

Notes From The Interactive Workshop on Defining Regional Prosperity
“Engaged Universities and Learning Cities-Regions”
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Introduction

Workshop participants were asked to offer multiple answers to the following question:

“What are good indicators of real prosperity in a region?”

In about fifteen minutes, the 53 participants generated 246 specific answers to this question. Each answer was written onto a yellow note sheet and attached to a wall in the auditorium. Participants then spent about 30 minutes arranging the ideas on the wall into 18 separate categories, with each category sharing some common element. Once the ideas were organized into categories, the facilitators proposed a name for each category that reflected the common element.

Once the categories were named, each category name was written onto a “white board” in the front of the auditorium. Each participant then had 6 green dots to distribute among the 18 categories to reflect her choice of priorities in regard to the importance of each category to achieving regional prosperity.

What follows is a listing of each category name, the number of votes the category received to indicate priority, and the specific ideas that were put into each category. This listing will be used as the first draft of priorities that PASCAL will use as it develops its new Regional Prosperity Project over the next several months.

A. Quality Education System (48 Votes)

- Educational attainment
- Providing education for self-reliance (self-help projects)
- Well informed society
- Education provided for the grassroots communities (the most needy, vulnerable, etc.)
community development
- Prosperity for Lesotho: I can see my child going to the university
- Number of educational institutions
- Educated people
- Access to education
- High number of university graduates

- Accessibility to information
- Education system
- Children who are critical thinkers
- Ability to make informed decisions
- Access to education (progression)
- Quality education for all (urban and rural)
- Education available for all people
- Prosperity of my region is – education – qualitative education for every child
- High literacy rates
- High literacy rate
- Access to education
- Higher level skills
- Educated & informed
- Education for All
- Education for all
- High educational level
- Availability of educational institutions
- Good education system
- Education leading to work placement
- Equity of access to education
- Prosperity for Lesotho: I can get out of this village and get a job in the town
- Being able to offer education
- Knowledge: education – wisdom – culture
- Knowledgeable and innovative citizens

B. Peace / Justice / Security (40 votes)

- Absence of war
- Cross-generational interaction
- Community – individual happy citizenship – linking up – respect for the individual & the common – care for the individual & the common
- Harmonious living
- Less interstate conflicts
- Church communities are vibrant
- Spiritual salvation
- Peace of mind
- Ability to help others
- When people smile
- Caring – morality
- Peace

- Empowerment to participate in decision-making
- Peaceful and harmonious living
- Low crime rate
- Order
- Peace
- Justice
- Active “civil society” – people able to participate locally (and nationally)
- Peace
- Social security for all
- Peace & absence of conflict
- Freedom
- Provision of safety and security
- Security
- Security
- Good social security systems for those who need it with little bureaucracy
- Safety for everyone on the streets and in the countryside
- Feeling that the region enjoys safety and security
- Providing safety and security for the nation

C. Healthy Environment (37 votes)

- Operating in a free stress environment
- Clean environment
- Learning from nature
- Production of food, beef, vegetables, field crops
- Ability to provide services to the inhabitants in the environment in which they reside:
rural or urban
- Reliable clean air, water, food
- Availability of clean water
- Prosperity: a safe environment, safety
- Local / regional “green economy”
- Attractive living environment
- Environment: safe & sound, green
- Transparency about science and our environment (i.e. “chemicalization)
- Clean streets and sidewalks
- Small environmental problems
- Less noise and light pollution
- Improved environment
- Less air pollution
- Sustainable environment

- Ecological footprint (e.g. food miles)
- A sustainable development policy by Reg. Auth.

D. Accountable Leadership (36 votes)

- A democratic society
- Democratic government
- Sustainable projects and cooperative micro projects
- Community prosperity
- Patience
- Promoted democratic principles
- Multi-party democracy
- Non-corrupt leadership
- Good leadership
- Focused and visionary leaders
- Prosperity for all

E. Employment (33 votes)

- Employment and business opportunities
- Low unemployment rates
- Being able to provide food security
- Full employment
- Better life through agricultural plans aid system
- Full employment
- Being able to provide employment
- Full employment
- When people have jobs
- Sufficient / appropriate jobs for graduates to stay in the region
- Low unemployment rate
- Prosperity – work for everyone
- Employment opportunities to all
- Possibilities to earn your living
- Security – jobs – good trustworthy performing organization of community and services
- Employment
- Availability of self or other employment
- Productive individual / citizen

