



COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE
KOÖPERATIEWE ONTWIKKELING INISIATIEF

Promoters Report

Links created in the

Eastern Cape Province

Ag-Biz / CDI Annual General Meeting

7 September 2005

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Promoter's Report

7 September 2005 – Presented at the Pretoria Workshop

Nodal projects: Umtata District

1. St. Augustine's Community Development Project

Summary of activity report as presented on 31 March 2005.

The final implementation and handover of this project to the community and directors was done on 17 December 2004. This project in total included the following enterprises and community members employed.

Enterprise	Total employment
Garden and irrigation project	60
Broiler project	36
Egg project	24
Tannery project	12
Livestock project	263
Abattoir and Co-operative project	12
TOTALS	407

Links created by 31 March 2005

- Land Bank for funding of the co-operative.
- Massive food production scheme, Department of Agriculture.
- University of Fort Hare, research programme.
- Primary SETA for Agriculture (PAETA) for a further learnership and skills training programme.
- Fencing application to the Department of Agriculture.
- Funding application to the Elundini Local Municipality
- Markets for all livestock produce in Maclear town.
- Markets for leather products at Middelburg, Eastern Cape.

Activity report on achievements as on date, 7 September 2005

- An application for production funding was submitted to the East London branch of the Land Bank on 9 May 2005. The application was for production funding towards the following enterprises:
 - **Garden project:**
R168 500.00 for 10 hectares of cabbages under irrigation
 - **Broiler project:**
R81 500.00 for 3 000 broiler chickens and feed

The Land Bank verbally gave their approval towards the production loan for the garden project, but still have their doubts with regard to the broiler project. Due to the fact that the Inxu Co-operative does lack in collateral security, the co-operative are still waiting for a written outcome.

- The massive food production scheme in the Eastern Cape Province already allocated all their funding for 2004/2005. The project will have to re-apply for funding under the 2005/2006 financial year.
- The University of Fort Hare has shown interest in duplicating the Inxu model in Alice. A formal co-operation agreement was signed between Umnga Farmers Group and the University of Fort Hare. The last planning meeting was held on 28 June 2005 at Fort Hare University whereby the University was requested to submit a policy document for inclusion in the final plan. This documentation was not received up to date.
- Application was made to the Primary SETA for Agriculture (PAETA), now known as Agri-SETA for the following learnerships:
 - 30 learners for a National certificate in Plant Production, NQF Level 1
 - 36 learners for a National certificate in Animal Production, NQF Level 1

The learnership for Plant Production was approved on 19 April 2005 and the learnership implementation started on 6 June 2005. Two hectares of winter cabbages under irrigation was planted as part of the learnership practicals. The approval of the Land Bank production loan before October 2005 is crucial.

Learnership agreements for the Animal Production training was signed and returned to the Agri-SETA. The project is awaiting a contract to be signed at any time.

- An application for the fencing of the co-operative site was made to the Department of Agriculture. The engineering department did the survey of the area and pegging layout of the fence. The co-operative is awaiting a fencing contractor to start the fencing at any time.
- A funding application was submitted to the Elundini Local Municipality on 15 April 2005 for the further funding of the broiler and egg projects. Nothing was

heard from the Municipality until notification to attend a meeting on 30 August 2005. The directors of the Co-operative were waiting from 10h00 together with the agricultural representative of the Ukhahlamba District Municipality for the meeting to start. At 16h00 they were informed that the meeting was postponed until 20 September 2005.

- The initial marketing of livestock produce in Maclear town took off very well over the Christmas period of 2004. Since January 2005 all eggs and chickens were sold directly from the co-op at St. Augustine's. We expect that if production increases in future, the co-operative will have to make use of the Maclear markets again.
 - Due to the lack of participation from the Department of Labour in funding the training of leather tanning at the tannery project, no leather products was manufactured up to date at the co-operative. Umnga Farmers undertook to do this training from own pocket once the learnership contract for Animal Production was approved by the Agri-SETA.
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2. Umnga Flats Commercial Farming Project

Summary of activity report as presented on 31 March 2005.

As reported before, this project consists out of 35 previous disadvantaged individuals, who obtained ownership of the commercial farms as from 2002. After several discussions with the farmers association, it was agreed that the following steps would be followed to create better links for development.

