

SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTION AND COMMERCIALIZATION STRATEGIES IN THE AGRIFOOD SECTOR IN SOUTH AFRICA

BACKGROUND

Declining farming profitability and water scarcity (drought, declining rainfall or overdemand of water) has left South Africa with less than two-thirds of the number of farms it had decades ago. Agriculture is a key water consumer in South Africa, with about 62% of the country's surface water being used for irrigation. Furthermore, soil erosion and degradation of agricultural land through overexploitation and inappropriate and unsustainable farming methods pose a threat to the country's food security. About 80% of the land area of South Africa is used for agriculture, but only approximately 11% of the total area is arable.

Additionally, the rate of land degradation is high, estimated at 70% with potential negative implications for food production. A recent estimate of climate change effects on water resources suggest that South Africa may experience a reduction of 10 % in average rainfall reducing surface water runoff up to 50-75% by 2025

OBJECTIVES

The action aims to implement SCP practices and green certification schemes in agri-food small entities of SA. The project aims to develop more sustainable consumption and production patterns in the agricultural sector in South Africa by engaging in transition towards a green economy, promoting resource and energy efficiency. The project will focus mainly on the agrifood small holders sector due to their economic importance and potential for improvement in environmental, social and economic issues. Likewise, a number of market and non-market based mechanism shall be used to provide incentives to invest in sustainable practices for farmers and to go beyond short term survival strategies. The project will work with 30 small farmers in Limpopo on managing natural resources and irrigation and strengthening environmental efficiency.

ACTIONS

- » Development procedures and capacity building in clean production, by providing training in sustainable irrigation and resources management among agri-food entities.
- » Sensitisation and capacitation of at least 30 small farms to in the sustainable and efficient use of resources.
- » Development of Green Certification Schemes and build capacity for uptake of sustainable practices.
- » Development of communication plan to reach potential green products' consumers.
- » Replication and dissemination activities in the agri-food sector. Engagement of policy makers.

FUNDACION SUSTALDE

LOCATION:
South Africa

Budget



\$248,033.00

Timeline



30 Months