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*The Official Newsletter of Lima Rural Development
Foundation*



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UmaStandi Soweto Apartments



Umastandi focuses on building the township economy through rental housing by giving an opportunity to the landlords within the township by providing funding in order to build and own rental housing. The project first began in Soweto and Khayelitsha, with it gaining popularity the number of sites where uMastandi seeks to invest has increased within Gauteng, Western Cape, and now within KZN.

Lima plays a consulting role in the south of Johannesburg and has seen the delivery of all the projects within this area. The developments are mainly self-contained bachelor units or 1-bedroom units for rental. The uMastandi projects not only contribute towards the growth of the township economy by providing an opportunity to the landlords of making an extra income but they also assist in decreasing the housing backlog for households seeking accommodation and provide an opportunity for the landlords to move up the housing ladder.



Louis Dreyfus Foundation Farmer Support

Lima Rural Development is working in the North West Province to support smallholder grain farmers with cropping.

Funded by the Louis Dreyfus Foundation (LDF), Lima began this project by profiling farmers who needed support through the hosting of participatory rural appraisal (PRA) workshops in various villages, after which more than 200 farmers were identified and registered with Lima.

The funds released by the LDF were used to provide production input loans to initially assist 15 farmers in different villages where they were facing challenges and to demonstrate best practice to improve yields and ultimately increase income. Thanks to these loans, farmers received production inputs including seed, fertilisers and herbicides. Beneficiaries are producing sunflower and maize crops over a combined 315 hectares (from 15ha production to 30ha per farmer).

Even before harvest, the 15 farmers have already observed a positive change in their crop production, and expressed gratitude to Lima's facilitators for assisting with the calibration of their machinery.

Lima has also secured a new market for high-value dry bean crops in the form of Hello Choice, giving farmers an avenue to sell this produce and a potential new source of production finance.





Moletele New Dawn Social Facilitation

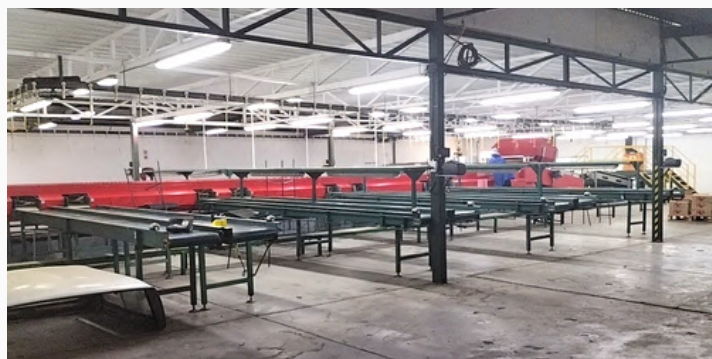
South Africa Siyasebenza

Lima Rural Development was appointed by GTAC (Government Technical Advisory Centre) to provide social facilitation services to The Jobs Fund. The project is now referred to by Lima as “Moletele New Dawn”.

The New Dawn farm which is based in Hoedspruit, Limpopo, forms part of the land claim that was awarded to the Moletele Communal Property Association (MCPA) in 2006 by the Department of Agriculture Rural Development and Land Reform. To date, the MCPA has about 4000 beneficiaries from 5 different constituencies namely: Buffelshoek, Township, Manyeleti, Boelang, and Sekororo, which are situated in Mpumalanga and Limpopo provinces.

As per the requirements of the GTAC, Lima is going through a process of Social Facilitation developing and implementing an Empowerment Plan which includes: a Co-management Plan, Strategy and Training Plan, Succession, and Sustainability Plan. The process is also aimed at improving the governance and communication between the respective parties which include the strategic partner and the operating company of the New Dawn Farm. This will improve all stakeholders' understanding of governance structures, roles, and responsibilities and deepen key business management skills. Conflict resolution will also form part of the scope of services whilst ensuring that communication gaps are addressed.

A highly consultative and facilitative approach has been deployed by Lima to approach the assignment. A consistent consultative and community engagement process will result in a programme that is owned, supported, and driven by all stakeholders. The community mobilization will strengthen communication and long-term relationships



AgriSETA Mentorship & Training



The Hammarsdale Big Grower's Secondary Cooperative Mentorship Programme provided by Lima Rural Development Foundation (Mentee) is for sixty-nine (69) farmers who are currently involved in producing and selling vegetables within the eThekweni Outer West Municipality.

