Submitting agency: Gouritz Cluster Biosphere Reserve

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Municipality: Prins Albert

Contact person: Charlton Jafta

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Project Name

Establish a small-scale community-based vegetable tunnel farming project on the Treintjies Rivier farm ("Die Plaas")

Project benefits						
Skills development	\checkmark	Job creation	~			
Contractor & small business development	>	Improved rural livelihoods and land productivity	~			
Food security	\checkmark					

Legislative context

Food security is part of the section 27 Constitutional rights in South Africa. On these rights, the Constitution states that every citizen has the right to have access to sufficient food and water. One of the primary objectives of the national Integrated Food Security Strategy is to overcome rural food insecurity by increasing the participation of food insecure households in productive agriculture sector activities.

The National Development Plan (Outcome 7) states that rural communities are supported by agriculture and where possible, by mining, tourism, agriprocessing and fisheries. Smallholder producers must be developed and supported (technical, financial, infrastructure) for agrarian transformation. The growth of sustainable rural enterprises that result in rural job creation must be supported.

Project Budget & Implementation

Estimated project budget: R200,000.00

Project implementation: Appoint a specialist service provider to establish one sustainable vegetable tunnel project that includes accredited training, mentorship and the equipment.

Project background information

The project will create food security by empowering communities to produce vegetables that is sustainable and profitable.

Agri SETA accredited training and 12-month mentorship will be provided. Project equipment will include a net tunnel, drip irrigation system, water reservoir, fertilizer and vegetable plants for the first planting season.

March 2020



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Project Name

Establish a small-scale community-based vegetable tunnel farming project in Prins Albert

Project benefits					
Skills development	<	Job creation	~		
Contractor & small business development	~	Improved rural livelihoods and land productivity	~		
Food security	<				

Legislative context

Food security is part of the section 27 Constitutional rights in South Africa. On these rights, the Constitution states that every citizen has the right to have access to sufficient food and water. One of the primary objectives of the national Integrated Food Security Strategy is to overcome rural food insecurity by increasing the participation of food insecure households in productive agriculture sector activities.

The National Development Plan (Outcome 7) states that rural communities are supported by agriculture and where possible, by mining, tourism, agriprocessing and fisheries. Smallholder producers must be developed and supported (technical, financial, infrastructure) for agrarian transformation. The growth of sustainable rural enterprises that result in rural job creation must be supported.

Project Budget & Implementation

Estimated project budget: R200,000.00

Project implementation: Appoint a specialist service provider to establish one sustainable vegetable tunnel project that includes accredited training, mentorship and the equipment.

Project background information

The project will create food security by empowering communities to produce vegetables that is sustainable and profitable.

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Project Name

Establish a small-scale community-based vegetable tunnel farming project in Klaarstroom

Project benefits					
Skills development	>	Job creation	>		
Contractor & small business development	~	Improved rural livelihoods and land productivity	~		
Food security	<				

Legislative context

Food security is part of the section 27 Constitutional rights in South Africa. On these rights, the Constitution states that every citizen has the right to have access to sufficient food and water. One of the primary objectives of the national Integrated Food Security Strategy is to overcome rural food insecurity by increasing the participation of food insecure households in productive agriculture sector activities.

The National Development Plan (Outcome 7) states that rural communities are supported by agriculture and where possible, by mining, tourism, agriprocessing and fisheries. Smallholder producers must be developed and supported (technical, financial, infrastructure) for agrarian transformation. The growth of sustainable rural enterprises that result in rural job creation must be supported.

Project Budget & Implementation

Estimated project budget: R200,000.00

Project implementation: Appoint a specialist service provider to establish one sustainable vegetable tunnel project that includes accredited training, mentorship and the equipment.

Project background information

The project will create food security by empowering communities to produce vegetables that is sustainable and profitable.

Agri SETA accredited training and 12-month mentorship will be provided. Project equipment will include a net tunnel, drip irrigation system, water reservoir, fertilizer and vegetable plants for the first planting season.

