

**WALTER SISULU UNIVERSITY
(WSU)**

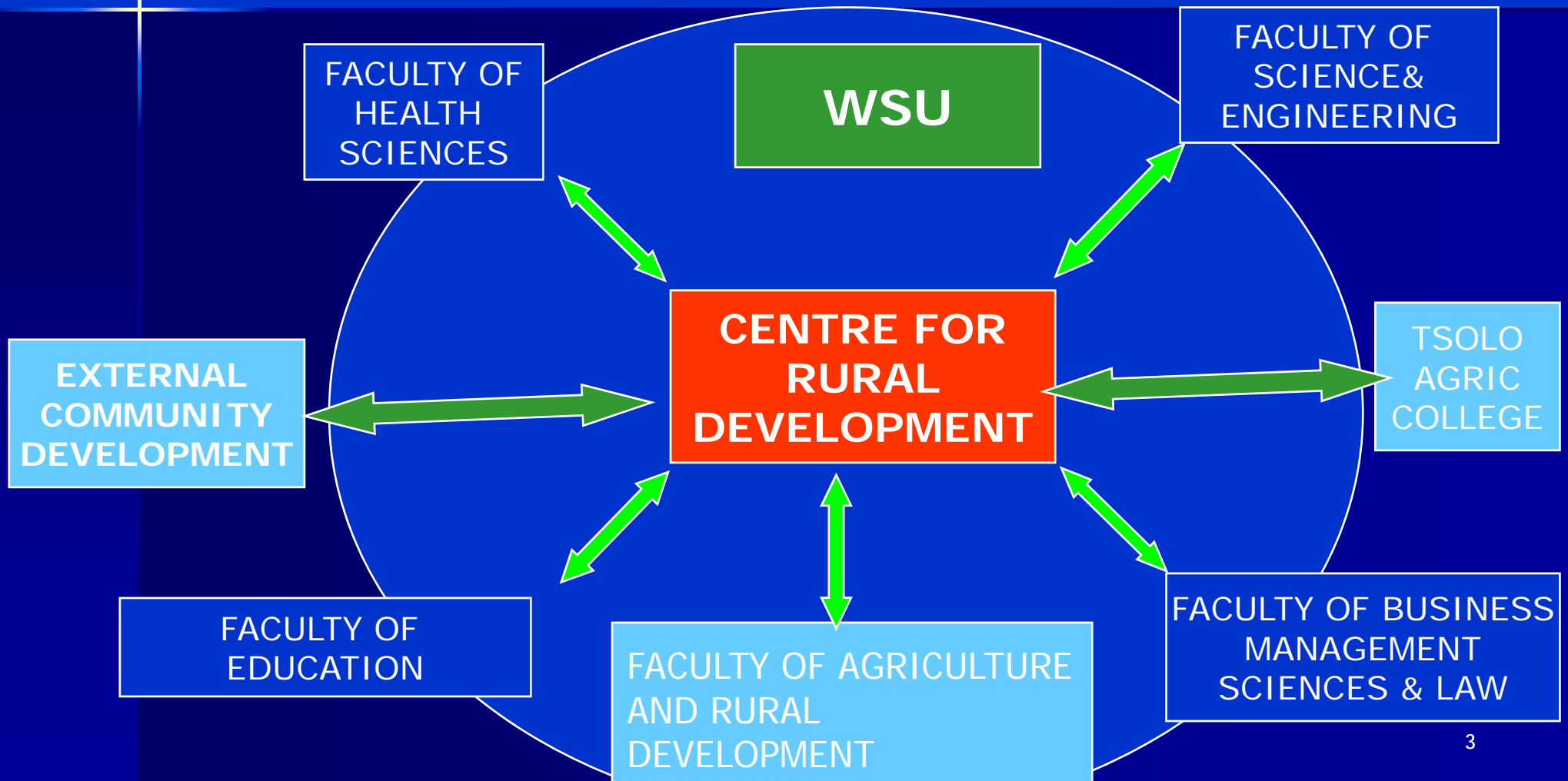
**Presentation Concept of
Centre for Rural Development (CRD)**

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Background Historical Information

The so-called New Model of November 2000 developed by Stakeholders at UNITRA.

WALTER SISULU UNIVERSITY, FOR SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY - Niche Areas Rural Development and Urban Renewal



New 2000 Model foresaw

- **University of Science Technology with Rural Development as a central niche area.**
- **Transformation of academic programme mix to be in line with R.D. mission.**
- **Partnership with Provincial Department of Agriculture. (Tsolo Agricultural College) for experimentation, capacity building for Rural Farmers, and training of extension officers.**
- **Centre for Rural Development as engine that drives implementation of the R.D niche.**

New Context of merged WSU — a Comprehensive University

Need to find link between RD and urban renewal programmes as dictated to by WSU mission.

