

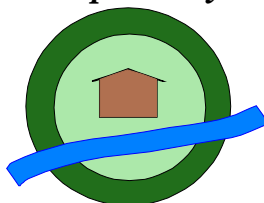
**DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM
AGRI-BUSINESS DIRECTORATE**



**NDWEDWE ORGANIC VEGETABLE
DEVELOPMENT PROJECT**

Project Closure Report - 31 March 2004

Prepared by



E. Gori & Associates

In collaboration with

**Newlands Mashu Permaculture Learning Centre
Permanent Agricultural Trust
Rainman Landcare Foundation
Sustainable Development Projects**

Department of Economic Development & Tourism

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NDWEDWE ORGANIC VEGETABLE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

PROJECT CLOSURE REPORT

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1. PROJECT SUMMARY

1.1 Project overview

The project entailed the development of two organic small grower groups (SGGs) in the Ndwedwe Municipality. After the initial stakeholder consultation, which representatives were hardly even aware that this project would be implemented in the area, two promising SGGs were chosen. This consultation process entailed a substantial sensitization effort in informing stakeholders about organic farming, and more especially, the benefits thereof.

The fundamental aspect to this project was the training and empowerment in Permaculture \ organic farming systems. Representatives from the two SGGs and officials from the Department of Agriculture & Environmental Affairs (DAEA) at Ndwedwe received formal training before the site planning exercise which was undertaken in consultation with the SGGs. The training facilitated a greater understanding of the site planning process which also provided the base information for an expansion of the project as contained in funding applications sent to DAEA.

The two SGGs have been workshopped regarding institutional matters and have adopted a constitution for their emerging farmers associations. Both SGGs have active bank accounts and are ready to “trade”. The two SGGs have organised themselves into the Makhuluseni Organic Farmers Association and the Vukuzakhe Organic Farmers Association. These organisations are being registered as Non Profit Organisations.

Given the funding limitation, the establishment of on-site infrastructure was limited to land preparation, fencing, swales and vetiver grass to some 8 hectares. Other inputs such as, plant material, seedlings, companion plants, organic fertilizer were then sourced. Seedlings of madumbis were sourced directly from the farmers themselves. The logistics for the transportation of the farmers’ produce to the various organic marketing agents has been secured through a member of the project team who will undertake 34 return trips from Durban to Ndwedwe and who will be provided with a trailer for these services.

Once the crops were planted and growing, representatives from the two SGGs received further training as internal inspectors for the organic certification process. Afrisco, the organic certification agency, have inspected the farmers’ fields and are currently processing the organic certification for the two SGGs. The leadership of the two SGGs have also undertaken visitations to organic marketing agents \ packhouses with a view towards establishing contractual supply arrangements. Three entities have confirmed in writing their support for the two SGGs.

The project also entailed the aftercare of the Umbumbulu organic farmers who received assistance from DEDT during the previous financial year. This aftercare entailed the training of additional internal inspectors and a very informative cross visitation workshop with the SGGs from Ndwedwe.

A further project task was the leverage of additional project funding. To this end, given the economies of scale whilst working within Ndwedwe, the Ilembe District Municipality were approached and have committed some R282,400 for the development of an additional two SGGs. These two SGGs have since been trained and are awaiting the site planning and site infrastructure component. However, the approval for the Ilembe funding was received much later than expected and the economies of scale have now long passed since the DEDT funded project is now complete. This situation will mean that the budget and deliverables for the Ilembe funded component will need to be revisited. Ilembe has not processed the first progress payment as quick as expected which is further compromising the Ilembe component. The project managed to secure funding from PAETA for ongoing mentorship for two years to both the Umbumbulu and Ndwedwe SGGs, which now ensures project continuity and support.

1.2 Lessons learnt and recommendations

This project did not incur any major mishaps. This was perhaps due to the manner in which the whole project team worked together and clearly understood their roles, responsibilities and budgets, and simply “got on with the job”. DEDT is to be thanked for the quick turnaround period in processing of invoices which promoted the smooth continuity of the project. Nevertheless, the following recommendations are made:-