- A farm research programme to start in April 2005. This will be in the format of an individual farm-to-farm survey.
- The development of an individual viability study for each farming unit as well as a combined and summarized development strategy for the Umnga Flats Area.
- The registration of a primary agricultural co-operative to serve the needs of the farmers.
- Search for funding opportunities as according to the development strategy.

Activity report on achievements as on date, 7 September 2005

- The Umnga Farmers Group did an individual farm-to-farm research and compiled an activity report on the results. The complexity of the problem in this project is in the fact that we are working with 35 individual emerging commercial farmers, residing on 35 different private Title Deeds, with 35 different motivations and perspectives towards farming, although the project are seen as the development of one 10 000 hectare commercial farming area. Several meetings were held with the members of the Umnga Flats Farmers Association in order to discuss the methodology of the development as well as the links to be created. On a meeting held in Ugie on 2 September 2005 the members finally gave approval for the

registration of a primary agricultural co-operative that will serve the needs of the farmers.

Please refer to the Umnga Flats report attached for more detail.

3. Thandanani Project – Port St. Johns

Summary of activity report as presented on 31 March 2005.

The Thandanani Vegetable Project was visited on 13 January 2005 in order to complete an activity report on the operations.

Summarized activity report:

Background and produce

- The project was started during November 2001. The main objective was to fight poverty and hunger.
- The local Port St Johns Municipality funded the project in 2002 financial year with R18 000.00. This funding was obtained from a company know as SCAT.
- Each member of the project contributes also R50.00 membership fee per annum.
- The main produce of income is maize (green maize) and cabbage, which is sold through their own road stall next to the main road to Port St Johns.

Problems occurred

- The engine of their tractor is broken and they do not have the funding to fix that.
- The hiring of tractors is very expensive at R750.00 per hectare per operation.
- The fence is not in a perfect condition and thieves steal the crops by night.
- The project does not have a management and production plan.
- The members of the project were only trained at the Tsolo College of Agriculture for 5 days.
- The project members dropped out of the project in such that only 12 members of the community are still active.

Links to be created in 2005

- Incorporation and registration of the project with the Department of Agriculture's massive food production scheme. This will provide funding and ploughing contractors in full.
- Application to the Department of Agriculture for fencing under the infrastructure improvement scheme.
- Application to PAETA for a skills and learnership programme in plant production.
- The development of a management and production plan.
- Life skills and motivational training.

Activity report on achievements as on date, 7 September 2005

- The Thandanani Project was successfully registered with the Massive Food Production Scheme of the Department of Agriculture for the financial year 2005/2006.
 - An application for fencing for the project to the Department of Agriculture was not successful up to date. The expectations are that this will happen under the Massive Food Production Scheme.
 - An application was done to the Agri-SETA for a learnership in Plant Production, NQF Level 1 was done, but no reply was received from the Agri-SETA up to date.
 - The development of a management and production plan as well as life skills training will be an integral part of the learnership programme.
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Additional CDI linkage activities for the period 1 April 2005 until 7 September 2005.

Introduction

The following links that was related towards the successful completion of development and training programmes was successfully achieved during the reporting period of time:

Umnga Farmers Group

1. Mining Qualification Authority

The Umnga Farmers Group was approached and linked towards a tender for agricultural training towards the Mining Qualifications Authority who advertised for training providers to train and develop ex-mine workers and/or their proxies under a poverty alleviation and job creation social responsibility of the mining industry in the Eastern Cape Province. The tender was successfully approved to the Umnga Farmers Group and the following was achieved per District Municipality:

a) Alfred Nzo District Municipality

Project Name	Members	Skills achieved
Thabachicha Village	15	General crop production Farm management
Ambroise Village	15	General crop production Farm management
Nomarhanjana Project	15	General crop production Farm management
Malenge Project	23	General crop production Farm management
Driefontein Project	25	General crop production Farm management
Sizoyinqoba Youth Project	16	General crop production Farm management

