



STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT WITH FARM WORKERS

1. THE STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT WITH FARMWORKERS

Although South Africa is reported to be food secure at national level, household food insecurity remains a reality for most of its citizens, and farmworkers are no exception, despite being directly linked to the production of food.

One of the harsh challenges that have a greater impact on food security levels of low earning workers is rising food prices translating in households having to cut down on the quantity and quality of their food consumption. COVID 19 has also worsened the situation for most households, leaving the vulnerable worse off.





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1. ...CONT...STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT WITH FARMWORKERS

Governments and many other organisations commemorate the International Day Rural Women (IDRW) and World Food Day (WFD) widely in the world, concerned with the production, preservation and distribution of food, to ensure food security. It is against this reason that the Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development will be commemorating the International Day of Rural Women by addressing the plight of the most vulnerable in the rural and agricultural sector.



agriculture, land reform & rural development

Department:





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2. OBJECTIVES OF STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT WITH FARMWORKERS

The objectives of the engagement are to:

- heighten public awareness about the government programmes aimed at alleviating hunger, malnutrition and poverty in South Africa.
- enhance the participation of rural people, particularly women and the under-privileged in decisions and events that impact their living conditions.
- provide a platform for engagement and dialogue among all stakeholders to find sustainable solutions to the plight of farmworkers.
- mobilise relevant NGOs and grassroots women's groups and organisations to commemorate the day and honour rural women and their communities.
- raise awareness of rural women's participation in the development process with a focus on their needs and rights, highlighting their contributions to sustainable development, household food security, and so much more.





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3. TARGETED BENEFICIARIES

The targeted beneficiaries are female farmworkers across districts in the Western Cape. However, many female farmworkers from Cape Winelands and West Coast districts will be considered against the backdrop of the findings of the Agri-workers Household Census conducted by the Western Cape Department of Agriculture in 2020, which ascertained that a higher number of farmworkers were experiencing hunger in the afore-said districts.





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4. SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT EFFORTS

The month of October offers opportunities to strengthen the national and international solidarity in the struggle against poverty, hunger and malnutrition as well as drawing attention to the achievements of food and nutrition security. The South African government in collaboration with sector role players, including farmworkers' organisations, play a major role in eradicating poverty and hunger in attempts to meet the requirements of the SDGs.

Therefore, it is crucial for the main objectives and purposes of the IDRW and the four dimensions of food security to prioritise the vulnerable members of society such as female farmworkers, to accomplish zero hunger in the country.