- **Project target area :-** This needs further work by DEDT who needs to liaise with the key target stakeholders and establish a reference point for a service provider, who in this case, did not realise that this work had not been done and used up valuable time and budget before commencing with the project deliverables.
- **Local officials :-** The project team was extremely thankful to one Vuyani Machi from DAEA at Ndwedwe who showed tremendous energy and assisted the project team in communicating with the two SGGs. However, Vuyani’s enthusiasm meant that he was eventually destined for higher places within DAEA and his replacements have not been as accomplished. The need for a good local official(s) and continuity of service is paramount with these types of development projects. The transfer of such officials has scant regard for project repercussions. It is therefore imperative that dedicated officials from DAEA and other stakeholders be tasked to work with service providers. In turn, this requires the initial liaison from DEDT.
- **Stakeholder Commitment :-** DEDT has relied on service providers to solicit funding from other stakeholders. Luckily, in this project, Ilembe District Municipality has agreed to counter-fund the DEDT contribution to some extent. However, this commitment has come too late and has missed the economies of scale that motivated for this counter-funding. It is recommended that in future, DEDT play a more active role in assisting service providers “tie up” counter-funding commitments. The counter-funding from DAEA should also be more aggressively pursued by DEDT rather than service providers.

- **Project budget :-** It is commonly acknowledged that the project budget is far too little for the ambitious terms of reference. The project overheads related to institutional, project team and community management can achieve a far greater amount of tangible project deliverables. To this end, it is recommended that project budgets ought to be at least R1,000,000 in order to benefit from the economies of scale related to project overheads.
- **Interaction with other service providers :-** It was felt that although the DEDT Steering Committee meetings provided an opportunity for all service providers to meet and listen to each others project presentations, there was hardly any time after such meetings for the sharing of common problems and learning from each others mistakes. To this end, it is recommended that such Steering Committee meetings only take place every quarter wherein a whole day should be set aside to allow sufficient time to discuss common problems.
- **Development approach :-** A specific issue related to this project was the scope of on-site infrastructure and the benefits thereof to either a communal tract of land or individual tracts of land. The two SGGs each opted for a different approach, the results being -those who farmed a communal tract of land benefited from the site infrastructure due to the economies of scale, however, the income therefrom was small and more than often has resulted in major squabbles amongst beneficiaries. On the other hand, those who farmed their own tracts of land did so with less site infrastructure and less internal disruptions, but probably earned relatively more per hectare. There is no clear answer to this dilemma and only a thorough analysis of each situation and the level of funding can dictate which approach is chosen. However, the consensus amongst the project team is that the development of individual tracts of land is the preferred option, especially if sufficient funding is available.

2. REPORT AGAINST KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS (KPIs)

2.1 Establishment of sustainable Small Grower Associations in Ndwedwe

The outset of the project entailed a substantial amount of consultation with Iembe District Municipality, Ndwedwe Municipality, the Department of Agriculture & Environmental Affairs (DAEA) at Ndwedwe and local farmers in order to sensitise stakeholders about organic farming and its prerequisites. This consultation ultimately led to the selection of two small grower groups (SGGs) which formalised themselves into the Makhuluseni and Vukuzakhe Organic Farmers Associations. Each SGG has a membership of approximately 40 local farmers. This is expected to grow when further infrastructure funding from DAEA is secured that can develop further farm lands.

The constitution of the associations have been thoroughly workshopped and endorsed by both SGGs, who also have active bank accounts. The SGGs are being registered as Non Profit Organisations. The SGGs will not be registered as a co-operative but only as a farmers association. It is envisaged that in time all the organic SGGs in Ndwedwe will form a farmers co-operative in order to leverage resources and to streamline management functions.

Plate 2.1a - Early stakeholder consultations



2.2 Development of fair and transparent contracting system with Woolworths / Pick-n-Pay or other retailers

The leadership of the two SGGs met with Assagay Organics, Earth Mother Organics and Everfresh during early March 2004. These entities have confirmed in writing that they will support both SGGs and have requested that a product supply schedule be determined that will help procure forward orders from the likes of Woolworths, etc. Letters of support are contained in Appendix A.

Plate 2.2a - Visitation to the Earth Mother Organics stand at the Umhlanga Farmers Market



Plate 2.2b - Samples of organic produce from farmers' field



2.3 The development of a sustainable mentorship support and training system for these Grower Associations

Some 15 representatives from the two SGGs and some 12 officials from the DAEA Ndwedwe Office initially attended a formal training course for 3 days at Newlands Mashu Permaculture Learning Centre (NMPLC) where they received basic training in Permaculture \ organic farming that entailed both theory and practical work in the gardens.

