

Progress Report July- September 2016

Goat Agribusiness Project



A Jozini project member brings a goat needing attention to a CAHW training

1. Introduction

The KZN Goat Agribusiness Project is a partnership between Department of Rural Development and Land Reform (DRDLR), Department of Agriculture KZN (DARD KZN), Mdukatshani Rural Development Project (MRDP) and Heifer Project South Africa (HPSA). To this end a MOU and a SLA has been entered into and the program involving contributions from all four partners was signed in August 2015, and the SLA in March 2016.

2. Background

The KZN Goat Agribusiness Project seeks to improve home food security and rural livelihoods and lead to helping to lift farmers in the 5 local municipalities of Umzinyathi, Zululand, uThukela, Umkhanyakhude and Uthungulu out of poverty. This will be done through a process of improving goat productivity and increasing commercialisation of homestead herds in these areas.

The project will create microbusinesses for local unemployed youth who will support farmers' productivity with these businesses. These young people will broadly be known as Community Animal Health Workers (CAHW). They will be trained up and given equipment to set up their small businesses.

3. Progress Report

CAHWs

During this period, each dip tank has received a brickmaker and five mixes towards making and selling blocks to farmers to winter feed during the drought. CAHWs have been selling and been keeping records of their sales. The sales have been going well. These records can give us a sense of the sustainability of the microenterprise. Five hammermills have been procured and delivered to the Livestock Associations. Although there has been a reduction of the availability of stover following the two successive years of drought, many farmers have brought stover and have paid CAHWs for processing. Uniforms have been procured and are currently being branded and delivered to the CAHWs via the Livestock Association.

Pending the discussions with the DRDLR on their responsibilities towards the payment of stipends, we are recruiting the other 3 CAHWs per dip tank to do leather works and further support farmers. We also plan to hand over the vet kits in this coming quarter post a process to test CAHWs' proficiency together with Livestock Associations and the Vet Department.



A farmer from the Nkandla area bring stover to the CAHW for processing

Staff exchange visit

A staff exchange visit was held in Msinga with HPSA staff, MRDP staff, local Livestock Association and DRDLR officials. The purpose of the visit was to jointly make enclosure in a farmer's yard so as to get consistency across all project areas in what an enclosure looks like and how it works. Milling stover was also practiced.



Staff from the gAP project working on an experimental goat shelter in Msinga

Filming

MRDP and HPSA collaborated around getting a local filmmaker to come and professionally film the work we are doing and the various the innovations we are trying out so as to create media for training and publicity. The publicity part will be a 5-10 minute clip on the GAP project to help funders and partners better understand the complete the entire project. Training videos will be developed on building enclosures, making blocks, processing stover and chicken vaccinations. The video will also be used to promote the project at various forums.

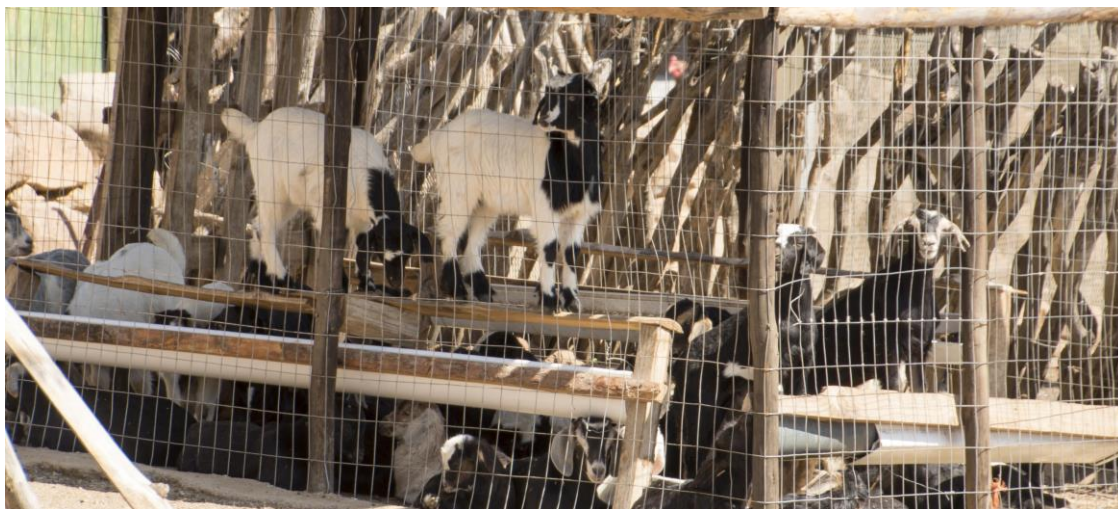
Filming was discussed with DRDLR Communications and carried out with DRDLR staff, DARD staff and NGO staff in Jozini, Nongoma, Nkandla and Msinga. The final products will be made available to DRDLR and other GAP partners in both edited and raw format as necessary.