The KZN Department of Agriculture and Rural Development and Lima are providing ongoing agricultural-related formal and informal training, demonstrations and advisory services, provision of production inputs, market support where possible, infrastructural support, veterinary services, etc.

The mentorship and support of the farmers is essential to help them to be self-sustained and realise profits.

We are happy to announce that AgriSETA has awarded programme approval for Lima as a secondary education and training provider in Agriculture to continue this exciting project.



FNB School Refurbishment Programme

Lima Rural Development Foundation has graciously been afforded the opportunity to implement an infrastructure refurbishment programme, the objective of which is to provide essential support to the educators who work tirelessly in service of our nation's future generations. The dedicated school principals, faculty, and staff are an inspiration and a source of joy and hope for the future of South Africa. The programme mandate is to provide emergency repairs to school infrastructure damage caused during the civil unrest across KwaZulu Natal in July 2021.

The resources required to make such transformative social development possible have generously been made available by the FNB Philanthropy Donor Choice Foundation Trust through the FNB Disaster Relief Fund. The primary objective of this Fund is to provide resources to assist and alleviate social suffering in all areas within South Africa and in other African countries.

The implementation plan developed for this programme restores 45 educational institutions through the following approach: (1) a thorough assessment of the school's infrastructure, (2) consideration of the natural environment, cultural context, and workforce capacity of the school's locality, (3) the development of a budget estimate for the restoration of existing or provision of new facilities, (4) the employment of local labour coupled with professional mentorship for the assurance of high-quality work, and (5) the official handover of new facilities for use by the Beneficiary. Due to the extent of the needs of many communities, discerning between damage caused by the unrest and damage due to a lack of maintenance or resources was a frequent challenge. FNB made allowances for scope adjustments as necessary, the most notable of which is a bold initiative to provide comprehensive sanitation infrastructure to three schools in the Ugu district.



Enhancing Worcester ECD Offerings

Lima Rural Development Foundation had been appointed as the Implementing Partner for the DO MORE Foundation (DMF) in 2019 in the Breede Valley Local Municipality. Led by a multi-disciplinary DMF team that includes our organisation, Lima has been facilitating support for young children in the First Thousand Days (FTD) and Early Childhood Development (ECD) phases through a process of multi-sectoral partnership development, enabling the empowerment of ECD practitioners through skills development platforms and on-going information sharing as well as supporting the distribution of nutrition- and early learning resources.

The project has shown consistent growth over time, starting out with infrastructure support to assist some ECD centres with DSD registration compliance and facilitating monthly Young Child forum workshops. More recent contributions to the DMF's ECD support response include assisting ECD forums to elevate ECD as a developmental priority on the Breede Valley Local Government agenda and responding to developmental challenges highlighted during the COVID pandemic including the development of a parent support programme that is aligned to the World Health Organization's Nurturing Care Framework. Lima is committed to continue its developmental journey in the ECD sector with the Do More Foundation in Breede Valley and other municipalities.

Read the Do More Foundation newsletters here:



KZN Department of Social Development ECD maintenance

Lima Rural Development Foundation is the implementing agent on a project that involves the maintenance or renovation of 42 Early Childhood Development Centres (ECDs) in order for the ECD centre to retain its registration with the Department of Social Development (DSD), obtain the next grade of registration or acquire first time registration with DSD.

ECD registration with the DSD is important because it entitles them to a monthly payment from the department to assist with their operations that include feeding, salaries and maintenance. When an ECD meets certain requirements it is registered fully, or provisionally according to a certain grade: bronze, silver or gold.

Lima plays an advisory role in the contract planning stage, then provides management and supervision during the contract implementation stage. The process involves assessment of the centre's infrastructure condition, determination of the current registration grading, followed by improvements to the centre to help it attain full registration, or partial registration according to what grade requirements are met.



Cookhouse Wind Farms ECD Construction & Upgrade

The construction and upgrading of Early Childhood Development Centres (ECD) is a big component of the work done by Lima Rural Development Foundation's Construction and Engineering division. The socio-economic development programmes of Cookhouse Wind Farm, one of South Africa's largest wind farms situated close to the town of Cookhouse in the Eastern Cape Province have supported an ECD Infrastructure Support Programme for participating ECD Centres in the towns of Somerset East and Cookhouse within the Blue Crane Municipality.

In the third phase of this programme in the fourth quarter of 2021, Lima renovated and upgraded three ECD Centres: Masikhule Educare Centre, Msobomvu Family Development and Tinkle Bell Day-care Centre. The renovations and upgrades ensured a safe, entertaining area for the children that are educated in these centres daily to enjoy.