Plate 2.3a - Trainees setting out a swale at NMPLC



Plate 2.3b - Happy trainees receive certificates from NMPLC



Thereafter, the same trainees attended a two day formal training course at Rainman Landcare Foundation (RLF) where they received basic training in landcare management, rainwater harvesting systems and organic farming. RLF then led the trainees on a half day visitation of Assagay Organics in order to appreciate the efforts required to supply an accredited organic packhouse, and, a half day visitation of the Earth Mother homestead in order to understand how their Permaculture garden has been established and also to discuss the sale of organic products at various farmers markets. Representatives from the SGGs also attended a one day workshop on Effective Micro-Organisms.

Plate 2.3c - Visitation to the Earth Mother Permaculture homestead



PAETA has confirmed in writing that mentoring for the next two years will be funded for both the Ndwedwe and Umbumbulu SGGs. This approval from PAETA is contained in Appendix B. This mentoring has already started and is providing good continuity to the SGGs, especially in the current crop planting and harvesting plan that is required by the organic packhouses.

2.4 The development of viable irrigation, cold chain, and logistics solutions for these Grower Associations

The on-site establishment was initiated with some land use planning and extensive community participation. The orthophoto maps sourced for this exercise proved invaluable and also provided the base planning for the preparation of funding applications for agricultural infrastructure grants.

Plate 2.4a - Farmers identify their homesteads on the orthophoto map



Plate 2.4b - Vukuzakhe field 1 Before (18/08/2003)



Approximately 6 to 8 ha of fields have been developed. Tools and seeds have been purchased and have been distributed. Compost has been sourced and applied. Fencing is complete. The first crops have already been harvested whilst the main crop of potatoes is almost ready.

NMPLC has offered to provide transport and cold-chain logistics for some 34 round trips to Ndwedwe wherein fresh produce will be transported out to markets and plant material brought in for the farmers. In return, NMPLC will be paid towards the cost of a trailer that makes this arrangement possible.

Plate 2.4c - Sister Power - During



Plate 2.4d - Vukuzakhe field 1 After (17/01/2004)



Plate 2.4e - Members receiving their tools, soil additives, seed and fencing materials.



Plate 2.4f - Demonstrating the fence post hammer



Plate 2.4g - Fruits of labour



The two SGGs have seen the fruits of their labour and now wish to expand and reclaim their existing soft vegetable gardens for own family consumption and regular income purposes.

2.5 Organic Certification of these Grower Groups within the Contract Period.

Five representatives from each SGG and 10 from Umbumbulu, as well as 5 officials from DAEA and members of the Project Team, attended a training course for “Internal Inspectors” at RLF. Application forms for organic certification have been submitted to Afrisco who have already undertaken site inspections and are currently processing the organic certification.

Plate 2.5a - Farmers discuss marketing with Dr James Hartzell of Assagai Organics



Plate 2.5b - Internal inspectors being trained



Plate 2.5c - Jeremy Lister-James from Afrisco discusses inspection criteria



The cross visitations between the Umbumbulu and Ndwedwe SGGs of farmers proved to be an invaluable exercise. These visitations reinforced the emphasis given to internal inspections for ongoing organic certification and also highlighted issues which need to be addressed in order for the emerging organic farming industry to grow. These issues are outlined in more detail in Section 3.3.

2.6 Leveraging of certification funding for the following two years

The payment to Afrisco covers the first year of inspections only. The second year of inspections by Afrisco still needs to be leveraged. Although the funding application to PAETA dealt with the issue of ongoing training of internal inspectors, this component was not approved by PAETA. This issue will be raised again with PAETA.

Funding for ongoing training of internal inspectors as the SGGs expand over time may need to be funded as an aftercare component of future organic development projects if PAETA do not approve this funding. Furthermore, funding to pay Afrisco beyond the first year will also need to be sourced.

2.7 Unlocking of infrastructure grants for the Associations

Applications for the National Landcare Programme have been completed for both SGGs and submitted to DAEA in November 2003. Unfortunately, DAEA have confirmed that these applications cannot be considered for the 2004\05 fiscal year but will be considered for the 2005\06 fiscal year (see Appendix C), which are evaluated in August 2004.

Funding applications to DAEA infrastructure grant have been compiled in part and officials from DAEA are to evaluate these applications.

