

6. Supporting documents must be provided with the assessment forms as prescribed.
7. No late submission will be allowed under any circumstance.

Failing to adhere to the above condition will result to disqualification of the farmer in the assessment and subsequently in any relief scheme that might be approved.
Relief schemes

Relief schemes

A relief scheme is an intervention set up by the department to lessen the impacts of a disaster and assist the farmers to maintain their farming activities. It is however, not an insurance policy for farmers. It is still the responsibility of the farmer to put in place measures that will lessen the impacts of a disaster.

Potential relief schemes

The following are potential relief schemes that the department will consider putting in place during post-disaster;

1. Response schemes

Activities arranged immediately after event aimed at;

- Dealing with the required needs
 - Reducing the likelihood of secondary impact
- ##### 2. Rehabilitation schemes
- Actions taken to ensure that basic services will resume (water supply)
 - Facilitate the revival of economic activity (road repair)
- ##### 3. Reconstruction schemes
- Replacement of damaged infrastructure
 - Restoration of services & structures

The implementation of a relief scheme will be in accordance of the policy framework for that scheme, set up by the department or the funding institution. The department/implementing institution will make available the funds for the roll out of the scheme. Before the roll out of a scheme, an implementation plan must be approved by the department/ implementing institution. This plan must be developed in conjunction with the farmers' representatives.

The roll out time of a scheme is also depended on the availability of funds during that fiscal year or the following year.

Note:

- Submission of an assessment form does not guarantee a farmer any assistance from the department.
- Declaration of an event as a disaster does not mean a relief scheme will be rolled out immediately.
- A relief scheme does not compensate a farmer the equivalent value of loss incurred.—it is a grant
- Government assistance does not imply monetary benefits

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT:

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agriculture
& rural development

Department:
Agriculture and Rural Development
PROVINCE OF KWAZULU-NATAL



Overview

The department of agriculture is the department that has a mandate to ensure maintenance of farming activity by the community through protection of critical resources in order to ensure:

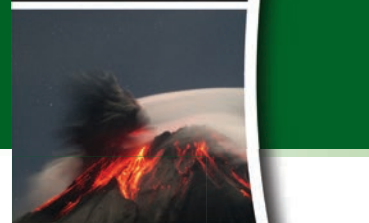
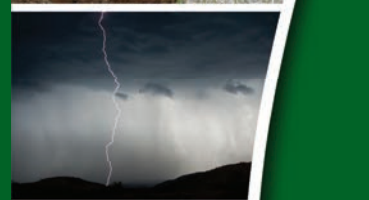
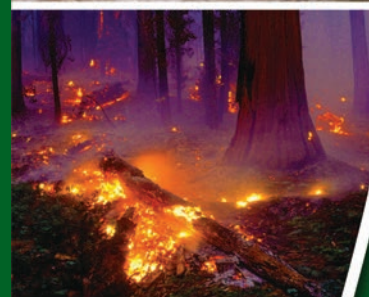
- Affordable food of good quality
- Job and financial security
- Prevention of erosion of farmers' collateral

It is in the interest of the department to ensure that the farming community understands the role and responsibility of the department of agriculture in a disaster event.

A disaster however is not measured by the event that can cause damage; instead, a disaster is the measure of damage caused by an event. This means that information on a disaster event is very important and this information is collected through the assessment process.

Assessment of disaster event is very important to the process of post-disaster recovery and relief schemes establishment and the overall disaster management.

POST-DISASTER RECOVERY



A “disaster” is defined as a disruption to community life by a natural or man-made event which threatens or causes

- Death or injury in that community
- And/or damage to property
- Which is beyond the day to day capacity of the prescribed statutory authorities
- And which requires special mobilization
- And organization of resources other than those normally available to those authorities

An “**incident**” is a natural or man-made event which has the potential of becoming a “**disaster**”

It is important to note that an incident is not a disaster until proven as such in terms of the above criteria. However, the department still has to agree on the thresholds to judge an incident as a disaster and at this stage; internationally acceptable thresholds are used.

Disaster management, in terms of the Disaster Management Act 57 of 2002, means a continuous and integrated, multi-sectoral, multi-disciplinary process of planning and implementation of measures aimed (among others) at;

- A rapid and effective response to disaster; and
- Post-disaster recovery and rehabilitation.

The Assessment Process

Information or the lack thereof can make people, victims of disaster &/or targets of aid. Therefore, it is important that the department collect enough information about any disaster event. The department of agriculture offer secondary response to disaster events. It is the responsibility of the department of agriculture to put in place interventions that will ensure maintenance of farming activities by farming communities. This is done through the protection of critical resource in the agricultural sector. The interventions that will be put in place will be dependant on the results of the assessment process.

It is the responsibility of the farming community to provide accurate information during the process of assessment. The department will coordinate the multi-disciplinary assessment process. The community must understand that the point of interaction with the department is in their respective district municipality. However, they are welcome to forward queries to the disaster management directorate in Cedarburg, only if they can not get help from their regions.

“A DISASTER IS NOT MEASURED BY THE EVENT THAT CAN CAUSE DAMAGE; INSTEAD, A DISASTER IS THE MEASURE OF DAMAGE CAUSED BY AN EVENT.”

The Process

As mentioned, the department will offer secondary response to disaster events. It is important to note that the department does not offer emergency services during a disaster event. Once the event is over, the department will conduct an assessment.

In an assessment one of two approaches will be followed, the first approach is the assessment of loss incurred by farmers due to the event and the second approach is the assessment of resources required to mitigate the impact of a disaster event. The second approach is used mainly when the department wants to assist farmers with emergency supplies. The assessment forms for these approaches differ respectively. The following steps will be followed during the assessment process,

1. Establishment of an incident management committee (known as “Joint Operations Committee, JOC)
2. Distribution of assessment forms to community (data collection)
3. Collection of assessment forms
4. Capturing of data
5. Analysis of data
6. Reporting
7. Request for declaration of disaster

Declaration of an event as a disaster is a cabinet’s decision based on the extent of the damage.

WHAT IS AN ASSESSMENT FORM

“AN ASSESSMENT FORM IS NOT A CLAIM FORM”

An assessment form is a questionnaire used to collect data on the extent of damages or needs as a result of an event. An assessment form is not a claim form; these forms are meant to assist the department in determining the extent of losses suffered by the farming community and whether or not an event can be declared as a disaster. The assessment form also assists the department to build a database of all the farmers affected by the event.

The following information is collected by means of the assessment form;

1. Personal particulars
2. Livestock losses
3. Crop losses
4. Infrastructure losses/damage
5. Labour force affected; and
6. Declaration by the farmer

Conditions of assessment

A farmer must fulfill the following conditions to be considered in the assessment;

1. The farmers must be from the area affected by the event
2. The farmer must complete the provided assessment form fully and correctly (Critical information i.e. Correct ID no, names, and signatures)
3. The assessment form must be signed by all relevant officials as indicated on the form including the farmer.
4. A farmer must fill the set additional criteria.
5. The form must be handed in the designated regional office in the manner prescribed before or on the closing date.