The renovations completed by Lima include servicing and repair of plumbing; repair of leaking roofs; fixing and painting of ceilings; gutter repair; repairing and painting of walls; installation of wheelchair access ramps; repair and painting of play equipment; security upgrades that included installation of burglar bars and gates; replacement of perimeter fences; installation of PVC floor tiles; and manufacture and installation of shelving, room dividers and table tops.

"Because of Cookhouse Wind Farm and Lima, the Msobomvu Family Development Project in Cookhouse – which was in a very bad situation before the renovations – is now in a good state, with floor rugs for the children and new fencing," said Mrs Fezeka Mselana principal from the Msobomvu Family Development Project.

"Our centre is very attractive; I am so proud of them and appreciate everything they did for us. Thank you Cookhouse Wind farm for your good work," she said.



Linking Nkomazi Youth with Economic Opportunities

Lima RDF in partnership with RCL Foods is implementing the Nkomazi Enterprise Development and Youth & Women Mobilization Programme in Nkomazi Local Municipality under the auspices of South African Sugar Association. The purpose of the programme is to link youth and women of Nkomazi region with the following economic opportunities:

- Enterprise development – Agricultural Enterprise Development and Mentorship
- Skill development – learnerships and trainings
- Internships
- Employment
- Education – application of bursaries and applications in higher learning institutions



Here are some of the businesswomen who have benefited from the training:

Profile 1:

Ewelyn Nqobile Zulu Founder of Zulu Tutoring. Her business started in 2019 just after finishing matric. She spotted an opportunity around her community as no one provided extra lessons for children who needed the extra help from online classes to one-on-one classes. The tutoring covers curriculum from Grade 1 to 12 for both private and public schools.

When Ewelyn started this business, she did not need to raise any capital fresh out of matric, the only thing needed were her skills, knowledge, and talents which helped her business flourish. During that year she ended up having 15 children who required her attention from starting off with just two pupils.

The business she runs has taught her patience and to put herself in the children's shoes. It gives her an opportunity to connect with people, understand them, to see and hear their challenges.

As with businesses she had some challenges of time management, needing extra help, and a good location where her business can grow. With the Street Business School offered by Lima, it has helped Ewelyn look at different opportunities for promoting her business and growing her customer base. The training has given her a place to meet people making it easier for her to connect with other aspiring businesswomen.



"I would like to thank FHI360 and Lima for such wonderful training and this certification will open doors for me. This will also prove that I can stand on my own and take root for development. Furthermore, I would like to thank Lima for opening my mind to this level and I am hoping to open another business because I still want to study Law and open my own Law firm, however that does not mean I will close the Tutoring business. Another facet of Zulu Tutoring is providing therapy sessions which means creating a safe space where kids are free enough to talk so that we can counsel the kids who are underperforming because of the situations at home. This training has helped me see the potential I have, and I am confident enough that I can make it as a businesswoman." – Ewelyn Zulu

Profile 2:

Ayanda Chauke is a fast food business owner.

Ayanda decided to dive into the business world and open up a fast food shop selling chips, Kota, sweets, fat cakes and cookies, to help support her family as her grandmother was the only one employed at the time.

When her business first opened in 2016 she saw an opportunity in the area she lived in as there was no fast food shop close by. At first, she faced many challenges but her long-term plan was to use this small business as a stepping stone to open a bakery which kept her motivated.

"The training helped me a lot because I have a running business but I didn't know how to manage it, sometimes I wanted to stop because I was losing hope. The training taught me to try different things to attract new customers and retain the ones I already have and I am also looking forward to learning more about bookkeeping and money management so that I can grow my business further."- Ayanda Chauke

Linking Nkomazi Youth with Economic Opportunities



Profile 3:

From Unemployment to Independence

Kholeka Khoza from Kamhlushwa runs a baking business she started in 2018. She was inspired by an independent businesswoman who taught her skills that would help avoid being counted into the statistics of unemployment.

The challenges she faces in her business range from having no stock, competition and having high expenditure. To overcome these challenges, she had to build confidence and not give up on herself, face her fears, associate with people who are more successful with a positive mindset and ask them how they made it in the business world.

In the near future, Kholeka sees herself owning a bakery engaging in the formal sectors of the economy (Registered and paying taxes), having a stable 3-5 year budget.