2.8 The leveraging of inexpensive inputs

Ilembe District Municipality has provided R282,400 for the development of two additional SGGs. A written contract to this effect is awaited although work has commenced. The first invoice has been submitted but payment has not yet been received, which has affected the continuity of work. The funding approval by Ilembe was also received far later than expected and the economies of scale that the funding was based upon have long since elapsed since the DEDT component is now complete and there is no further overlap with the Ilembe component. This means that the project budget and deliverables for the Ilembe component will need to be revisited.

It has been difficult to resource tractors and vetiver grass from DAEA and Ilembe, despite earlier promises. These resources have now been paid for by the project budget. Some plant material has been supplied by NMPLC at very reasonable prices, whilst seedlings for madumbis have been sourced directly from the SGGs.

1. ANCILLARY INFORMATION

3.1 Project co-ordinates

The location of the two SGGs are located around the co-ordinates shown in Table 3.1a below.

Table 3.1a - Project co-ordinates

Area	Decimal Degrees (S)	Decimal Degrees (E)	DMS (S)	DMS (E)
Makhuluseni SGG	-29.54719	30.89630	-29 32 49	30 53 46
Vukuzakhe SGG	-29.45005	30.98718	-29 27 00	30 59 13

3.2 Project budget and expenditure

The project expenditure utilized the entire available budget as shown in the summary in Table 3.2a below which remained unchanged from the initial Inception Report tabled during May 2003.

Table 3.2a - Project expenditure vs project budget

#	Task	Expenditure	%
1	Project Planning	R28,551	6.5%
2	Selection of pilot organic farmers	R20,876	4.7%
3	Training & Orientation	R38,384	8.7%
4	Site Planning	R36,840	8.4%
5	Site Establishment	R200,347	45.7%
6	Organic Certification	R30,526	7.0%
7	Institutional Arrangements	R17,192	3.9%
8	Logistics & Marketing	R20,920	4.8%
9	Mentorship to Umbumbulu SGGs	R19,648	4.5%
10	Project Management	R25,312	5.8%
	Sub-Total	R438,596	100.0%
	VAT	R61,403	
	Total	R499,999	

3.3 Further development proposals

The cross visitation workshop between the Umbumbulu and Ndwedwe SGGs presented a unique opportunity for learning and establishing common objectives. To this end, the following development strategy for a KwaZulu-Natal Emerging Organic Farmers Co-operative is proposed which has been prepared in consultation with the Umbumbulu and Ndwedwe SGGs.

DEDT has over the past two years supported the development of the Ezemvelo Organic Farmers Association in Umbumbulu and two smaller groups in Ndwedwe, namely, the Makhuluseni and Vukuzakhe Organic Farmers Associations. Steady growth in member numbers and associated volumes of produce has now led to a new situation relating to the development and support of these emerging organic farmers. Member numbers are at present approximately 297 farmers on over 1,200ha of organic land. It is envisaged that this membership will grow steeply as market demand exceeds supply for organic produce.

The potential now exists to support the farmers expressed constraints and limitations on production. To this end, the following proposals are made;-

- The establishment of local pack houses as Farmers Support Centres with cold storage and processing / packaging facilities, wherein produce can be transported directly from the grower to the local pack house and on to the markets.
- The Farmers Support Centres should also administer the local organic inspections \ certifications and maintain production records; trade in organic supplies such as seed and planting material; trade in tools and equipment, and, soil enhancement and conditioning requirements; and, maintain rental schedules for and co-ordinate a fleet of tractors and other vehicles and machinery.
- The Farmers Support Centres will need assistance with accounting, record keeping, financial management and the administration of the growing organic inspection and certification requirement, failing which, the entire area may lose its organic producer status.
- The formalisation of an Organic Farmers Co-operative \ legal entity in order to improve produce delivery to a broader number of markets and to represent the collective bargaining power of the organic farmers.
- The establishment of support services and micro industries that will create the next level of sharing and networking in support of this emerging organic industry, for example, the establishment of a grinding and milling facilities and other value adding SMEs.

It is envisaged that several Farmers Support Centres will be required, namely, two at Umbumbulu, one at Makhuluseni, one at Sonkombo (Vukuzakhe SGG). Given the approval of the PAETA mentorship programme for the Umbumbulu and Ndwedwe SGGs for the next two years which will

be directed from the Newlands Mashu Permaculture Learning Centre, it is proposed that this Centre serve as the initial operational hub and training centre for the establishment of the Farmers Support Centres.

The ongoing training and support of all members is based on farmers receiving a minimal three day introduction and organic orientation workshop. Thereafter, ongoing education in organic agricultural practices can be sustained through various forums and networks of knowledge sharing amongst the various members.