Appropriate Technological innovations to be linked especially to Technikon-type programmes.

Point of Departure for CRD

Vision of WSU

- **Walter Sisulu University will be a leading African comprehensive university focusing on innovative, educational, research and community partnership programmes that are responsive to local, regional, national, continental and international development priorities.**

Mission of Walter Sisulu University

In pursuit of its vision as a development university. WSU:-

- Provides an educationally vibrant and enabling environment that is conducive to the advancement of quality academic, moral, cultural, technological learner- centred education for holistic intellectual empowerment, growth and effective use of information.
- Maintains the highest possible standards in innovative teaching and leadership, basic and applied research , community development partnerships in cooperation with development agencies, the public and private sectors.
- Provides affordable appropriate, career-focused and professional programmes that address rural development and urban renewal with primary emphasis on science, technology and development studies;
- Creates a new generation of highly skilled graduates capable of understanding and addressing complex society challenges, with critical scholarly and entrepreneurial attributes grounded on morally sound work ethics and

Meaning of centre for WSU as a Developmental University

- **Placing WSU capacity, knowledge and expertise at service of the province and nation to give support to the implementation of PGDP and IRDS, African Renaissance and NEPAD and now ASGISA goals for betterment of rural life conditions.**
- **Transformation teaching and Research towards Applied Scientific Knowledge.**
- **Final Vision – Green Fields > Social Transformation**
Green Fields – Better livelihoods – Social Transformation
- **WSU to lead discourse and innovation in search for an appropriate Development model for South Africa.**

Long term Vision of CRD

Areas of Operation

- **Academic programme transformation**
- **A Centre of excellence.**
- **National/International linkages.**
- **Capacity Building programmes.**
- **Rural Development Research Output.**
- **Knowledge Management**
- **Public Dialogue through Annual Rural Development Conference.**
- **Community development pilot projects to be rolled out and multiplied by Government**
- **A new kind of Graduate through mentorship.**

Best Practice International Examples of Centres for Rural Development e.g

1. University of Kassel, Centre for International Rural Development, Witzenhausen, Germany-attached as an Institute of Faculty of Agriculture.
2. Rural Women Development Centre, Punjab-enhances role of Women in Agriculture and Social Development.
3. Centre for Research and Sustainable Agricultural and Rural Development, Punjab, India.
4. Centre for Rural Development, Venda University.
5. Counterpart Universities e.g
 - Agricultural Universities in India e.g Punjab Agricultural University.
 - Africa University in India, Zimbabwe.
 - Ghana Development University.
 - Land Grant Universities, USA.
 - University of Western Sydney Australia.

Examples of existing Projects

- Rural Populations Skills Development Project
- Wellness Centre
- Development Research with Municipalities and other external partners
- Public Dialogue through Rural Development Conference
- Facilitation of Implementation of Conference Commission programmes focus on Co-operative Movement and Liberation Route.
- Support for Rural Projects on request e.g. Khanyisa Womens Project, Women Projects in Mzimkhulu.
- Provincial Government Cabinet call to Universities 2006 comment to on PGDP AND Rural Development
- Provincial Department of Education and Membership of Education Trust
- Invitation by Deputy Minister of Arts and Culture to WSU to participate in establishment of Local Centres for Creative Industries.
- Invitation by National Minister of Agriculture to participate in International Rural Development Conference.
- Awareness of Deputy President of existence of Centre for Rural Development.

EXAMPLES OF PARTNERSHIPS

- Government Funds for Capacity Building for Local Government officials
- MOU with Metropolitan
- Support from SAAB
- MOU with IDT
- German Development Service
- Konrad Adenauer Foundation
- MOU between City of Cape Town, OR Tambo and WSU for Project Management Unit
- Womens Development Foundation Rural Womens Biographies Research on Brigalia Bam
- DBSA and offer of holistic Institutional Support
- Context of Centre for Community Partnerships
- Institutional Policy Formulation
- Getting Systems in Place
- Business Plan to be adopted by Senate and Council
- Human Resource Needs

URGENT ISSUES

- Strategic planning with IDT including establishment of planning committee
- Proper placement of CRD in broader institutional Context
- Approval of Business/Action plan by Council
- Presentation of OR Tambo/City of Cape Town and WSU partnership to Council
- Follow up of DBSA offer – meeting with Vice Chancellor and Management
- HR Matters – Staff Contracts
- Establishment of Chair for Rural Development
- CRD Support Systems special reference to RRD I Cars.

BUDGETARY MATTERS

- Existing Funds
- Budget 2006/2007 Final Version to appear in Business Plan to Council