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**EASTERN CAPE  
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND AGRARIAN  
REFORM COVID-19 INTERVENTIONS**

**PRESENTATION TO NATIONAL COUNCIL  
OF PROVINCES**

**25 AUGUST 2020**

Honourable Chairperson  
Honourable Deputy Chairperson  
Honourable Minister of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development  
Honourable Deputy Ministers  
Honourable House Chairperson: Committees and Oversight  
Honourable House Chairperson: Members Support and International Relations  
Honourable Members  
Honourable MEC's responsible for Agriculture and rural development in your different provinces  
The President of SALGA  
Special Delegates

Good afternoon

# PRESENTATION OUTLINE

This presentation shall focus on the **Provincial Plans to mitigate the Impact of the COVID-19** pandemic in Agriculture and Rural Development. These interventions include:

- Eastern Cape Covid-19 Food Production Program For Vulnerable Household Food Production
- Livestock Improvement Deliveries
- Custom feedlots performance during lock down
- Pest And Disease Outbreaks Control
- Distribution Of Personal Protection Equipment
- Support to the Department of Health
- Spring Water Protection
- Protocol For Mitigating COVID-19 Inter-provincial Movement Of Seasonal Workers
- Agriculture Sector Recovery Plans
- COVID-19 Disaster Agricultural Support Fund (CDASF)
- Proactive Land, Acquisition Strategy (Plas) Stimulus Package

# EASTERN CAPE COVID 19 FOOD PRODUCTION PROGRAM FOR VULNERABLE HOUSEHOLD FOOD PRODUCTION

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- A total of **20 000** vulnerable households were identified using the local municipality's indigent register. In the implementation DRDAR is working in conjunction with the Department of Social Development to integrate all the interventions in the vulnerable households. DRDAR has allocated **R40 million** budget this financial year.
- Each household will be supported with a food production pack valued at **R2000** consisting of seeds, seedlings, fertilizers, indigenous chicken, chicken medicine and grain feed.

# Livestock Improvement Deliveries

- During the lockdown period, we have supported 116 small holder farmers with 84 bulls and 377 heifers across the province. We supported farmers with 15 heifers and 1 bull each, with young farmers receiving 20 heifers and 1 bull each.



# Custom Feedlots Performance During Lockdown

- Eastern Cape custom feeding program prepared 244 cattle for the market, from April to June 2020, benefiting 91 farmers. These were sold to both informal and formal markets at a revenue of R1,519,143.90 for livestock farmers.
- Nangeqqili in Amathole District Municipality is the only feedlot that has smallstock (Sheep), sold 56 sheep with the total revenue of **R70,000**.
- A total of 59 cattle from the 6 custom feedlot facilities, were exported to Mauritius generating a total revenue of R675 280.00.

# Livestock Infrastructure Development

To ensure continued productivity during and post covid-19 we are currently implementing the following programmes:

- 71 boreholes
- 216 dam scooping
- 10 dip tank renovations
- 9 animal handling facilities
- 66 kilometres of fencing
- 7 stock water systems

# PESTS AND DISEASES OUTBREAKS CONTROL

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## African Swine Fever Campaign

- Department responded swiftly to the African Swine Fever and African Army Worm outbreaks.



# Distribution Of Personal Protection Equipment

DALRRD and DRDAR provided PPE's for farm workers, rural communities and field officers.

To-date ( 20 August 2020) 52 633 masks , 1 914 sanitizer and 39 000 soap bars distributed to farm workers across districts

# Manufacturing of Sanitizers And Masks

## **SANITIZERS:**

- Funds were availed to manufacture sanitizers at Dohne laboratories in collaboration with Rhodes University .
- Targeted to reach 5 000l by the end of September 2020
- To date produced 2275 litres of sanitizer.

## **PROTECTIVE MASKS:**

- Tsolo Agriculture Rural Development Institute is targeting to manufacture 10 000 WHO compliant cloth masks.
- These are being provided to communities
- Capacity at TARDI and MPOFU Training Centre in DRDAR were used to produce these face masks
- To-date, a total of 5437 cloth masks have been produced by the 2 institutions above.

# Support to the Department of Health

- Six (6) mobile veterinary clinics were availed to EC DoH to increase the field screening capacity.
- Three (3) RNA extractors (Ribonucleic Acid) and (PCR) Polymerase Chain Reaction “machine” (amplifier) were provided to augment the existing provincial capacity for laboratory testing.
- These were deployed following points two (2) at Beyers Naude Local Municipality, and specifically to be located at Aberdeen, one (1) at Tsitsikamma, two at O.R Tambo and one at Alfred Nzo district.