Regular workshops and sharing opportunities will be created in forums and networks. Financial assistance and local trading systems will allow individuals and groups to access funds and trade amongst themselves and will contribute to improved financial sustainability as well as opportunities and capital for expansion and value adding.

Recruitment of new members and organisations and the promotion of the organic organisation will ensure exposure to new markets and opportunities and ensure growth. The local and international markets are in a demand cycle at present and only through sustained support of the farmers and their organisations will one be able to supply quality organic products in an ongoing and sustainable production system.

APPENDIX A

April 5, 2004

INTEREST IN PURCHASING CERTIFIED ORGANIC PRODUCE FROM NDWEDWE FARMERS

To Whom It May Concern,

I have been contacted by members of Buzz Gori's group working with the Ndwedwe organic farmers to determine whether we are interested in purchasing certified organic produce.

We are developing our organic farming business with Woolworths to whom we market exclusively, and with whom we hold exclusive marketing rights for KwaZulu-Natal.

We are very interested to develop new supplier relationships, and we are particularly interested to develop such relationships with previously disadvantaged or previously subsistence farmers in KZN. We have successfully developed one such relationship with the Ezemvelo Farmers Organization, and we are busy expanding this relationship to include new crops and new food lines.

It may well be that working with the Ndwedwe farmers can develop into a similar relationship as the one we have with the EFO. We therefore welcome the opportunity and look forward to fruitful discussions in this regard.

Our ability to actually purchase organic produce from the Ndwedwe farmers will depend on several constraining factors:

- 1) the farmers must be certified organic or organic-in-conversion
- 2) certification must be current, and group internal controls must be active
- 3) farmers must meet the strict quality and size specifications for produce to be accepted at our packhouse
- 4) farmers must meet reasonable criteria of reliability in terms of supply
- 5) produce must be delivered to our packhouse—i.e. the farmers or the farmers' representatives are responsible for transport.
- 6) We must have reliable contacts for the farmers so that orders can be placed and logistics confirmed for delivery.

I look forward to hearing from the Ndwedwe farmers and their representatives and hope we can begin a successful, long-term business relationship.

Sincerely yours,

James Hartzell
Assegai Organics
Tel: 082 328 0011
Email: jhartzell@iafrica.com

fresh
produce

Appendix A



Letter of support for emerging Farmers

Everfresh Markets Pty Ltd supports the development of emerging farmers within the province and through their network of retail stores, undertakes to show this support by purchasing harvested crops from these emerging farmers for resale at Everfresh outlets.

In conjunction with Newlands Mashu Community Development Centre and the DEDT funded agri-business projects, Everfresh intends to purchase quality, harvested crops from the Ndwedwe Organic Farmers organisations and other similar development initiatives for 'fair market price'.

Although Everfresh strongly believes in supporting emerging growers by providing necessary market access to quality produce, it reserves the right to reject product on quality grounds. It should also be noted that this letter of support is in no way binding on either party but serves to illustrate Everfresh Market's commitment to development of the emerging farmer sector.

Yours sincerely

Lionel Luizho

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lionel Luizho", written over a horizontal dashed line. The signature is enclosed within a hand-drawn oval shape.

email info@everfreshmarkets.co.za
Cowey Park: tel 208 0050 fax 208 0062
Virginia Circle: tel 563 0636/9 fax 563 0770
Umgoni Road: tel 309 7817 fax 309 7821
Berea Road: tel 201 0985 fax 201 0992
Distribution Centre: tel 465 9697 fax 465 2350

APPENDIX A

From: earthmother [earthmother@telkomsa.net]

Sent: 05 April 2004 01:38 Buzz

To: whatabuz@iafrica.com

Subject: earthmother

to whom it may concern 5 April 2004

This is to confirm that we , in the capacity of our buisness Earthmother Organic, will purchase certified organic produce from the Ndwedwe Farmers .Subject to up to date certifications, our businsses need and quality.

Yours Sincerely

Eva Muller & Doris Svorinic

EARTHMOTHER ORGANIC



PAETA
Primary Agriculture Education
and Training Authority

Postal address 2nd Floor Potatohouse Tel +27 12 325 1655/6/7
26024 Arcadia 529 Belvedere Street Fax +27 12 325 1677
Pretoria Arcadia E-mail paeta@agric.co.za
0007
South Africa

18th February 2004

APPENDIX B

Mr/s Ezio Gori
P.o.Box 1409
Umkomaas
4170

Dear Sir/Madam

KZN ORGANIC VEGETABLE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT: APPLICATION TO PAETA-NSF

Your application with regards to the above project recently submitted to the PAETA-NSF, has reference.

