



UKHANYO
FARMER
DEVELOPMENT

ANNUAL REPORT 2021 / 2022



Our Vision

To commercialise small-scale and underserved rural farmers across the Eastern Cape.

Our Mission

Our mission is to create scale in rural areas by aggregating fragmented farming communities and cooperatives. We aim to develop commercial rural farmers, build inclusive and sustainable agriculture, improve crop yield and quality, deploy technology and innovative solutions, fully utilise marketing and export platforms, create infrastructure and logistical platforms, boost income of farming communities, support farmers with working capital, overcome information asymmetries, and enhance rural communities through training and development.



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The production year of the 2021/22 season proved to be successful, despite the common challenges faced in farming and rural development work. Throughout, Ukhanyo Farmer Development has diligently met all expectations from farmers, funders, and partners, reflecting the dedication of our organisation.

This year saw significant achievements, with the Department of Science and Innovation/Technology Innovation Agency joining as a valuable partner and funder for farmer training. Under this partnership, courses on Nixtamalization and basic financial literacy were conducted, benefiting 500 farmers directly.

Additionally, we welcomed seven new mentors who have become integral members of the Ukhanyo Farmer Development Mentor Team. I invite you all to officially welcome them to our organisation. Some personal highlights for the year 2021/22 include:

- Empowering 500 farmers in Financial Literacy and Nixtamalization through the DSI/TIA Partnership.
- Receiving sponsorship from Vodacom to support Ukhanyo Farmer Development with Monitoring devices for our mentors.
- Continued support from Farmsol and the Department of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform towards our program and work in the Province.

We express our heartfelt gratitude to our partners and funders for their unwavering support, which enables Ukhanyo Farmer Development to unlock the commercialisation potential of Eastern Cape Grain farmers based in rural areas. Our dedicated team's commitment and diligence in delivering on our mandate fill me with immense pride as I lead this organisation.

Looking ahead, our growth and expansion plans encompass:

- Investing in offering farmers a guaranteed market for their produce through infrastructural investment centralised to our farmers.
- Securing farmers' investments through crop insurance.
- Introducing technologies and systems to enhance the governance and management of UFD as an organisation, prioritising efficiency and effectiveness.

It has been an honour to lead this organisation in the past year. Despite the challenges, the strides and achievements exemplify the dedication of the UFD team. As we embrace the year ahead, I am confident that we will continue to showcase what true rural development should be, serving as a beacon of progress and positive change.



“...I am confident that we will continue to showcase what true rural development should be, serving as a beacon of progress and positive change.

Sinelizwi Fakade

My extensive background in agriculture and farming has been a valuable teacher throughout the years. However, I could never have foreseen that I would be channeling my skills and expertise into rural development work in the Eastern Cape, reputedly the poorest province in South Africa.

Joining Ukhanyo Farmer Development (UFD) in January 2021, I hit the ground running, taking on the formidable challenges that lay ahead. The Eastern Cape, with its breathtaking landscapes and immense agricultural potential, seemed paradoxically burdened by communities lacking hope in agricultural pursuits.

Predominantly inhabited by elderly people, the province has witnessed an exodus of its youth to urban areas, leaving poverty and insufficient infrastructure in their wake. At UFD, our mission is to alter the negative perception around rural agriculture and demonstrate that farming can be a viable means of livelihood, capable of combating hunger, unemployment, and low income.

As the CEO, my vision is to lead a team of 12 mentors, alongside a small office team, to impact as many farmers across various districts as possible. While we have heavily relied on grant subsidies and support from various organisations in the past, my aim is to move towards greater self-sustainability and independence in the face of an increasingly tight South African economy.

Within this pivotal first year as CEO, I have devised a strategic plan to achieve the following:

- Increase farmer yields progressively throughout the season.
- Foster deeper partnerships with private and public entities.
- Enhance the value-added services provided to farmers for their development.
- Streamline mentor operations on the ground, ensuring accurate capturing of farmer data and records.
- Implement formalised structures within UFD's internal operations.
- Uphold impeccable governance standards within the organisation.
- Establish an advisory board to help realise our vision and elevate UFD as a proficient organisation.
- Achieve a solid financial standing, building trust among our farmers, corporate partners, and government departments.

I am exhilarated to be part of a young and dynamic team that dedicates itself wholeheartedly to supporting farmers and uplifting rural communities. Together, we embark on an exciting journey to empower and transform lives through sustainable agricultural development.