# SPRING WATER PROTECTION

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- We have worked with RATU unit and protected springs in 4 villages in Joe Gqabi, Alfred Nzo, Chris Hani and OR Tambo districts with 32 taps installed benefitting 940 households while 179 temporal jobs were created
- The project will be rolled out further to 6 villages.



# Protocol For Mitigating COVID-19 Inter-provincial Movement Of Seasonal Workers

- The Premier and MEC initiated cooperation with Western Cape to manage cross border migration especially for seasonal workers.
- A technical team involving DRDAR, DALRRD and Western Cape Department of Agriculture was put together.
- In July the implementation of the COVID-19 protocols for cross border movement of farm workers was implemented.
- A joint technical team was developed for other areas of co-operation for farmer support such as technical advice, training, research, economics and vet services.
- This is expected to contribute to greater efficiencies and seamless support for farmers



# AGRICULTURE SECTOR RECOVERY PLANS



**drdar**

Department:  
Rural Development & Agrarian Reform  
**PROVINCE OF THE EASTERN CAPE**

# AGRICULTURE SECTOR COVID-19 TASK TEAM

- A Task Team was set up comprised of agricultural commodity stakeholders and Government officials that meets weekly.
- Review food and agricultural value chain status and challenges to enable and monitor progress on remedial action.
- Three work streams are operational, namely, the Agri-business continuity, production security and economic stimulus for the sector.
- EC GDP contracted by -0.8% 2020 in Q1 . Five industries that contracted are: Mining, manufacturing, construction, electricity and trade. Result is loss of business, loss of jobs, increased poverty, increase in crime, etc. In the EC, the following industries expanded on a QoQ basis: Agriculture with the largest increase (up by 27.1%), finance (up by 3.0%), transport (up by 1.1%) and government services (up by 0.7%).

# 2020/21 Seasonal Grain Production

- Grain production on 28 000 ha across Alfred Nzo, O R Tambo, Joe Gqabi, Chris Hani and Amathole districts valued at R 94,000,000
- Procurement processes for production input support and mechanisation services are in progress.

# Livestock Production Investments

- Delivery of genetically superior bulls /heifers to commence during the financial year.
- A total of R93 600 000.00 has been set aside to support farmers on wool, genetic improvement , custom feeding, animal health, poultry and piggery projects .
- This initiative is expected to create 677 jobs in the province.



## Medium to Long Term: Increase Production in Irrigation Schemes to Trigger Agricultural Recovery

Name of Scheme	Area (ha)	Infrastructure (R000's)	Production cost (R000's)	Commodities
<b>Chris Hani: Ncora</b>	3,000	252,000	75,000	Dairy, Fodder/pasture, Grains, Vegetables
<b>Chris Hani: Qamata</b>	2,800	87,000	57,500	Lucerne, Grains, vegetables
<b>Chris Hani Shiloh</b>	490	40,500	3,750	Dairy, Vegetables, Grapes/wine
<b>Chris Hani: Bilatye</b>	700	44,500	17,500	Fodder, Dairy, Vegetables
<b>Amathole: Keiskamma-</b>	700	10,000	3,750	Fodder, Dairy, Vegetables/ Citrus
<b>Amathole: Zanyokwe</b>	450	11,111	5,000	Vegetables, Grain, Fodder
<b>Amathole: Theyfu</b>	750	34,000	18,750	Citrus, Vegetables,
<b>O R Tambo: Port St Johns</b>	395	21,000	9,875	Vegetables, Sub- Tropical fruits, Macadamia
<b>O R Tambo: Lambasi</b>	1,500	236,000	37,500	Dairy, Vegetables, Sub- Tropical fruits Macadamia
	<b>10,785</b>	<b>736,111</b>	<b>228,625</b>	

- A total of 3 406 sustainable jobs will be created
- Irrigation business plans have been prepared in partnership with commodities for funding purposes.

# COVID-19 DISASTER AGRICULTURAL SUPPORT FUND (CDASF)

- **R1.2 billion** fund was made available by DALRRD, targeting smallholder and subsistence farmers. This fund was meant to support these producers to continue producing food to ensure food independency of the country.
- A total of **1915** applications to the value of **R80 482 343.20** were approved for the province

- DALRRD availed **R400 million** budget to support smallholder farmers in the PLAS farms.
- In the Province a total of 24 farms have been approved and to date a total of 7 farms have received **R63.4 million**.
- Commodity organisations are implementing agents.

# CONCLUSION

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- The Department is on track to implement the above Covid-19 plans to mitigate the Impact of the pandemic in Agriculture and Rural Development
- Support is constantly provided to farmers through Extension And Advisory Services to access these interventions and ensure their success once awarded
- Procurement is monitored and fast tracked to ensure that implementation in the next planting season is not missed

# Thank you