The Technical Advisory Committee of PAETA-NSF met on 11TH February 2004 and approved as follows;

General recommendations:

- That this project be approved but only for Mentoring Services.

Specific recommendations:

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------|
| • Mentoring Services | R384 000.00 |
|----------------------|-------------|

TOTAL	R384 000.00
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We will contact you shortly in order to finalise contractual arrangements and to plan the project in more details.

Yours faithfully


JOHANN ENGELBRECHT
(PAETA-NSF Project Manager)



Department of Labour

NATIONAL SKILLS FUND PROJECT



APPENDIX C

PROJECT TIME TABLE AND WORK PLAN

Vukuzakhe Farmers Association

1	2	3	4	R 5	6
Project Objectives	Outcomes	Project Activities & Methods	Completion Dates	Activity Costs	Funding Source
Pilot Organic Scheme					
Empowerment of SGG in organic farming systems	15 representatives trained.	Training in Permaculture \ organic farming techniques	Complete	R 250,000	Department of Economic Development & Tourism
Site Planning	Delineation of pilot organic scheme & funding applications for extension of scheme.	Preliminary land use concept plan & funding applications.	Complete		
Site Establishment	Secure 3 ha of land for organic farming and assistance with development of 20 homestead gardens.	Establish rainwater harvesting systems, detention ponds & fencing, and, provide initial seed and plant material.	30 November 2003		
		Basic assistance to 20 homesteads through provision of tools, and seed & plant material.	15 December 2003		
Institutional capacity building.	Formalisation of SGG farmers association into a legal entity with a bank account and improved business approach towards organic farming.	Formalisation of farmers association	31 January 2004		
		Marketing and logistical arrangements for organic produce.	31 January 2004		
Organic Certification	Formal organic certification by an accredited organic institution.	Training of local organic inspectors.			

APPENDIX C

PROJECT TIME TABLE AND WORK PLAN

Vukuzakhe Farmers Association

1	2	3	4	R 5	6
Project Objectives	Outcomes	Project Activities & Methods	Completion Dates	Activity Costs	Funding Source
Expand Pilot Organic Project (from 3 ha and 20 homesteads) to 50 ha and 40 homesteads					
Land Use Management Plan.	A holistic organic farm plan for 40 homesteads utilizing 50 ha of arable land	Participatory Land Use Planning.	30 June 2004	R 21,000	NLP
		Design keyline and rainwater management systems.	31 May 2004	R 42,000	NLP
		Prepare an implementation plan with detailed programme & budget	31 May 2004	R 14,000	NLP
Keyline water management & rainwater harvesting systems	50 ha of land planned for sustainable water use.	Construct two dams to store water.	30 September 2004	R 200,000	NLP
		Construct series of keyline detention ponds, diversion and irrigation channels.	30 September 2004	R 200,000	NLP
		Construct minor roadworks to harvest rain water runoff.	31 October 2004	R 50,000	NLP
Development of 50 ha of arable land	Expand Pilot Project from 3 ha to 50 ha	Rotavating of soil.	15 December 2004	R 35,000	NLP
		Initial organic fertilizer and soil conditioning plants.	31 January 2005	R 50,000	NLP
		Integrated pest management plants.	31 January 2005	R 20,000	NLP
		Initial seedlings for mass production.	28 February 2005	R 20,000	NLP
		Install fencing protection against cattle & goats.	31 January 2005	R 100,000	NLP
Development of 40 homestead gardens	Improvements and expansions to 40 homesteads with rainwater tanks and water efficient vegetable gardens.	Provision of 40 rainwater tanks	31 August 2004	R 48,000	NLP
		Provision of a Permaculture starter pack of soil conditioning plants, herbs and vegetable seeds.	31 August 2004	R 8,000	NLP

