



agriculture, forestry & fisheries

Department:
Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



1. Background:

The LandCare Programme was conceptualised in 1997 and rolled out in all nine Provinces of the country. The LandCare programme is currently one of the Government's key programmes with a number of economic, social and environmental opportunities. LandCare is a community-based and government supported programme which seeks to optimise productivity and enhance sustainable use and management of the natural agricultural resources leading to greater productivity, food security, job creation and better quality of life for all. The programme focuses on five aspects which are: Water Care, VeldCare, Soil Care and the other resolutions the previous conferences gave rise to, Junior Care and Conservation Agriculture. Community participation is the cornerstone of successful implementation and sustainability of the LandCare projects. The LandCare programme had over the past three financial year's implemented projects in the following categories:

- 81 Projects of rangeland management
- 114 projects of weeds and invader plants control
- 32 Junior LandCare projects
- 34 LandCare awareness projects,
- 18 Projects under soil protection
- 10 Conservation of water resources

- 24 Capacity building and partnership projects
- 20 Conservation of Agriculture projects.

The LandCare programme had further erected 564,46 kilometres of fencing and both directly and indirectly improved the lives of 74 695 and 8 637 beneficiaries, respectively.

2. Land rehabilitation

The LandCare programme had over the past three financial years managed to rehabilitate 154 380, 21 hectares of land.



3. Job Creation

The LandCare programme had, over the past three financial years, managed to create 10 322 job opportunities and with 3 502,26 FTE.



4. JuniorCare

The LandCare programme had over the past three financial years managed to reach 39 714 youths in Junior LandCare initiatives such as school gardening, skills development, employment and many other activities that benefit the youth.



5. LandCare committees

The LandCare programme had over the past three financial years managed to establish 82 LandCare project committees in all provinces.



6. LandCare Awareness

The LandCare programme had over the past three financial years managed to reach 59 258 people during awareness campaigns.



7. LandCare programme outcomes

The LandCare programme implementation led to the achievement of the outcomes listed below:

- Improved quantity and quality of South Africa's water resources, mitigating disaster risks for the sector
- Improved veld carrying capacity and livestock productivity
- Improved production potential of arable land, leading to increased products
- Improved youth participation in the agricultural sector and intergenerational transfer of skills
- Improved custodianship and stewardship of natural resources through community-based ownership
- Improved livelihoods of rural communities within the ambit of the green economy
- Improved partnerships and institutions by private, public and community sectors that are responsible for the natural resources
- Improved knowledge and skill base in the sustainable use and management of natural resources
- Enhanced ecosystem services for current and future generations.