted more among the use especially in rural and peri urban areas.</p>
<p>NYS activities implemented through the program by patriots</p>	<p>Promotion of National Symbols (25%) , Flag Campaigns (24%) and Social Cohesion Dialogue (23%) as the mostly done activities.</p>	<p>Collaboration with schools should be considered. This will allow for a bigger impact as large numbers of youth will be approached.</p>

	<p>Data also indicated that Patriots were not heavily involved in tours that were supposed to have happened.</p>	<p>Develop timetables for these tours and share with patriots so they can save the dates. Team leaders will make follow up with reminders and feedback can shared.</p>
	<p>47% of patriots participated in flag campaigns by visiting schools in communities to gather data on flags and flag poles so schools can be supplied with these items. Youth day celebrations had 23% representation and participating in local schools (13%) were the ways in which these activities were done mostly.</p>	<p>Flags and poles should be made available for the schools that were identified. This will give morale to Patriots and reduce the number of program dropouts.</p>
<p>The effectiveness of the coordination structures of the program.</p>	<p>At municipality and district level, there was a misunderstanding of who plays which role. Majority of patriots did not attend some trainings and tours. This was attributed to the fact that the patriots leaders did not know who is responsible of assigning duties.</p>	<p>District Coordinators and supervisors should be given a refresher workshop on the whole program. This will remove any confusion regarding roles and responsibilities.</p>
	<p>Patriots are left wondering what is required of them because they are not doing activities.</p>	<p>District coordinators / team leaders should be allowed to attend trainings and other events that patriots attend. This will ensure the coordinators are well aware of what is happening at any given stage in the program lifecycle.</p>
<p>Social Return on Investment made in the program</p>	<p>A social return ratio of 0.41:1 indicates that an investment in one patriot generates 0.41 units of blended socio-economic value. This does indicate that program is creating value in the society.</p>	<p>More value can be experienced by increasing the number of patriots per district. Some districts had only 4 patriots. There is power in numbers.</p>

<p>To measure the value of funds invested in the program to benefit the young patriots since 2016.</p>	<p>Data collected indicates how there was a change in employment status - 28% change from being unemployed to employment or operating a small business. These will reduce the pressure on Government services like grants.</p>	<p>Most of these patriots are in the Arts sector, skills training should be tailor-made to meet the needs of this group of youth.</p>
	<p>Patriots who were not in employment indicated they were taking part in voluntary activities in their communities.</p>	<p>Establish collaborations with Municipality departments, Community Based Organisations and other provincial organisations so they can take up some of the patriots. This will give them experience in working conditions while they are still doing great work in their communities.</p>

FUTURE OF THE PROGRAM AND WAY FORWARD

TYPP plays a critical role in solving the unemployment problem in South Africa, fight against poverty ,sustainable development, and social cohesion and overcoming social exclusion and discrimination. The evaluation of the programme indicated that the programme is making a contribution to the lives of several young people impacted and created some opportunities.

The key highlights from the data analysis:

- 31 (28%) Patriots indicated they had gained employment or started businesses after the program.
- Promotion of National Symbols (25%) , Flag Campaigns (24%) and Social Cohesion Dialogue (23%) as the mostly done activities.
- A social return ratio of 0.41:1 indicates that an investment in one patriot generates 0.41 units of blended socio-economic value. This does indicate that program is creating value in the society.

In consideration of the challenges caused by Lockdown, there are considerable positives as highlighted above and it is from this background that the programme is recommended for additional funding to finance the scaling up of the various programme initiatives aimed at achieving stated objectives. The initiatives should include scaling up the number of patriots nation-wide, marketing and communication initiatives, branded uniforms and advocacy activities.

Results from the study indicate that given the high levels of unemployment in the country, studies have shown that there is are high expectation of gaining long-term employment after participation in a volunteering activity. Majority of the patriots are volunteering in their communities.

Youth in the country understand NYDA as a place to get funding. This understanding and the fact that NYDA is the biggest custodian of youth in the country, solutions to some of the challenges faced by youth should be incorporated in the program. It should be noted that the Business Grant and Voucher service are included in the program though not used by majority because they don't know how the process works. Training on how to access such government /NYDA programs/grants should be included in TYPP. Patriots expressed desire to have contracts extended to 2 years ; an extension of the programme could be developed to help patriots transition from patriots in the program to volunteering in the community and finally to be employee/employer.