APPENDIX C

PROJECT TIME TABLE AND WORK PLAN

Vukuzakhe Farmers Association

1	2	3	4	R 5	6
Project Objectives	Outcomes	Project Activities & Methods	Completion Dates	Activity Costs	Funding Source
Establish erosion control systems	Swales with vetiver and wind breaks of Pigeon Pea & Jatropha.	Construct swales with vetiver grass.	30 November 2004	R 125,000	NLP
		Establish wind breaks (Pigeon Pea, Jatropha, etc.)	31 January 2005	R 40,000	NLP
Set up manure harvesting and composting systems.	Effective use of manure and compost systems for each homestead.	Establish kraals for livestock.	30 November 2004	R 40,000	NLP
		Establish composting systems.	31 January 2005	R 20,000	NLP
Introduce Fruit & Nut trees.	Provide homesteads with at least 10 fruit \ nut trees.	Provision of small nurse for fruit & nut trees (Avos, Mangoes, etc.), complete with root stock.	31 January 2005	R 30,000	NLP
		Provision of initial seedlings for homesteads.	31 January 2005	R 12,000	NLP
Institutional strengthening & marketing of SGG	Improved skills to SGG Farmers Association to take advantage of landcare development benefits.	Set up effective marketing system.	28 February 2005	R 14,000	NLP
		Business skills training.	28 February 2005	R 14,000	NLP
		Examine potential of niche crops, eg, essential oil production, export variety avos, etc.	31 March 2005	R 14,000	NLP
		Set up Internal Control System for Organic Certification.	31 March 2005	R 14,000	NLP
Management, Training & Supervision	Dedicated support to organic farmers during implementation.	Project Management	31 March 2005	R 100,800	NLP
		Contract administration & site supervision of engineering works	15 December 2004	R 56,000	NLP
		On-site training in Permaculture \ organic farming techniques	15 December 2004	R 14,000	NLP
		Mentoring of organic farmers	31 March 2005	R 168,000	NLP
			Total NLP Funding	R 1,469,800	NLP

No. of Households	R 40
No. of people	R 240
Cost per Household	R 36,745
Cost per Capita	R 6,124

APPENDIX C

12. PROJECT TIME TABLE AND WORK PLAN

Makhuluseni Farmers Association

1	2	3	4	R 5	6
Project Objectives	Outcomes	Project Activities & Methods	Completion Dates	Activity Costs	Funding Source
Pilot Organic Scheme					
Empowerment of SGG in organic farming systems	15 representatives trained.	Training in Permaculture \ organic farming techniques	Complete	R 250,000	Department of Economic Development & Tourism
Site Planning	Delineation of pilot organic scheme & funding applications for extension of scheme.	Preliminary land use concept plan & funding applications.	Complete		
Site Establishment	Secure 4 ha of land for organic farming and assistance with development of 20 homestead gardens.	Establish rainwater harvesting systems, detention ponds & fencing, and, provide initial seed and plant material.	30 November 2003		
		Basic assistance to 20 homesteads through provision of tools, and seed & plant material.	15 December 2003		
Institutional capacity building.	Formalisation of SGG farmers association into a legal entity with a bank account and improved business approach towards organic farming.	Formalisation of farmers association	31 January 2004		
		Marketing and logistical arrangements for organic produce.	31 January 2004		
Organic Certification	Formal organic certification by an accredited organic institution.	Training of local organic inspectors.			
		Organic certification.	28 February 2004		
Management, Training & Supervision	Dedicated support to organic farmers during implementation.	Project management, site supervision & mentoring.	28 February 2004		

APPENDIX C

12. PROJECT TIME TABLE AND WORK PLAN

Makhuluseni Farmers Association

1	2	3	4	R 5	6
Project Objectives	Outcomes	Project Activities & Methods	Completion Dates	Activity Costs	Funding Source
Expand Pilot Organic Project (from 4 ha and 20 homesteads) to 50 ha and 40 homesteads					
Land Use Management Plan.	A holistic organic farm plan for 40 homesteads utilizing 50 ha of arable land	Participatory Land Use Planning.	30 June 2004	R 21,000	NLP
		Design keyline and rainwater management systems.	31 May 2004	R 42,000	NLP
		Prepare an implementation plan with detailed programme & budget	31 May 2004	R 14,000	NLP
Keyline water management & rainwater harvesting systems	50 ha of land planned for sustainable water use.	Construct three high catchment dams to store water.	30 September 2004	R 300,000	NLP
		Construct series of keyline detention ponds, diversion and irrigation channels.	30 September 2004	R 300,000	NLP
		Construct road crossings for diversion \ irrigation channels.	31 October 2004	R 50,000	NLP
Development of 50 ha of arable land	Expand Pilot Project from 3 ha to 50 ha	Rotavating of soil.	15 December 2004	R 35,000	NLP
		Initial organic fertilizer and soil conditioning plants.	31 January 2005	R 50,000	NLP
		Integrated pest management plants.	31 January 2005	R 20,000	NLP
		Initial seedlings for mass production.	28 February 2005	R 20,000	NLP
		Establish a Jatropha belt alongside the river and alongside the upper side of the gravel access road as protection against cattle (free seedlings).	28 February 2005	R 10,000	NLP
		Install fencing protection against cattle & goats.	31 January 2005	R 100,000	NLP