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Project Name

Implement an invasive alien plant control project along the open river and "leivoor" system that transports water from a spring in the Swartberg to Prins Albert

Project benefits					
Improved water security	>	Reduced flood damage	 ✓ 		
Skills development	<	Reduced fire risk	~		
Contractor & small business development	~	Secondary industry opportunities (energy, compost, furniture)	~		
Job creation	~	Environmental conservation	~		
Improved rural livelihoods and land productivity	~				

Legislative context

The National Environmental Management Biodiversity Act 10 of 2004 (NEMBA) Alien and Invasive Species Regulations require all organs of state, in all spheres of government must control listed invasive alien plants present on land under their control.

Should a municipality not comply, a directive will be issued. Non-compliance can result in a criminal offence punishable by a fine of up to R5 million for a first offence or a period of imprisonment of up to 10 years.

Project Budget & Implementation

Estimated project budget: *R600,000.00* **Project implementation:** *Local contractors must be employed to implement the project.*

Project background information

The open river and "leivoor" system that transports water from the mountain spring to the town is invested with invasive alien plants such Poplar and Black Wattle trees

In South Africa, an estimate of 1.44 billion cubic meters of water is lost to invasive alien plants annually. This amount of water loss is enough to provide 3.38 million households with four inhabitants with water for a year or to irrigate 120 000 hectares of cropland

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Cluster Biosphere Reserve

Project Name

Compilation of an invasive alien plant monitoring, control and eradication report

Legislative context

The National Environmental Management Biodiversity Act 10 of 2004 (NEMBA) Alien and Invasive Species Regulations require all organs of state, in all spheres of government, to prepare control plans for land under their control. Control plans for municipalities must be part of their integrated development plans (IDPs) and be reviewed every five years.

Should landowners not comply, a directive will be issued. Non-compliance can result in a criminal offence punishable by a fine of up to R5 million for a first offence or a period of imprisonment of up to 10 years.

Project Budget & Implementation

Estimated project budget: *R90,000.00* **Environmental Protection and Infrastructure Programmes approved budget from the Department of Environmental Affairs, Forestry & Fisheries:** *R8,000,000.00* **Project implementation:**

- An invasive alien plant specialist (consultant) must be appointed to compile the report
- All municipal properties must be included in the report
- The report must comply to the Department of Environmental Affairs, Forestry & Fisheries guidelines

Project background information & benefits

Invasive alien plants have a negative impact on the ecological integrity of natural systems, the productive potential of land, the intensity of fires, flooding, erosion, the health of estuaries, water quality and quantity and the livelihoods of communities who depend on these life-support systems.

Invasive alien plants increase the risk and intensity of fires that threaten life and infrastructure.

In South Africa, an estimate of 1.44 billion cubic meters of water is lost to invasive plants annually. This amount of water loss is enough to provide 3.38 million households with four inhabitants with water for a year or to irrigate 120 000 hectares of cropland.

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Cluster Biosphere Reser

Project Name

Compilation of an Integrated Municipal Property Management Strategy report

Legislative context

Chapter 2 of the Spatial Planning and Land Use Act (2013) set out development principles that apply to all organs of state and other authorities responsible for the implementation of legislation regulating the use and development of land. The principle of efficiency in the Spatial Planning and Land Use Act states that land development must optimize the use of existing resources and decision-making procedures must minimize negative financial, social and environmental impacts.

Project Budget & Implementation

Estimated project budget: *R500,000.00* **Project implementation:**

• A specialist consultant must be appointed to compile the strategic report

• All municipal properties must be assessed to determine what the best land use options for each property is.

• The report must also identify potential projects that can be implemented on each property (communitybased agri-business, housing development etc.)

Project background information & benefits

Municipalities own many properties and must manage them effectively to serve short and long-term economic, social and environmental goals. The municipality can use the properties to achieve specific objectives such as the establishment community based agricultural projects or industrial developments that create jobs.

Municipal spatial planning and land use systems must ensure that special consideration is given to the protection of prime and unique agricultural land. Land use management systems must also ensure sustainable livelihoods in communities most likely to suffer the impacts of economic and environmental shocks such as floods.

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Project Name

Compilation of an Integrated Water Strategy report

Legislative context

Section 27 of the Constitution states that everyone has the right to access to water. The National Water Act and the National Environmental Management Act provides that the state holds water resources, and the environment, in public trust for the people. Water resources must be protected, used, developed, conserved, managed and controlled in a sustainable and equitable manner for all people.