MaMasoka a Msinga goat farmer and a Nongoma CAHW demonstrating block making filmed during for the GAP video

Enclosures

Eighty enclosures were built in the previous quarter. More are planned towards the final number of five per dip tank. CAHWs are currently supported with stipends paid out of NGOs own project monies to monitor these enclosures.



A goat kid enclosure in use in Ncunjana Mzinyathi municipality

Trainings

Trainings continue with CAHWs, farmer groups and dip tanks.

The number of people trained are reflected in the table at the end under Skills.

The DRDLR had suggested in an email to the project that a new and future consideration would be SETA approval for all trainings. This was discussed at the time of the SLA and specifically linked to DARD intervention and budget. The NGOs were explicit in explaining that they were not SETA approved and the trainings would not be SETA trainings.

Nonetheless, as the need for SETA approval seems to be something that will assist DRDLR, the project has embarked on a process of gaining SETA approval for all their training curriculums and products.



A goat farmer training in Jozini mostly attended by women farmers

Auctions

The goat auction that was held in the Jozini Livestock Centre was a success. 328 goats were presented and 324 were sold. Total sales were R292,526 at an average of R902.86 per goat.

Other auctions are being planned for Hlabisa in October and Msinga in November.



Website

A website is in development to capture all the monitoring and evaluation information per dip tank so that all project partners can easily have access to the information. Each dip tank will have its own webpage. Each page will have details of the people to contact in the area the enterprises delivered and the names and numbers of the CAHW.

It will also have information on the livestock numbers in that area and how they are changing. Also gps information of the diptank and the outer boundaries of the community feeding that area will be listed.

GOAT AGRIBUSINESS PROJECT OF KWAZULU NATAL

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MADWALENI-DIPTANK

Madwaleni dipt GPS position and Google earth images

Latitude: -27° 36' 59.82766"
Longitude: 31° 56' 28.81327"
Altitude: 170m

Position	Name	Phone Number
Name of Diptank		
Municipality		
Ward councillor		
Inkosi		
Induna		
Chair of Dip		
REID Officer		
Animal Health Technician		
Agric Production		
State vet of the area		
NGO Field worker responsible		
CAHW- Animal Health		
CAHW- Animal Health		
CAHW- Leather Processing		
CAHW- Supplementary Feed-Blocks		
CAHW- Supplementary Feed-Hammermill		

An example of the webpage of a diptank

Innovation platform

The first innovation platform was held in April during the last quarter. The report is attached. It was well attended by 40 stakeholders. A number of priority issues were identified and agreed to. From this list a second innovation platform will have been held on 28 to 29 September 2016 in the field looking at specific problems with African goat herds in Zululand homes. We will then present the findings to the larger group at the next innovation platform. The research component of the project is being negotiated with DARD in the draft SLA.



The inaugural innovation platform

Leather training

40 CAHWs have been identified to take up leather processing as a microenterprise. It has been difficult to find and negotiate the training of these young people as the current leather training courses are either year long trainings or 3 month trainings aimed at the state which resultantly are costed way out of the budget. The current service provider, Simx Oram, will provide a SETA approved short training course on leather which will be a start towards a longer term training. Once we have been able to see how useful the first training has been. The first training will be held in Dannhauser the week of 26th September.



A leather worker explaining the use of goat skins in traditional craft in Jozini

ADA meeting

In our meetings with the previous MEC and current HOD of DARD, we have been challenged to meet with and start working together with ADA as well as include them in the monthly District Technical Committees. This has been more of a challenge than we had thought as they have struggled meet with us. We met with them on the 10th of September and discussed the goat abattoir in Msinga as well as broader and longer term collaborations at a district and provincial level. There was a question from their acting CEO about whether they should be involved in PPSC meetings. A follow up meeting will be held in the coming weeks which may include a presentation to their board. An exposure visit for the Mobaso abattoir stakeholders to a goat abattoir in Mozambique is currently being negotiated. The head of the Mooi River abattoir, Raymond Esseck, who has also planned for goat meat exports is being included in these plans.

SLA DARD

After a meeting with HOD S Mkhize, it was agreed that part of ensuring viability and sustainability of this project a separate and parallel SLA would be negotiated and signed with the provincial department of Agriculture through the member of this committee, Theo van Rooyen. This agreement has been submitted to their legal department. They have come back with comments which have been addressed. It is hoped by the next quarter that this SLA will have been signed. The SLA would include SETA training, training materials, bursaries, auctions and vet kit top ups for year three to five.

.1 community participation

The GAP partners have been continuing to work closely with livestock associations and women farmers groups. This is not only through trainings but also through collaborating with livestock associations and traditional authority structures to police the work of the CAHW in the census. We have had these partners call community meetings to popularise the usefulness of mineral blocks and processed stover. They have also partnered in testing the CAHWs in practical trainings so they are comfortable to promote these people.

We continue to address meetings and gatherings on the GAP program to get the project well understood and taken up more widely.