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Mbali Nwoko





FARMER STATS

R60

Farmer Annual Membership Fee

1359

Number of Farmers Supported

R96 000

Farmer Membership Fee Raised



PRODUCTION STATS

R4500

Money raised for Input cost per hectare (ha) farmer contribution

R1600

Total number of hectares

R7 200 000

Total input cost raised from farmers

R5840

Total cost for 2021/2022 inputs season (per hectare total basket of goods)



STAKEHOLDERS

R8 488 000

Total money raised from stakeholders for farmer support

12

Number of mentors

29

Number of mechanisation contactors

103

Number of direct jobs created

4077

Number of indirect jobs created (average 3 jobs created per farmer during harvesting season)



Our footprints spans across the following districts:

- 1. OR Tambo
- 2. Alfred Nzo
- 3. Chris Hani
- 4. Joe Gqabi
- 5. Amathole

Total study groups per District

Alfred Nzo - 12

Chris Hani - 12

Joe Gqabi - 7

Amathole - 1

O.R. Tambo - 17

Yield Actuals Per District

DISTRICTS	TOTALS (Metric Tons)
OR TAMBO	2087,4
CHRIS HANI	1665,3
ALFREDO NZO	2378,4
JOE GQABI	581,5
AMATHOLE	844,8



UFD has forged strategic partnerships with key organisations to drive rural development and agrarian progress in the Eastern Cape.

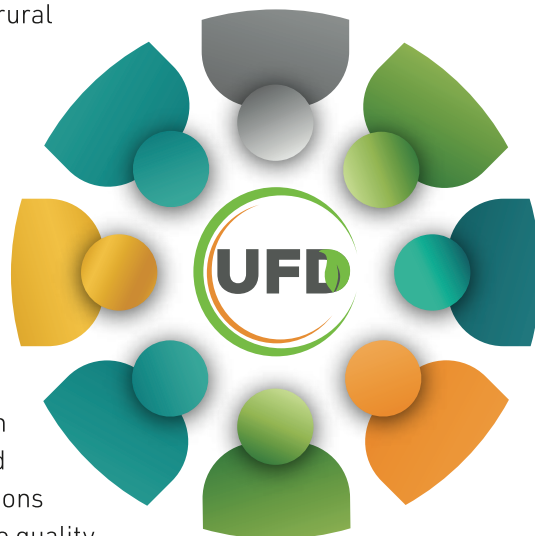
The **Eastern Cape Department of Rural Development and Agrarian Reform (DRDAR)** proved to be an invaluable partner, as we signed a significant Service Level Agreement (SLA). This collaboration subsidised farmers with essential mechanisation for their total number of hectares, culminating in a collective 1600 hectares. The total funding amount secured under the DRDAR partnership amounted to a substantial 7 million Rand.

Another pivotal alliance was formed with **John Deere**, aimed at supporting developing farmers to attain commercialised levels in grain production. Our mutual goal is to enhance household food security and increase income through the sale of surplus maize, enabling contributions towards future seasons. John Deere's support also facilitated access to quality mechanisation, such as tractors and implements, for medium to larger-sized farmers, optimising land utilisation.

The **Technology Innovation Agency (TIA)** partnership focused on empowering our farmers with value-adding skills. Through this collaboration, we conducted comprehensive training on Nixtimalization, a transformative process that turns maize into various products like scones and mealie bread. TIA's support also extended to backing the acquisition of threshing machines, bolstering the efficiency of grain processing.

Our association with **Farmsol** has significantly impacted job creation within UFD and the broader community of farmers we support. Thanks to their funding, we successfully transformed under-utilised land into productive spaces, enhanced grain production practices, and provided essential knowledge transfers from mentors to farmers. This past season, UFD secured a substantial funding amount of 2.6 million Rand from Farmsol.

Through these remarkable partnerships, UFD has achieved commercial yields for our farmers, demonstrating the immense potential of grain production in rural Eastern Cape communities. These collaborations remain at the core of our mission to drive sustainable development, uplift rural livelihoods, and showcase the transformative power of collective efforts in agricultural advancement.



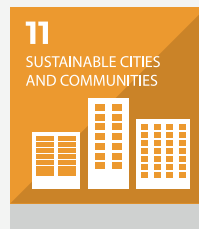


Our work has had a tremendous impact on both new and experienced farmers we supported this year, profoundly influencing their perspectives on rural commercialisation. Initially, some farmers showed interest solely in grain farming on small communal gardens. However, by the end of this planting season, the majority expressed their intent to increase their hectares in the upcoming season. This remarkable shift reflects the growth in their ambitions as grain farmers, underscoring the positive reception of our program intervention.

Throughout the year, farmers actively participated in UFD meetings, where detailed plans of action for the season were discussed. These meetings provided a platform for farmers to voice their opinions and express their expectations from the program. Additionally, the mentors held individual meetings with farmers, providing practical guidance on chemical usage and proper timing during the maize cultivation process. Through these sessions, farmers have gained technical skills and knowledge that empower them to manage their farms independently.

These developments testify to the success of our efforts in equipping farmers with the necessary skills and empowering them to embrace commercial farming practices. As we continue our journey of rural development, we remain committed to nurturing and supporting farmers, fostering a thriving and sustainable agricultural landscape in the region.

Season	Farmers	Women	Men	Hectares	Crop	Mentors
2019 / 2022	425	255	170	426	Yellow Maize	0
2020 / 2021	650	390	260	800	Yellow Maize	5
2021 / 2022	1359	816	543	1600	Yellow Maize	12





Thank You To Our Partners





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