

Supporting young AgriPreneurs and rural development in KwaZulu-Natal

ENSURING KWAZULU-NATAL'S FUTURE

We create a true change and long lasting perspective for young AgriPreneurs in KwaZulu-Natal.

We integrate professional education, innovation and effective commercial farm development for a sustainable future in agriculture.

We want to shift the traditional view on small-holder farming for reaching food security and a perspective for rural living in Africa

Our approach

King Goodwill of KwaZulu-Natal and the Dutch Food Security Alliance (NL-FSA) engaged together with our South African business partners to advance the rural livelihoods in KwaZulu-Natal.

We offer young people a comprehensive vocational training in agribusiness development and assist the graduates in establishing their own commercial farms. Continuous innovation in production and managing water and soils is our key to intensify the agricultural production without overconsuming resources.

Our combination of investing in people's capacity, providing financial self-sustaining training, and maintaining a continuous innovation in agribusiness development is unique. Together we reach a true change and impact that lasts for future generations.

A future for young AgriPreneurs

We encourage the engaged and entrepreneurial youth to understand farming as a business opportunity, in particular as a modern profession that entails innovation, technology, and social recognition.

We empower our graduates to become impact farmers who will stimulate others and who will provide employment in the region.

We offer selected candidates a plot to generate income and a two-year training on the job, where they will advance their skills in commercial farming, innovation, and B2B networking.

Sustainable intensification of production

By carefully managing the available water resources, maintaining the soil fertility and to introduce agroforestry concepts, we ensure a sustainable intensification of the production. Permanent innovation in selecting and marketing of water smart cropping patterns is instrumental to create both an income generation for the local population as well as protecting natural heritage sites, such as iSimangaliso wetland park downstream of Mkuze.

Economic prosperity in the area

Establishing commercial farms by local young AgriPreneurs will be the inclusive growth engine in the region. It will create employment opportunities on the farms itself and along the entire food value chain. The provision of cooperative services, strengthening the joint innovation and a water smart production will ensure the economic viability of the farms and put our intervention as a land mark to attract agribusiness partners from around the world.





The training & service center



We combine intensive training and training on the job on individual plots for 200 lead-farmers who can train others. Our Banghoek Training Center offers an inspiring landscape for trainees and trainers, classrooms, guest-house facilities, and an experience center to demonstrate the latest innovative technologies in practice. It also provides the all-in-one stop for any interested AgriPreneur to develop partnerships in KwaZulu-Natal.

Key value of our training is cooperation for impact. Our graduates excel in basic agricultural practices, irrigated agriculture, soil- and water conservation, agribusiness innovation, marketing and professional networking.



The commercial farm unit



We operate in a 200 ha orchard to generate the cashflow for financing the capacity building and innovation. It will create independency from short term project funding and the necessary continuity for impact. The orchard comprises fruit trees and additional space to exploit the water smart production of other cash crops.

At the same time it provides the ground proof in agribusiness innovation, to demonstrate sustainable agriculture in practice and to base the training on local experience.



The farm development program



4000 ha land with water rights are available to allow young AgriPreneurs to launch their own impact farm of 5 ha each. A Multi-Stakeholder Innovative Cooperative provides additional assistance beyond the initial training. The service entails e.g. the provision of machinery, maintenance and repair facilities, day to day information for irrigation and drought management, extension service, and the active support in marketing.

Cooperative members will collectively monitor the water resources availability, report on water, smart farming and to play a proactive role in the water resources management in the region.

Impact and key-performance indicators



- Creating a perspective for the rural youth at 500 true impact farms with >25,000 jobs in 20 years;
- Offering a role model for more locations in South Africa;
- Extending the approach to > 5 countries in Sub-Sahara Africa;
- True local ownership and financial self-sufficiency of the training center and the service facilities;
- Supporting food security and health for 1 Mio people in KwaZulu-Natal to benefit directly and indirectly from successful food production and income generation to buy food;
- Implement agroforestry and precision irrigation on > 4000 ha impact farm land for soil and water conservation;
- Integrating real day to day agribusiness experience into training and capacity building;
- Longterm monitoring, controlling, advising through most innovative sensing and blockchain technology.



The NL-FSA in brief

The NL-Food Security Alliance (NL-FSA) is a network of mainly Dutch key partners from private sector, NGO's and Knowledge Institutes. The focus of the NL-FSA is to develop impact projects that are based on a business case to secure food production locally. The NL-FSA performs in a sustainable manner with respect for people, the environment and climate change.

Contact

NL-Food Security Alliance
NL-FSA@eijkkelkamp.com
www.NL-FSA.org