The municipality makes use of several detailed planning instruments including the Integrated Development Plan and a Water Services Development Plan. Many of these plans are required by legislation and include the appropriate level of detail on planned investments in terms of the municipalities budget cycle to develop, conserve and manage water resources. This strategic report will not be a detailed plan but rather high-level strategy document, setting out the municipality's orientation towards water, identifying key priorities and articulating a set of core commitments.

Project Budget & Implementation

Estimated project budget: R400,000.00

Project implementation: A water resource management specialist (consultant) must be appointed to compile the strategic report

Project background information & benefits

The Integrated Water Strategy will provide a roadmap for the municipality to create of a future in which there will be enough water for all, a future in which the municipality will be more resilient to climate change and other shocks. The strategy will consider the important yet complex relationships between water, people, the economy and the environment.

The strategy will support poverty reduction and improved living conditions by outlining practical steps to improve the quantity and quality of water and sanitation services provided to all people, particularly those living in informal settlements. The strategy will include a long-term vision and set of principles, taken together, will meet community needs, support improved living conditions, protect the environment and enable and support a growing economy. The steps necessary to translate the strategy into action will be included (strengthening of institutions, financial resourcing etc.). The strategy will enable the municipality to build collaborative relationships with all relevant stakeholders to ensure transparency and that decisions are translated into actions.

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Project Name

Compilation of an Environmental Management Framework report

Legislative context

Section 24 of the Constitution states that everyone has the right to an environmental that is not harmful to their health or well-being and to have the environment protected for the benefit of the present and future generations by preventing pollution and environmental degradation.

The Spatial Planning and Landuse Management Act of 2013 land use planning principles and objectives state that the fragmentation of natural habitats and ecological corridors must be minimized.

The National Development Plan (Outcome 10) states that South Africa must transition to an environmentally sustainable, climate-change resilience, low-carbon economy by 2030. The Environmental Management Framework Regulations have been promulgated in 2010.

Project Budget & Implementation

Estimated project budget: *R500,000.00*

Project implementation: An Environmental Management Framework (EMF) specialist (consultant) must be appointed to compile the report according to the 2010 EMF Guidelines.

Project background information & benefits

Environmentally focused spatial planning is a key pillar in achieving sustainable development through scientifically defined ecological thresholds and stakeholder participation. The Environmental Management Framework (EMF) for the municipality is an environmentally focused spatial development tool that will assist the municipality in achieving integrated environmental management.

Balancing the need for development, growth, and job creation with the importance of protecting sensitive areas is a complex task. However, environmentally focused spatial planning has the potential to strike this delicate balance and is a viable option for realizing sustainable development in areas of ecological, hydrological, or cultural significance.

The EMF will include valuable information that must be used by decision-makers to assist in determining the best approaches (procedural and/or technical) to dealing with a variety of environmental challenges within the municipal area.

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Project Name

Implementation of a borehole monitoring system for the Klaarstroom and Leeu Gamka

Legislative context

Section 27 of the Constitution states that everyone has the right to access to water. The National Water Act and the National Environmental Management Act provides that the state holds water resources, and the environment, in public trust for the people. Water resources must be protected, used, developed, conserved, managed and controlled in a sustainable and equitable manner for all people.

Water Services Act 108 of 1997 (WSA) regulates access and delivery of water as a service and municipalities must ensure the efficient, affordable, economical and sustainable access to water services. The goal of the National Groundwater Strategy is to ensure sustainable, accessible and cost-effective supplies for human survival and socio-economic development, while maintaining the environmental services that groundwater is supporting, in an integrated development approach.

Project Budget & Implementation

Estimated project budget: *R691,000.00*

Project implementation: A groundwater management specialist must be appointed to comprehensively test the relevant boreholes (8) and install an effective monitoring system

Project background information & benefits

Groundwater is an important part of South Africa's water mix, contributing to the basic water supply and livelihood of more than 50% of communities in thousands of villages and small towns countrywide.

Underground water are not infinite and careful controls must follow the drilling of boreholes to make sure they last. Underground aquifers are fed by rainwater, so drought will impact on their abstraction capacity. During droughts abstraction volumes must be adjusted downwards to ensure long-term sustainable use of groundwater resources. Similarly, during above-average rainfall periods abstraction can be increased.

It is therefore critically important that groundwater usage (boreholes) are carefully managed and monitored to ensure they deliver long-term benefits to communities.

March 2020



