

LANDCARE PROJECT PROFILE

NAME OF THE PROJECT: Lower Kroza LandCare Project – Minimum Tillage (O.R. Tambo District, EC)

INTRODUCTION

The project was started in 2009 by a group of communal farmers who were experiencing greater challenges of high degradation, soil erosion and unprotected arable land. This consequently culminated to insufficient food production, loss of soil fertility and depleted natural resources to support livelihoods in the area.

Local authorities, stakeholders and community-based organisations in the Kroza Magisterial District congregated in the Inkosi's place and deliberated seriously on issues that would resolve them towards regaining their lost natural gift of land. A resolution was reached to initialise a LandCare group that would work towards natural resource management, therefore creating piece jobs for unemployed community members, improving farmlands by adopting applied conservation technologies; and acquiring skills with the aid of capacity building programme made available by the rural development mandate of government and requests for poverty alleviation in far-off rural communities.

Lower Kroza has high-potential land for agriculture with high rainfall ranging from 800 mm to 1 300 mm a year. This area comprises of 2 180 ha of arable land with three villages. The problem in this land area is the continuous degradation and soil erosion threatening the farmland. The objective of this project is to restore the lost fertility of the soil, to control soil erosion by introducing Conservation Agriculture technology production practices and increasing food production levels by fencing the farmland area to provide continuous productivity with the intention of reducing poverty strains.



PROJECT FUNDING AND JOB CREATION

The project received funding of R583000 since 2012/13 and 14 financial year from the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries.

JOB CREATION:

Since 2012/13 and 14 financial year the project has managed to created 80 job opportunities.

AWARENESS AND TRAINING

Fifteen (15) members received accredited capacity building and were certified in project management and fencing from the project and communities. Informal training was also carried out to bridge areas of uncertainty in the following fields: Fencing, Gabion construction, project management in general, use of herbicides in no-till practices and rotational grazing skills.

INSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURE

The LandCare Committee is available and functional. Most of the LandCare committee members understand the roles and responsibilities.



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Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