“Having attended the few training sessions implemented by FHI360 in partnership with Lima I have learnt that I need to step out of my comfort zone and build confidence. I have also developed my own motto for the business, “Confidence is the key to the progression of my business and myself”. Confidence allows me to value and take every opportunity seriously. I believe that by facing my fears, learning new strategies to improve my business, and bringing positive judgements to my business I can be a successful businesswoman.”

“I have also learnt that as a businesswoman or an entrepreneur you have to be mentally prepared to think outside the box, be independent by using your creativity to achieve your dreams. Being creative can bring uniqueness to your business. This training has also taught me to be open to partnerships and improved the communication and negotiation skills I possess which will help me develop partnerships to take my business further.” – Kholeka Khoza



Profile 4:

Mother Pushes Daughter into Business World.

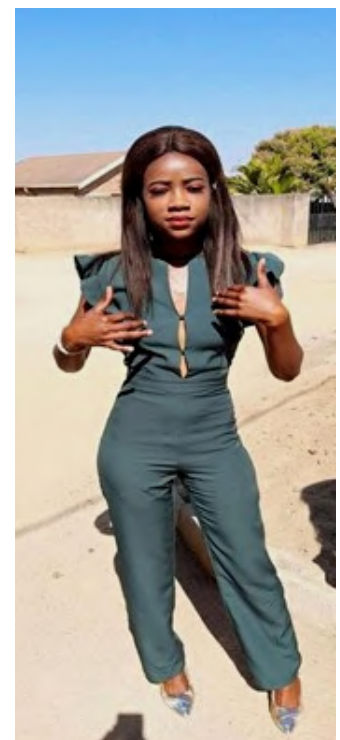
Sharon Bhiya is from Kamhlushwa (Nkomazi West), she runs a cosmetics and fragrances business where she sells perfume. She started her business in 2019 where she learnt and developed marketing and sales skills from her mother Mrs Sibongile Bhiya. These skills allowed her to identify the opportunity for success in this business.



Mrs Sibongile Bhiya

Despite the challenges she faced with customers not being able to pay on time she has only grown more confident and with the support of her mother she plans to grow, expand and diversify her business. She also wants to have her own space, open chain stores where her products will be available and accessible to all. She would like to open a factory shop for her future business and a clothing factory that will produce cushions and bed covers.

“Since I started attending this training it has brought positive impact to my business, for instance, it has taught me to step out of my comfort zone, challenge myself to learn new things, be creative and stop putting things off but rather use the time I have now to do things. My customers used to complain about getting their orders late but this month I received positive feedback from the happy customers that received their orders in time. This was mainly because I applied this principle of getting out of my comfort zone and creating momentum for my business.” – Sharon Bhiya



Sharon Bhiya

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New staff!

Jo-Ann Prinsloo - Facilitator

Jo-Ann Prinsloo is no stranger to the Lima family, having worked for Lima Rural Development in 2016 up until 2019, as a partnership facilitator for the Zoe-Naliibali Reading project that stretched across four municipalities in the Western Cape.

Three years later, a Worcester appointment as ECD facilitator welcomes Jo-Ann back into the development space, where she will be focusing on early childhood development.

Jo-Ann is not only excited, but also ready to take on the new journey!



Jo-Ann Prinsloo



Sandile Mngoma and Lindy Login

Sandile Mgoma - Quantity Surveyor

Sandile has a B Tech in Quantity Surveying and 15' years experience in the construction industry which he joined in 2006 gaining valuable experience in several sectors in retail facilities, healthcare projects, educational institutions, hotel & leisure developments, residential developments and industrial projects.

Sandile joined the Lima team in October 2021 and is working closely with our Construction and Engineering team as the quantity surveyor.

Lindy Login- Human Resources Manager

As Lima's new Human Resources Manager, Lindy is excited about meeting all Lima's staff and is taking on all the HR related functions in the office, as well as assisting with various other projects on an ad hoc basis.

She is a qualified attorney and practiced for many years, but for the past six years took a different direction into skills development consulting and lecturing part time at Varsity College in the Law department.

Married with two grown-up sons who left home last year, Lindy unwinds by reading, watching movies and having a glass of wine with friends.

A warm welcome to the office! Your remarkable skills will be a great addition to our team!

In Memoriam - Nokwethemba Zitha

We were saddened by the sudden passing of our colleague Nokwethemba Zitha in early February. Nokwethemba was a loved member of Lima and will be truly missed. Our hearts go out to her friends and family at this difficult time.