b) O R Tambo District Municipality

Project Name	Members	Skills achieved
J.B. Farmer Manquzu	290	General crop production Farm management
Ngweni Project	10	General crop production Farm management
Siyanoqoba Youth Project	7	General crop production Farm management
Mtamvuna Maize Project	180	General crop production Farm management
Mbongweni Maize Project	144	General crop production Farm management
Mhlanga Maize Project	10	General crop production Farm management
Masakhane Youth Project	8	General crop production Farm management
Malamba Project	5	General crop production Farm management
Lima Project	5	General crop production Farm management
Masibenoxolo Project	10	General crop production Farm management
Siyaziphilisa Project	15	General crop production Farm management
Ukhanyiso Community Farming Project	100	General crop production Farm management

c) Ukhahlamba District Municipality

Project Name	Members	Skills achieved
Barkly East Farmers	30	Pig production Beef production Farm management
Aliwal North Farmers	30	Pig production Beef production Farm management
Burgersdorp Farmers	15	Beef production Farm management
Summerville Farmers	30	General crop production Farm management
Venterstad Farmers	15	General crop production Farm management
Ncele Center for the Aged	25	General crop production Farm management

2. Department of Education / PAETA

The Umnga Farmers Group was approached and linked towards a tender for agricultural training towards the Department of Education, ABET poverty alleviation programme through skills development, who advertised for training providers to train and develop ABET learners at various ABET centers in the Eastern Cape Province. The tender was successfully approved to the Umnga Farmers Group and the following was achieved per ABET center:

Project Name	Members	Skills achieved
Vulindlela PALC, Lusikisiki	25	All learners achieved accreditation for 20 credits in a skills programme consisting out of selected unit standards in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crop production • Livestock production • Farm management All centers were equipped with a R4000.00 start up kit.
Ntafufu PALC, Lusikisiki	25	
Magwa PALC, Lusikisiki	25	
Entonjeni PALC, East London	25	
Mtontshasa PALC, Lusikisiki	25	
Phambili PALC, Lusikisiki	25	
Ndumiso-Mbekwa PALC, East London	25	
Sazisulwazi PALC, Port Elizabeth	25	
Sakikhaya PALC, East London	25	
Nzululwazi PALC, Port Elizabeth	25	
Qawukeni PALC, East London	25	
Lukhanyiso PALC, East London	25	

3. Department of Labour

The following projects were linked towards the Umnga Farmers Group for training under the Department of Labour as follows:

Project Name	Members	Skills achieved
Qhubeka Garden Project	36	Cultivation of vegetables Business skills for SA Irrigation
Balasi, Sigubuowini Maize Project	60	Business skills in agricultura
Ntshungeni Irrigation Scheme	12	Caring for sheep
Luncedo Community Garden	36	Cultivation of vegetables Business skills for SA Irrigation
Bensonvale Development Foundation	12	Business management
Mayibuye Sakhane Green Village	12	Caring for sheep
Hegebe Tribal Authority	10	Tractor maintenance Tractor drivers
Ndangana Iseko Maize Project	36	Maize production Farm management
Ntunjeni Mjali Maize Project	36	Maize production Farm magement
Lusikisiki Working for Water Project	36	Herbicide applicator

4. Agri-SETA

The Umnga Farmers Group succeeded in creating training links for funding for the following projects under the Free and Mahala fund of the Agri-SETA:

Project Name	Members	Skills achieved
Mashimanyne Sheep and Wool Growers Association	30	Sheep and wool production Sheep shearing Farm management
Zanoncedo Community Project	30	General crop production Broiler production Farm management

5. Department of Social Development

The following projects were funded by the Department of Social Development were linked towards the Umnga Farmers Group for infrastructure, planning, design and building as well as skills training as follows:

Project Name	Members	Skills achieved
Mjikweni community project	48	
* Mjikweni broiler project	12	Broiler production Farm management
* Mjikweni egg project	12	Egg production Farm management
* Mjikweni garden project	12	General crop production Farm management
Zanoncedo community project	36	
* Zanoncedo broiler project	12	Broiler production Farm management
* Zanoncedo garden project	12	General crop production Farm management

Conclusion

On behalf of all the emerging farmers and other role players in agricultural development in the Eastern Cape Province, we would like to take this opportunity in thanking the Co-operative Development Initiative together with DGRV and the ABC as partners for the positive contribution made towards the improvement of the lives of rural people in our Province. We believe that through this CDI linkages programme we will proceed our partnership in future in order to contribute more towards the development of the creativity of our rural farmers.

This report was finalized and presented to CDI on 7 September 2005.

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Eastern Cape Province