F. Social Tolerance / Inclusion (22 votes)

- Non-judgmental society
- All inhabitants have a place to call “a home”
- Parity between men and women
- Women like men

- Tolerance
- There are fewer “rich” people and fewer “poor” people
- “Total” social inclusion
- Active citizenship
- Effective social justice systems
- Gender equality
- Solitude
- Respect for difference in lifestyle
- Love
- Improve life, all poor & women
- Tolerance
- Full equality for all social groups

G. Income / GDP / Production (20 votes)

- Income per capita
- High incomes
- Good income
- Small income gaps
- Access to income generating opportunities
- Disparity between richest and poorest diminishing
- Enough money to meet daily and family needs
- Freedom from debt
- Prosperity for Lesotho: I don’t need to have debts to anyone else
- Self-sufficient
- Economic growth
- Agricultural production
- Regional / local control of productive capacity
- Healthy sources of capital for investment
- High GDP
- Stable economy for poverty reduction
- Economic diversification
- Economic growth
- GDP
- Economic integration
- Equipping communities with small business skills
- Agro-industrialization leading to food security
- Industrial activities
- High productive capacity
- Vibrant economy
- The market

H. Personal Freedom / Choice (14 votes)

- Individual liberties
- Less phony “choice” as consumerism
- A feeling of personal privacy and freedom

I. Healthy Population (including vulnerable groups) (13 votes)

- Inclusion and valuing of the elderly
- Effective means of providing services to the inhabitants.
- Happy and rewarding life
- No teenage pregnancies
- Self food sustainable
- Safety for all women & children
- Improve health system
- Hospitals
- Health
- Good health services
- Be able to produce safe water supply
- Good public health
- Improved medical services
- Good health for all
- Healthy living
- Good health – access to free health services
- Good health
- When all community members have access to primary health care
- Being able to afford good health care services
- Good health care
- Health
- Good health
- Prosperity for Lesotho: God takes away HIV and AIDS
- Medical well-being
- Healthy living
- When people have choices

J. Cultural Respect (12 votes)

- Cultural infrastructure
- A dynamic cultural local / regional policy including IKS systems
- African Renaissance
- Expansion of creative and cultural industries
- Cultural activities
- Access to culture
- Racial tension refers to the past

K. Widespread Innovations (7 votes)

- Innovations
- Team work
- Coordinated development

L. Long life-expectancy (5 votes)

- Life expectancy
- Population growth
- Decline in malnutrition
- Increase in lifespan or longevity
- Good living condition
- Reduced mortality
- Decline in infant mortality rate (IMR)
- Healthy individuals, esp. young and youth
- Healthy individuals
- Increase in life expectancy
- Availability of health facilities
- Access to potable water

M. Plentiful Housing and Basic Needs (5 votes)

- Access to the bare necessities of life
- Prosperity for Lesotho: Nobody in my household goes to bed hungry
- Prosperity for Lesotho: People want to stay to live there and don't need to go away
- Availability of shelter (housing)
- Adequate food
- Access to basic needs: food, water, shelter, health, income, education, sanitation
- Belief that three meals would be available to 90% of individuals from the beginning to end of the year
- Lack of, or limited, homelessness
- Available food for the poor
- Housing for all
- Adequate nutrition / food
- Access to food, shelter, and education (structured and unstructured)
- Social security throughout life
- Housing density
- Assurance of food security
- Prosperity is: having its own house

N. Cooperation (4 votes)

- Cooperation
- Collaboration
- Excellence
- High social capital i.e. trust, large social networks

O. Modern Infrastructure (3 votes)

- Good road networking system
- Public transport planned by need & coherently, not just by limited resource
- Existence of infrastructure for meeting the needs of citizens in their own contexts
- Road development
- Improved sanitation
- Indicator of prosperity: availability of electricity
- Easy access by the citizens to most basic services
- Good infrastructure
- Infrastructure development
- Infrastructure
- Public service infrastructure: 1) roads; 2) schools / HEI; 3) Hospitals / clinics; 4) Government / local support services, etc.
- Access to electricity and water

P. Telecommunications (3 votes)

- Prosperity for my region is – good means of communication
- Availability of telecommunications

Q. Recreational Opportunities (1 vote)

- Time to play
- Happiness of people in a region
- Good recreational conditions
- Physical well-being

R. International Recognition (zero votes)

- Recognition of region for some potential on the international scene
- Advancement