Many farmers have ben engaging through the drought feeding support through the blocks and stover getting their goats through this winter.

3.2 Progress in relation to pre-determined milestones

Activity	Detail	Milestone	Status
Meet Dip tanks Livestock associations Traditional authorities and the district municipality	Total of 40 dips and 5 municipalities	The local leadership are on board and send representatives district meetings	Done re diptanks Planned for municipalities but waiting for post-election municipalities to form so we can request meetings rom new councils
2 CAHWs identified per dip tank and start census	Total of 40 dips	A census per dip is finalised and available for 40 dips	Censuses completed – availability on website by dip tank
Training of CAHWs in basic animal health	80 CAHWs are trained in 2 modules and mentored in the field	Preliminary Training of 80 CAHWs is completed and the CAHWs pass practical test	Started late awaiting stipend finalisation 80 CAHW's trained practical tests done after trainings – final practicals underway with Livestock association and vet department oversight
Recruit further CAHWs for feed/blocks and skins processing	120 CAHWs recruited to start other micro businesses (40, one per dip, for each type of microbusiness)	120 CAHWs are recruited in a fair open transparent manner and are brought on board the CAHW program	40 skins CAHWs recruited to be trained in this quarter – other CAHW recruitment awaiting stipend issue
Training of 120 CAHWs for feed, blocks and skins	120 CAHWs are trained in their specialty of blocks, feed or skins	Preliminary Training of 120 CAHWs is completed and the CAHWs pass practical test	Training carried out for blocks and mixes and block makers handed out to each of 40 dips
Procure vet kits and uniforms	80 vet kits and 700 uniforms for all of the CAHW positions for the project	The existing trained animal health CAHWs have received vet kits and uniforms. The 120 other microbusiness	Vet kits to be procured next quarter awaiting practical test and agreed on 4 trainings. 80 Uniforms procured and branded to be handed out in current quarter

		CAHWs have received uniforms.	Rest of uniforms await stipends issue
Procure microbusiness equipment and supplies	Buy hammermills, blockmakers, mix and skin equipment for 12 groups (120 CAHWs in 10 per group)	12 Microbusiness groups have are equipped to start producing blocks, winter feeds and goat skins.	40 blockmakers procured and handed over 5 hammermills procured and handed over Goat skins equipment awaiting training
Training LAs	4 trainings- one per quarter have taken place in management and good governance and two other topics of their choosing	7 Livestock Associations have been trained in management and good governance and two other topics of their choosing	Planned but not started
Training dip tanks & farmers	2 trainings in Animal Health in the 40 dip tanks (80 trainings total 1 st year)	40 dip tanks have received 2 trainings in animal health.	Trained and ongoing
Negotiate sales yard location with livestock association	14 possible sites (2 per livestock association). Equipment will be portable. These are not permanent sites.	14 sites have been agreed upon with the 7 livestock associations.	Agreed in Msinga, Nkandla and Jozini
Auctions in each livestock association	Led by DARD Rural Dev division	At least 7 auctions, one per livestock association area, have been held	Auction in Msinga and Jozini
Recruit women farmers in each district	20 per dip, 40 dips	800 women have been identified and are willing to take part in experimentation groups around goat nutrition and productivity	Women recruited -- 3 structures per dip Mzinyathi 2 for other 4 areas
Build pilot and experimental goat enclosures for kid feeding	400 (10 per dip tank)	400 goat enclosures for kid feeding are being used.	3 structures per dip Mzinyathi 2 for other 4 areas
Set up initial innovation platform meeting	Starting with existing goat interest group	Initial stakeholder workshop held with further stakeholders identified	Completed
Recruit additional members/stakeholders to cover all areas of VC	Farmers, livestock associations, dip tanks, research, government, NGOs, sellers, animal health suppliers, auctioneers	Additional members for innovation platform identified	Completed

Hold 4 innovation platforms	Agree on research agenda to start funding/bursaries; also identify places to do exchange visits	Four innovation platforms have been successfully held	1 held second one to be held in this quarter
Exchange visits	Exchange visits- project to project and visit to Namibia, Kenya or other countries where goat markets are formalized (yearly).	At least one exchange visit per project (5 total) has happened with lessons learned documented. At least one visit to another country has taken place where goat markets are formalised.	2 Exchange visits between projects done Exchange visit to Mozambique abattoir planned with ADA

4. Conclusion

The project is going well and is on track both in terms of what needs to be done but also in terms of timing. We are ahead of some targets and oversight and expenditure is happening as was planned.

There is a Service Level Agreement being negotiated and the department Agriculture has been committed and supportive. Reporting in terms of POE processes and systems is getting better although changes present challenges.

There has been a huge interest in the project and as a result many structures and NGOs setting up parallel products and processes. The project was able to get out in front of the drought in terms of rollout of energy blocks being made and distributed by CAHWs.



A dip tank training using the training calendar