



agriculture
& rural development

Department:
Agriculture and Rural Development
PROVINCE OF KWAZULU-NATAL



rural development
& land reform

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KZN DARD AND DRDLR INDUCTION WORKSHOP OF THE NEWLY ESTABLISHED DISTRICT AGRI-PARKS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEES TO EXECUTIVE MAYORS OF 10 DISTRICTS IN KWAZULU-NATAL AND OFFICIAL HANDOVER OF R74 MILLION TO SMALL-SCALE SUGARCANE GROWERS

KwaZulu-Natal Agriculture and Rural Development MEC Cyril Xaba as the Champion of Rural Development in the Province met with the newly appointed District Agri-parks Management Committees (DAMC's) and local leadership of the 10 District Municipalities in which the Agri-parks will be built.

The MEC reminded the DAMC's that Agri-Parks had been introduced to kick-start rural economy development and should they fail, then they would be failing the poor and the people of the Province as a whole. These Agri-parks are a 10-year programme which is envisaged to be fully functional by the year 2025. The current agricultural programmes pay a special focus in the establishment and sustainability of the primary production and through programmes like the Communal Estate, this can be realised. "With a strong base of primary production we are able to feed into the value chain that will ensure participation in the agricultural economy by the Agri-parks" said the MEC Xaba.

At this workshop the MEC officially handed over R74,5 Million to the South African Farmer Development Association (SAFDA), a newly developed association that focuses on the development of the small-scale farmer in the rural space. The Department of Rural Development and Land Reform had funded SAFDA with an amount of R74,5 Million for drought relief of communal farmers in the Province. "The South African Farmer Development Association, as its name suggests, aims to see growers develop from small-scale to larger operations and find their place in the first economy. The R74 Million from Rural Development and Land Reform, will certainly help in addressing the needs of distressed small-scale growers who have had to bear the brunt of the drought. I wish you every success in your drought relief work and commend you for taking up this cause" said MEC Xaba.



MEC for KZN Agriculture and Rural Development Mr Cyril Xaba during the signing of the R74.5 Million cheque



MEC for KZN Agriculture and Rural Development Mr Cyril Xaba handing over the R74.5 Million cheque to the Chairperson of the South African Farmers Development Association Mr Moses Gumede and South African Farmers Development Association Managing Director Mr Nhlanhla Gumede at Cedara outside Pietermaritzburg



MEC Cyril Xaba together with Rural Development and Land Reform Chief Director Mr Nhlanhla Mndaweni during the official handing over the R74.5 Million cheque to the Chairperson of South African Farmers Development Association Mr Moses Gumede and South African Farmers Development Association Managing Director Mr Nhlanhla Gumede



MEC Cyril Xaba addressing farmers and Mayors on drought relief matters

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For more information please contact:
Mr. Lelethu Manentsa
KZN Department of Agriculture Rural Development
Mobile: 071 492 5716 / 033 343 8271
E-mail: [lelethu01@gmail.com/](mailto:lelethu01@gmail.com) lelethu.manentsa@kzndard.gov.za