

SABC2

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Presenter, Gabriel Matlawa: If South Africa is not careful enough, it might find itself in the situation like Columbia where militants and criminals have formed their own government, that is if the government is weak and society is not involved in governance. This is according to a version by experts from Dinokeng Scenario Team which is a group that focuses on the future of the country until 2012. Tsholofelo Mathibedi is reporting.

Reporter, Tsholofelo Mathibedi: South Africa is at the crossroads and the next five years are going to be very important. The Dinokeng group has come up with a vision of three possibilities about the country; where the public no longer has faith in government programs and are not involved, where protest marches and violence would increase while the government responds by oppressing the public; but the government must lead by establishing laws and passing those laws in order to deal with problems surrounding education, poverty, unemployment and health and the public must become the decision maker for the government and this will ensure that the country has a powerful administration

Experts have warned that criminal gangs could end up ruling this country if the government fails to improve safety and security. Dr Mamphela Ramphele and Dr Vincent Maphai of Dinokeng are interviewed.

Dr Mamphela Ramphele (Chairperson of Dinokeng): The government must be the one that is working for the people who voted for it, it is not like we have to go to the government during the elections and go there to chose the government and after that go back to sleep, if we do that, everything will be worse.

Reporter: This report by the Dinokeng group followed another by the government which is aimed at improving service delivery.

Dr Vincent Maphai (Organizer of Dinokeng): Our group, we have established it now by the former public servants, former unionists, people who are coming from rural areas, we formed a group, because we were not misbehaving, we have agreed that it is going to be under control of the whole of the public that we were participating on.

Reporter: If the government wants to reach its target, the public must be involved in all government programs that are aimed at dealing with the country's problems, in other words the government must use the skills that are available in the country regardless of political affiliation.