APPENDIX C

12. PROJECT TIME TABLE AND WORK PLAN

Makhuluseni Farmers Association

1	2	3	4	R 5	6
Project Objectives	Outcomes	Project Activities & Methods	Completion Dates	Activity Costs	Funding Source
Development of 40 homestead gardens	Improvements and expansions to 40 homesteads with rainwater tanks and water efficient vegetable gardens.	Provision of 40 rainwater tanks	31 August 2004	R 48,000	NLP
		Provision of a Permaculture starter pack of soil conditioning plants, herbs and vegetable seeds.	31 August 2004	R 8,000	NLP
Establish erosion control systems	Swales with vetiver and wind breaks of Pigeon Pea & Jatropha.	Construct swales with vetiver grass.	30 November 2004	R 125,000	NLP
		Establish wind breaks (Pigeon Pea, Jatropha, etc.)	31 January 2005	R 40,000	NLP
Set up manure harvesting and composting systems.	Effective use of manure and compost systems for each homestead.	Establish kraals for livestock.	30 November 2004	R 40,000	NLP
		Establish composting systems.	31 January 2005	R 20,000	NLP
Introduce Fruit & Nut trees	Provide homesteads with at least 10 fruit \ nut trees.	Provision of small nurse for fruit & nut trees (Avos, Mangoes, etc.), complete with root stock.	31 January 2005	R 30,000	NLP
		Provision of initial seedlings for homesteads.	31 January 2005	R 12,000	NLP
Institutional strengthening & marketing of SGG	Improved skills to SGG Farmers Association to take advantage of landcare development benefits.	Set up effective marketing system.	28 February 2005	R 14,000	NLP
		Business skills training.	28 February 2005	R 14,000	NLP
		Examine potential of niche crops, eg, essential oil production, export variety avos, etc.	31 March 2005	R 14,000	NLP
		Set up Internal Control System for Organic Certification.	31 March 2005	R 14,000	NLP
Management, Training & Supervision	Dedicated support to organic farmers during implementation.	Project Management	31 March 2005	R 100,800	NLP
		Contract administration & site supervision of engineering works	15 December 2004	R 56,000	NLP

APPENDIX C

12. PROJECT TIME TABLE AND WORK PLAN

Management, Training & Supervision	Dedicated support to organic farmers during implementation.	3	4	R 5	6
		Project Activities & Methods	Completion Dates	Activity Costs	Funding Source
		On-site training in Permaculture \ organic farming techniques	15 December 2004	R 14,000	NLP
		Mentoring of organic farmers	31 March 2005	R 168,000	NLP
			Total NLP Funding	R 1,679,800	

No. of Households	R 40
No. of people	R 240
Cost per Household	R 41,995
Cost per Capita	R 6,999



Department of Agriculture and

Environmental Affairs

Departement van Landbou en

Omgewingsake

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Navrae	Datum:	No.:
Imibuzo:	Usuku:	Verwysing Nr:
		Inkomba:

E. GORI & ASSOCIATES
P.O.Box 1409
Umkomaas, 4170

Dear Mr Gori,

NATIONAL LANDCARE APPLICATIONS - NDWEDWE ORGANIC VEGETABLE DEVELOPMENT
PROJECTS: 1). MAKHULUSENI ORGANIC FARMERS ASSOCIATION AND
2). VUKUZAKHE ORGANIC FARMERS ASSOCIATION

The proposals submitted to this office under letter dated 3rd November, 2003, our telephonic conversation of the 17th November 2003 and your faxed memorandum of today have reference.

Receipt of the above proposals is confirmed.

Regarding the process cycle, each year in September, project proposals are considered for funding in the following financial year. This process is currently under review and may be amended. You will be notified of any changes that may effect the processing of your applications.

A HEAD OF DEPARTMENT: AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS