



2015 #WeDigDignity

# INDIMA

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## JOBS FUND GRANT: 15-YEAR-OLD LIMA PROGRAMME RECEIVES FUNDING BOOST

The [Jobs Fund](#) has granted Lima approximately R59,8 million towards the [Smallholder Farmer Support Programme](#), also known as the Abalimi Phambili Programme (APP). This serves as celebratory news for this 15 year initiative, which has supported thousands of smallholder farmers over the years.



The Jobs Fund creates jobs by supporting initiatives that generate employment in innovative ways. The R9 billion Fund offers once-off grants in the areas of enterprise development, infrastructure, support for work seekers and institutional capacity building.

Established by the South African government in 2011, The Jobs Fund awards grants to organisations through a competitive process where only the best ideas are funded. By doing so, it aims to create 150,000 permanent new jobs in SA by 2015.

With the funding boost, the Lima Smallholder Farmer Support Programme will now be implemented in 16 sites (local municipalities) across 5 provinces, creating a total of 4700 new permanent jobs (farmers reaching the proxy); 80 new short term jobs (Lima staff and master farmers), at a cost of R27 400 per job. Lima is thankful for its matched funding from various supporting funders, placing the total value of the Programme at R119,6 million.

Farmer jobs are measured using a job equivalent proxy of R32 000 turnover per annum (which should be maintained for a period of 12 months). Once a farmer reaches this proxy, they are recorded as a new job created.

These farmers have a history of being under serviced and face stiff market competition from their commercial counterparts. They are isolated from input and produce markets as well as production information, contractors and credit facilities. The Smallholder Farmer Support Programme's business model is a combination of technical support at production level, development of agro-processing opportunities, affordable credit support, market access and business linkage facilitation, bridging the gap between smallholder farmers, markets and creating jobs.



### THE JOBS FUND PROUDLY SUPPORTS SMALLHOLDER FARMERS:



# ABALIMI PHAMBILI PROGRAMME

## COUNTING ON CHICKENS TO FIGHT POVERTY

Lima's [Smallholder Farmer Support Programme](#) uses broiler production as a means to alleviate poverty among small-scale farmers.

Small-scale broiler farmers working with Lima are earning an estimated R23,2 million per year.

This income plays a pivotal role in boosting household food security and transforming agricultural economies in rural areas, Lima agricultural manager Amy Thom said at the KwaZulu-Natal Poultry Institute's farmers' day recently.



**ABOVE:** Lima Agricultural Manager, Amy Thom.  
(Photo supplied by: Robyn Joubert of Farmer's Weekly)

"Lima is working with 1 773 broiler farmers under our Abalimi Phambili farmer support programme. Of these, 1003 are in the Eastern Cape, 606 in KZN, 85 in Limpopo and 79 in Mpumalanga," said Thom. "Farmers in the Eastern Cape are producing 284 000 broilers a year and earning a combined income of R19,9 million. In KZN, they're producing 10 500 broilers a year and earning R1 million while in Limpopo and Mpumalanga they are earning R2,3 million from 32 000 broilers."

The Programme is a hands-on initiative that sees Lima staff working directly with farmers. Farming activities are by no means focused solely on broiler and egg production, they include dryland and irrigated crops as well as smallstock. According to Thom, these farmers produce a turnover of approximately R77 million annually from their farms. The knock-on effect has been employment creation of over 4 500 farm worker jobs.

Lima's agricultural facilitators provide support where farmers need it most - in the field, answering questions, offering the training, mentorship and support farmers require to grow as entrepreneurs.

"We foster linkages which provide access to feed, vaccines, and chicks for poultry farmers, access to mechanisation for vegetable farmers, and access to technical information and micro loans for all farmers. These linkages are essential to integrate small farmers into the broader agri-business industry," said Thom.



PROUDLY WRITTEN BY ROBYN JOUBERT OF:

**farmer's weekly**

# ABALIMI PHAMBILI PROGRAMME

## LIMA HOSTS MAIZE INFORMATION DAY IN LIMPOPO



On the 14th July, Lima successfully organised and held the first ever Maize Information Day in Lenyenye, Limpopo in partnership with the [Limpopo Department of Agriculture](#) and [Rural Development](#) (LDARD) and Landini, a supplier of agricultural equipment.

According to Silas Seokoma, Lima's agricultural facilitator on the Abalimi Phambili Programme (APP), the purpose of the day was to acknowledge the important role local dry land farmers play in the growth of the agricultural sector in Limpopo while also exposing them to the different local agricultural service providers which they can make use of. The event is also viewed as the first step towards the implementation of the new policy on extension and advisory services which requires stakeholders to work together to bring comprehensive support to farmers. Companies such as Provento, NTK and ABC Hansen Africa were invited to exhibit their products. Office of Tzaneen Local Economic Development was also part of the event.

Seokoma mentioned that the other purpose of the event was to start a conversation around ways of increasing agricultural yields and market opportunities for farmers as well as access to funding.

Thembelihle Mkhize, Lima's Mpumalanga and Limpopo Zone Manager, shed light on the different services Lima provides, with special focus on APP which has supported emerging farmers in neighbouring areas. Likewise, a representative from LDARD spoke about the various farmer support programmes which local farmers have benefitted from, promising that the Department will try to absorb as much of the Municipality's emerging farmers as possible. Mduduzi Malomane, Head of Naponi Service Centre in the Greater Tzaneen Municipality expressed great satisfaction at the outcome of the programme.

He said, "The event was a huge success. The engagement we were hoping to see between farmers and the various agricultural companies invited today has taken place. Now farmers know which companies to approach for inputs (dry seeds), installation of irrigation systems and equipment such as tractors. We are definitely going to host more events such as these in future. We are actually looking to have a demonstration plot where we will host all our information days."

In addition, Malomane said he was grateful to all the stakeholders who made the event possible, thanking the farmers for sponsoring food and catering for the event.



ABOVE: Pictured are Lima staff and guests at the Maize Information Day in Lenyenye, Limpopo.

## FARMERS SERVICE CENTRE LAUNCHED IN BUSHBUCKRIDGE

The start of August came with new beginnings and hope for an improved agricultural sector in Bushbuckridge, Mpumalanga, where a farmers service centre funded by the [Wesbank Fund](#) was launched.

The grand opening was organised and hosted by the Lima team in Bushbuckridge, all with funding from Wesbank and the [Virtual Livelihood School South Africa](#) (VLSA). This took place at the Amashangane Tribal Authority in Thulamahashe, the premises on which the centre is situated.



According to Thembelihle Mkhize, Lima's Mpumalanga and Limpopo Zone Manager, the centre is still work in progress. It currently operates as a nursery which is a much closer alternative to seedling suppliers in Bushbuckridge town. Apart from bridging the distance gap, it is intended to later become a hub for trainings and workshops for local farmers.

A fairly large number of farmers were in attendance during the event, much to the Lima team's excitement. Stakeholders which included, among others, the local Department of Agriculture, Kadiiao and Omnia, a supplier of agricultural equipment, also had a great turn out, showing solidarity with the cause to support and improve the livelihoods of farmers in the Bushbuckridge area. One by one, the stakeholders introduced their respective businesses and the ways in which they can be of service to the farmers. This session was followed by two short trainings on soil cultivation and how to plant seedlings, concurrently conducted by Lima staff and a delegate from P & A Seedlings.

Farmers also engaged further with other stakeholders in order to acquire more information about their services. During this time, a Lima staff member had a discussion with various non-governmental organisations including loveLife, WDB and Swavanna on VLSA, which aims to fund collaborative projects, brainstorming around ways of collaborating. The establishment of the centre is linked to the Wesbank funded farmers support project currently implemented by Lima in Bushbuckridge where community members are assisted with starting and maintaining vegetable gardens in order to sustain their families and improve their livelihoods.

The centre opens from 8:30am to 2pm on weekdays.



**ABOVE:** Lima staff members attend the official opening of the Wesbank Farmers Service Centre in Bushbuckridge.

# WE DIG DIGNITY: PARTICIPANT PROFILE

## MEET MR LAZARUS MOAGI, ABALIMI PHAMBILI FARMER



“My name is Lazarus Moagi. I am a 66-year-old farmer from Ga-Sekororo village in Lenyenye, Limpopo. I have been farming since the age of 16 but it only became my bread and butter in 1993 after I had left my job at Consol due to suffering an illness. I honestly don’t imagine myself doing anything else; farming is what prompts me to wake up every day. I have come a long way with this business; I am supported by my wife, first born daughter and other members. We started off as a team of 10 and now there are approximately 40 of us. Twenty are permanent staff and the rest help out during harvest time. We have 222 hectares of land now which the chief allocated us. But because we had inadequate farming training, the business had its set of problems.

In 2014, I met Silas Seokoma who is an agricultural facilitator at Lima and he recruited me under the [Abalimi Phambili Programme](#) (APP). The organisation assisted me in getting a revolving credit loan of R7000, with which I bought inputs. I planted and sold cabbages and tomatoes, using the money I made to pay back the loan once-off. Sadly, my father-in-law passed away during that time, so I had to use the remainder to cover funeral costs.

Being recruited under APP has had many perks for my business. Lima conducted training on poultry, cattle and crop farming. I have completed various short farming courses at Madzivhandila College of Agriculture in Giyani, sponsored by the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, but Lima’s training on crop farming was such an eye-opener. I learnt about conducting soil analysis and how this affects my overall produce. From the soil analysis results, one then determines which type of fertiliser to use on his/her land. I also learnt about pesticides, which has been of immense benefit to me. The knowledge I have acquired has been imparted to my staff. I need to make sure that they know all there is to know about farming so that even when I retire, the business will continue.

Through APP, we’ve added more variety to our usual tomato, cabbage and green beans produce with crops such as baby marrows, chillies, paprika, baby gems and peppers. I have about three contracts with local companies now, one of which is Peppadew. I recently was approached by another company to plant 9 hectares of peppers on my land. It supplied me with inputs and will pay for labour and then we’ll go 50/50 on the profit.

Apart from being a driven farmer, I am also a family man. Everything I do is to support them. Besides our daughter, my wife and I have two sons who are currently working in Johannesburg. We also have nine grandchildren, one of whom lives on our farm. My dream is to take my grandchildren through school as I believe education is vital. I told myself I would never get a loan for a house so I am currently building a seven-room house, strictly with the money I make from farming. All of this requires that I focus on growing my business and that is exactly what I intend doing.”

## YOUTH DAY TALENT EXHIBITION IN PHUTHADITJHABA



While the month of June will always be a time to think back to the 1976 uprising in Soweto and remember the sacrifices of the youth of yesteryear, this period has increasingly become one of emphasising the notion of youth development and tackling issues affecting the modern day youth. In celebration of Youth Day, [Maluti-A-Phofung CWP](#) hosted a special Youth Talent Exhibition for its participants on the 18th June at the All-Purpose Community Hall in Phuthaditjhaba. The event was attended by Maluti-A-Phofung Local Municipality delegates, Lima CWP staff and Municipality stakeholders.

Participants were at liberty to exhibit their talents in an array of categories which included music, dance, art, poetry and drama. They were also required to present business plans after each act.

Maluti-A-Phofung Site Manager Carl Maluleke explained that the rationale behind this exhibition was to encourage participants to dream big and maximise their talents. “Most [African] people like doing good and valuable things for free because they place no market value in these. Maluti-A-Phofung CWP wants to use its participants’ talents to generate income rather than for charity. We intend to invest in them,” he said.

While most participants gravitated towards music and dance, there was a handful who dared to be different by reciting poems inspired by the events of 16 June 1976. Strikingly enough, the unique abilities of the youth shone through in all the items.

Maluleke assured that some of the business plans presented during the event would be adopted, improved and used as strategies for the participants to exit CWP.

The interested participants would then receive mentorship through an internship programme. “Self-awareness” workshops will also be conducted for the other participants in order for them to develop a business mind set.



**ABOVE:** Maluti-A-Phofung Community Work Programme team with stakeholders.



**ABOVE:** The event started on a high note with cheers as this duo performed an unforgettable *pantsula* dance.

## CELEBRATING MANDELA DAY WITH THE FREE STATE CWP

As the world performed good deeds and engaged in community service activities in celebration of International Mandela Day in the month of July, CWP teams in Setsoto and Maluti -A-Phofung local municipalities continued to touch lives in the communities they serve.

In Setsoto Local Municipality, the celebrations began on the 16th July when 200 blankets from the Municipal Manager's office were distributed to the elderly and child-headed households in Ficksburg, Senekal, Marquard and Clocolan. The distribution of CWP blankets followed on the 22nd July. This time, early childhood development (ECD) centres and orphanages in the aforementioned areas were visited.

Maluti-A-Phofung Local Municipality had a similar concept but with a little twist. The team there dedicated the 22nd and 23rd of July to holding celebrations in Harrismisth and Tshiame and Qwaqwa and Kestel respectively. Blankets were distributed in selected crèches, old age homes cleaned and painted, with the homes of the disabled visited as well.

The late Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela once said that what counts in life is not the mere fact that we have lived but the difference we have made to the lives of others that will determine the significance of the life we lead. Bearing these words in mind, truly, the CWP teams played a significant role in the lives they touched during these events.



**ABOVE:** CWP participants in Setsoto exhibited their Mandela Day Arts and Crafts.



**ABOVE LEFT:** Blankets were distributed to the elderly, child-headed households and crèches at various sites.



**ABOVE RIGHT:** 400 trees sponsored by the Department of Agriculture.

## THE CWP FREE STATE IS A PROUD PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN:



# WE DIG DIGNITY: STAFF PROFILE

In this edition, INDIMA speaks to David Litabe, the Site Manager of Setsoto Local Municipality, Free State on the [Community Work Programme](#) (CWP). At first glance, Litabe strikes one as an ordinary young man, something that could, perhaps, be attributed to his subtle and modest demeanour. Upon learning of his background though, it quickly becomes clear that this talented artist and budding writer is simply dynamic.

## **Briefly tell us about yourself?**

My name is Ramabele David Litabe, a thirty-year old who is always ready to explore and experience new things. I am the eldest of five children (two sons and three daughters). I was born and raised in Roodekop Farm, Eastern Free State where my parents were, and still are, labourers. My siblings and I later moved to Marquard to stay with our grandmother as there were no secondary schools near the farm. I am a father to a three-year old girl and an uncle too.



## **What qualification do you have and where did you obtain it?**

I was offered a bursary by the Free State Department of Tourism to study Tourism. I did NQF 4 Tour Guiding, specialising in Culture. The course was facilitated by Drum Beat Academy in Pretoria. I am currently a registered and qualified provincial tourist guide. I am fascinated by the ever-changing world in which we live. I wanted to get out of my comfort zone and explore the world and the different cultures.

## **What does your position as a CWP Site Manager entail?**

I assumed this position in April 2014. My job entails supervising and managing operational activities on the site. I plan for useful work and liaise with stakeholders in terms of establishing partnerships, including but not limited to the recruitment of participants, so as to ensure the successful implementation of the programme.

## **What vital role, if any, has Lima played in your professional career?**

Lima allows me to design and implement my ideas as a creative individual without doubt and my managers also provide constructive criticism if needs be which makes me work even harder.

## **We understand you're an artist in your personal capacity? Please enlighten us on this part of your life...**

From a very young age, I was passionate about art. I tap into many forms of art, a gift I believe God gave me. During my secondary school years, I was also involved in performing arts (drama, traditional dance, etc.) and I wrote and directed a few theatre productions.

Due to financial constraints, I could not enrol for a course in fine art after high school. Nevertheless, I did not see poverty as a barrier for my becoming a well-known artist in my province. I taught myself how to mix colours, do pottery and mosaics. I remember from 2005 to 2007, after completing matric, I was unemployed, but I was dead against becoming a farm labourer like my father, so I started drawing portraits, community murals and deco art pieces for a living.

The youth development officer in my community recognised my potential and invited me to several art conferences, excursions, workshops, panel discussions and exhibitions where I interacted and made connections with different artists and authors around Free State.



One of the highlights was when the University of Free State (UFS) employed me as an art educator under a project called "Artists in School Project". I taught art at various schools around the province in 2009.

I later joined AllSAfrica art studio as a deco artist for a year after which I decided to start my own art business at home, conducting private art lessons to aspiring artists too.

Currently, I'm a freelance illustrator of books, working with writers and poets.

I have illustrated three editions of Mantloane, a series of children's books. I have also started writing Sotho short stories which are yet to be published.

**Have you ever received awards or any kind of recognition for your artworks?**

Oh yes! The Department of Fine Arts at UFS awarded me a Certificate of Recognition for my contribution to the "Artists in School Project". I have had several articles and cartoons published by the press too.

**What inspires you and why?**

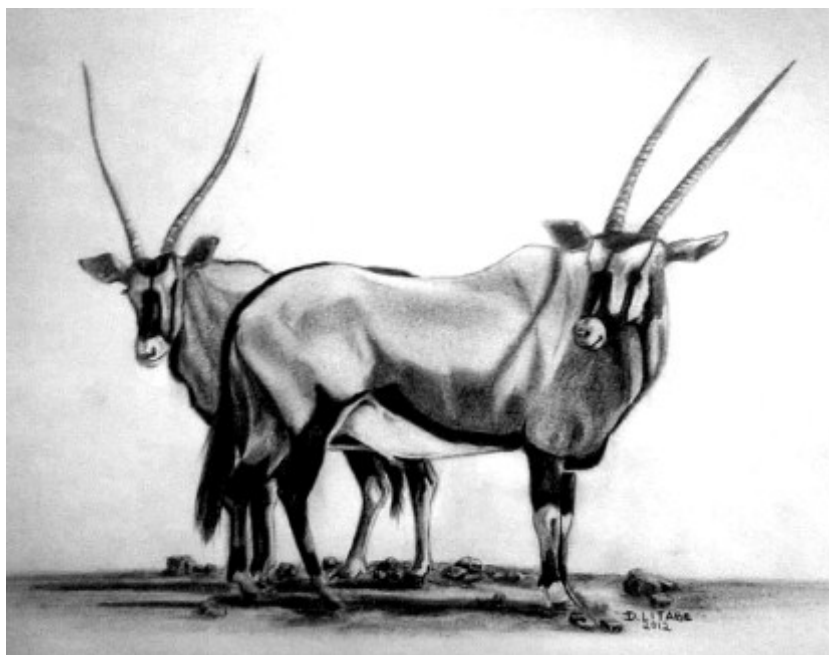
I'm inspired by life itself. A journey we have travelled in our lives is a blessing from God that must be respected.

**Tell us about your favourite artist and/or writer?**

Paulo Coelho is my favourite writer; I have just finished reading his wonderful book entitled Winner Stands Alone.

**What do you understand about dignity and the role it plays in human life?**

From childhood, I was taught that humans have freedom of choice. We can choose to eat chocolate over chips, life over death or whether to accept poverty or pursue wealth. When it's tough, human beings can choose to stand back and look at the alternatives. I believe that dignity is informed by the choices one makes. Obviously, we can't always get what we choose, but that is a different question.



# SCHOOL COMPETITION WINNER

## “WE DIG DIGNITY BECAUSE WE HAVE HUMANITY”

By: Thuli Mahoko from Marallaneng Secondary School

Though now the future seems dark,  
Remember that light comes after dark  
We dig dignity because we have humanity  
Ma Africa let's rise and shine  
Bright like a diamond  
Because we live everyday hopeless,  
Some of us even become restless  
And end-up useless  
I am an African  
I dig dignity because  
I have humanity  
Ngwana MoAfrica  
I can't promise you the riches  
But I know that together we can make it  
Even in inches  
When all seems to be falling apart  
Let's stick together and never part  
Because sticking together is what will strengthen Us  
And hanging together is what will enlighten Us  
MaAfrica lets dig dignity  
Because we have humanity  
Hare tshwaraneng  
Hoba re bana ba thari e ntsho  
Ka Moshoeshoe  
Keya ikana  
We are not a doomed youth  
Not forgetting that God is our MTN  
Everywhere we go!  
Like!!! With him by our side  
We won't be ridding solo  
Just like *Jason Derulo* does  
Let's rise and shine  
Bright like a diamond  
Because we are one.  
We dig dignity.



**ABOVE:** Thuli entertains her classmates with an outstanding poetry performance of her winning poem.



**ABOVE:** Naledi Hlefane (right) from Lima, awards Thuli (left) with first prize for the best poetry depiction of what dignity means to her.

# LEARNING SUPPORT UNIT



## CONFLICT AND DEVELOPMENT

*Written by Tim Houghton (Learning Support Unit Manager)*

You can't have development without peace; and you can't have peace without development. Yet conflict is one of the most common causes of the failure of development projects. Arguably the biggest problem with conflict is that generally people see conflict itself as a problem. In other words, most people regard conflict as a negative thing and do as much as they can to try and avoid it. But this response can be unhelpful. Whatever the exact cause, we need to recognise that conflict is normal in all human relationships.

When conflict arises in development projects and is not constructively managed, it tends to deepen the differences between people, creates competition between groups who should be co-operating and takes energy away from important work. The unresolved conflict undermines positive attitudes, creates opposition between groups, destroys trust, can lead to violence and nearly always disrupts the development agenda.

Wherever we implement development programmes we are going to experience conflict, but it need not necessarily be destructive. Conflict between implementing partners, within the community we are working with, among the various stakeholders, can be a potentially positive thing. When managed constructively, conflict provides the opportunity for development and growth, for improving people's relationships, for getting the development agenda back on track. Conflict can motivate stakeholders to collectively solve problems, triggering creativity and stimulating new ways of interacting based on better communication, trust, sensitivity and understanding.

The [Lima Learning Support Unit](#) (LSU) partners with [Ilifa Labantwana](#) in the North West province to develop and test an early learning playgroup model that could be scaled up through the [Community Work Programme](#) as part of a national Early Childhood Development (ECD) agenda. Our core function is partnership management and stakeholder liaison, with NGOs, government and other institutions coming together to address the challenges of early childhood service delivery. With so many divergent approaches, protocols, personalities, organisational cultures and expectations, conflict was bound to emerge. In this particular case, it was felt that a structured and sensitively conducted mediation process had the potential to highlight, clarify and resolve issues that were key to our understanding of what a robust playgroup model should look like.

Beyond creating a safe space for suppressed emotions, stress and anxiety to be released, the process held real potential to encourage truthful communication, enhance cooperation, increase the constructive involvement of community-level stakeholders in important issues, and develop team spirit.

Our initial communications with the various stakeholders revealed that there had been simmering tensions between parties for some time. There was a pervading negative relationship characterised by disrespect, mistrust, misunderstanding and miscommunication between the primary parties. The conflict was escalating and was on the verge of crisis. In other words, without intervention, implementation in that community was certainly threatened.

*(cont.)*

## CONSTRUCTIVELY MANAGING CONFLICT

Before conducting a mediation process we met with each individual involved in the dispute to listen to and document each “story” of the conflict. We also talked to them about who in the community they felt could help to solve the problem - in this case, it was some of the parents of the children in the playgroup. Each person was then asked if they supported a process of mediation and accepted the Lima team as impartial facilitators. Once this was established, each person involved in the dispute as well as those identified as being able to help to solve the problem was invited to a “peace meeting.”

Prior to conducting the mediation we sat down to study our interview notes and make a preliminary analysis to inform what we were doing. This initial analysis involved identifying primary parties (those directly involved), secondary parties (who may be supporters of the primary parties) and importantly, any hidden parties that may be influencing the conflict. We then studied the relationships between the various parties and tried to distinguish between their positions, needs and interests. We ascertained the extent to which there were moderating or aggravating factors that could be respectively enhanced or avoided, and we attempted to establish the root causes of the conflict. It may appear obvious that a conflict is about late-coming and poor time management. However, once we dig deeper we discover that there are fundamental problems with a general lack of respectful communication.



At the peace meeting our goal was to help participants uncover the root cause of their problem, look for a solution together and write an agreement which aimed to prevent the problem from recurring. The two key principles we asked everyone to agree on were: we meet to move from a problem in the past to a peaceful future; everyone is respected, and everyone may speak.

The first step was to identify the problem. Each person spoke in turn and gave his/her version of events and feelings about the problem. Each person then asked one other person to speak in his/her support. Thereafter some of the parents present gave their take on the dispute. Areas of agreement and commonality were affirmed and other issues needing to be addressed were identified. We followed this with brainstorming the needs and wants of the parties, what each person wanted to see as the outcome, and possible solutions. We then evaluated and chose win-win solutions, deciding on how they could be realised. Sometimes we had to combine ideas or modify them.

The final step was to clarify the implementation and evaluation of our chosen solutions - committing to a plan of action with specific timeframes and monitoring procedures. This agreement was then written down and signed by everyone present. This process allowed people to understand each other better, as they all experienced a practical, nonviolent method of problem solving.

During the whole process we found that it was important to help everyone – facilitators, coordinators, and managers – to understand our approach; namely that constructive dispute resolution is not about blame, about pointing fingers, about judging and punishment. It is not punitive justice. Rather it is about supporting, affirming, listening, communicating and joint problem solving. We call this restorative justice.

# BONDE 1000 HOUSING PROJECT

## THE PROJECT LAUNCH OF 1000 HOUSES IN BIZANA

The Bonde 1000 Housing Project recently launched in selected villages in Bizana (Eastern Cape), is impacting the lives of beneficiary communities in more than one way, firstly, through the construction of houses and secondly, the provision of temporary jobs for some residents.

The subsidy housing project is an initiative of the [Eastern Cape Department of Human Settlements](#) which is being implemented by Lima in association with specialist infrastructure and construction company [Axsys Projects](#). It started at the beginning of July and will culminate in the construction of 1000 four-room houses in Makhabaldaka and Nombane villages.

The plight of many rural inhabitants is poverty and unemployment. The beneficiary communities are no exception to this situation. To bring a local economic development element to the project, a vacancy for hand levelling of plots was created, which then called for the recruitment of local dwellers.

There are currently 40 employees who've been grouped in teams of four and given specific work targets and deadlines. They are remunerated fortnightly. The wage may not necessarily cover all their basic needs but it has made a significant difference in some of the employees' lives.

One of the employees, twenty-six-year old Phakamile Ngoyo from Makhabaldaka, has been longing to obtain his driver's licence and Professional Driving Permit (PDP) for a while but he's been struggling to raise capital for this.

"I have been working as a labourer for too long so I intend to acquire more skills which will develop and put me in a better position to find permanent employment. Obtaining my driver's licence and PDP is my first move towards reaching my goal and I must say, I don't think getting these would have been possible had it not been for securing this job. I feel so privileged," Ngoyo said.

For Phumlani Nyulukane (39), another Makhabaldaka resident, getting employed under this project was a great break from the monotonous days he spent at home. He said he used to work in Durban before suffering an injury which forced him to resign in 2010.



ABOVE LEFT: Pictured is one of 10 teams employed under the Bonde project.

ABOVE RIGHT: Hand levelling opportunities were open to residents of all genders and ages.

## BONDE 1000 HOUSING PROJECT IS A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN:



Province of the  
**EASTERN CAPE**  
HUMAN SETTLEMENTS



On the 6th of August, the [Friends of UKZN Agriculture](#) alumnus association held its fourth annual Networking Function themed 'A is for Agriculture: Education Meets Agriculture in KZN'. The keynote speakers on the night were Vice-Chancellor and Principal of UKZN Dr Albert van Jaarsveld and [KZN MEC for Agriculture and Rural Development](#) Mr Cyril Xaba. The event was intended to bring together representatives from industry and academia in the agricultural sector. This was achieved, with a wide range of representatives in attendance at the function, from agricultural banking advisors to company CEOs to representatives from government and NGOs.

The evening's programme included a welcome from Dean and Head of the [School of Agricultural, Earth and Environmental Sciences](#) (SAEES) Professor Albert Modi, who is involved on the committee of the association. Networking Facilitator for the association Ms Christine Cuénod gave a report on the association's activities in the past year and Professor Deo Jaganyi, Acting Registrar of UKZN and Deputy Vice-Chancellor of the College of Agriculture, Engineering and Science introduced both speakers. Dr van Jaarsveld's address emphasised UKZN's continued commitment to excellence and transformation, and he congratulated the Friends of UKZN Agriculture.

'The University is looking forward to developing more partnerships that will change the agricultural landscape in the province, the country and the continent, this event is a great step forward in these relationships,' said van Jaarsveld.

Xaba responded to van Jaarsveld's address by saying that he was encouraged by the University's commitment to agriculture in the province. 'We should drop the 'U' and make it Friends of KZN Agriculture,' Xaba quipped, generating supportive applause from the audience. Xaba also alluded to the recently signed Memorandum of Understanding between the University and the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, which will see strong emphasis on both formal and informal education with an emphasis on programmes to build capacity within the farming sector.

Xaba quoted from Bill Guest's book on the history of agricultural studies in Pietermaritzburg, entitled, 'A Fine Band of Farmers Are We,' in which former principal at Cedara College, John Fisher, said, 'anyone who lays claim to being considered a skilled farmer should be professionally as well-equipped as a professional engineer;' demonstrating the importance of scientific training in combination with practical skills. 'Dr Van Jaarsveld, as I said at the outset, your address has been uplifting,' said Xaba. 'You have assured us that UKZN is in good hands and that agricultural research and teaching is fully supported and has clear direction. With our partnerships and commitment to collaboration within the sector we can only move forward and from strength to strength,' he said.

Chairman of the Friends of UKZN Agriculture committee, Mr Duncan Stewart (Managing Director at Lima Rural Development), gave the vote of thanks wherein he acknowledged the success of the association thanks to the support of UKZN, alumni and agribusiness, and encouraged fellow alumni to continue to support the association.

*(Article and pictures supplied by Christine Cuénod of Friends of UKZN Agriculture)*



**ABOVE LEFT:** Prof Gerald Ortmann, Mr Duncan Stewart, Prof Albert Modi, Dr Albert van Jaarsveld, Christine Cuénod and Mr Duncan Hay.



**ABOVE RIGHT:** MEC for KwaZulu-Natal Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, Mr Cyril Xaba, gives his keynote address.

# SPAR LADIES RACE: GIJIMA LIMA!

## TEAM SPIRIT CHEER FOR OUR LADIES AT ANNUAL RACE



ABOVE: Our Lima ladies took part in Lima's 5th Spar Ladies Race on the 23rd August 2015. Always a fun-filled day! Thank-you to our boss, Duncan Stewart for attending and showing his support.  
[Click here](#) for more pictures from the race.

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