



### Why Goats?

Indigenous goats drought resistant and underused. There is a huge demand for goats in the province but farmers cannot meet this demand because of poor productivity. Goats are unproductive because kids die mainly of hunger, stress and health issues.



### Why Women?

- Over 55 percent of rural households are women headed
- More likely to ask for help
- Spend more money on food security
- Prepared to invest in services and their animals
- Able to own and make decisions about small livestock such as goats
- Often left out of traditional livestock structures



The Goat Agribusiness Project is a partnership between Mdukatshani Rural Development Project, HPSA, Department Agriculture and Rural Development, and Department Rural Development and Land Reform



For more information visit:

[www.mdukatshani.com](http://www.mdukatshani.com)

[www.hpsa.org.za](http://www.hpsa.org.za)

[www.gapkzn.co.za](http://www.gapkzn.co.za)

Or email us:

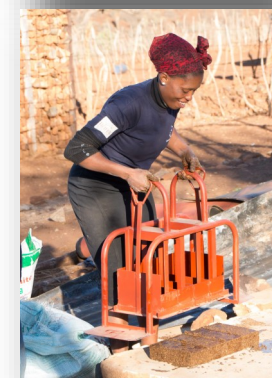
[hpsa@hpsa.org.za](mailto:hpsa@hpsa.org.za)



## Community Animal Health Worker and Goat Agribusiness Project



of KwaZulu Natal

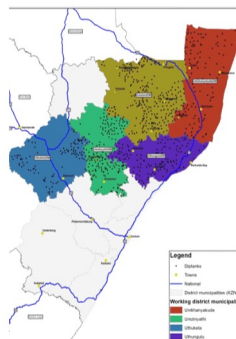


The KZN Goat Agribusiness Project (GAP) seeks to improve home food security and rural livelihoods and lead to helping to lift farmers out of poverty. This will be done through a process of improving goat productivity and increasing commercialisation of homestead herds in these areas focusing primarily on youth and women.



The **Goat Agribusiness Project** is targeted in five District Municipalities- uThukela, Mzinyathi, Uthungulu, Zululand and uMkhanyakude.

By the end of the 5 years, there will be a total of 140 dip tanks in this project. Thukela (30) and Mzinyathi (10) Uthungulu (25) Zululand (50) and uMkhanyakude (25). There are 7 Livestock Associations involved.



#### The 5 year project which started in 2016 has seven objectives:

- Create small businesses among local youth to support farmers through a Community Animal health Worker (CAHW) program
- Commercialise local goat herds
- Improve production in local homestead herds
- Create and strengthen value chains around goats
- Support and target academic research on issues experienced by farmers
- Support basic animal health of chickens and cattle in rural areas
- Build state capacity to take these successes forward



#### Community Animal Health Workers (CAHWs) are:

- Young motivated people living in rural communities
- Trained in primary animal health
- Generating income by supporting all rural farmers, especially women
- Are supported and mentored by NGOs, like HPSA and Mdukatshani (MRDP), and state departments
- Working under the guidance of livestock associations



#### The CAHWs program seeks to promote:

- Job/microbusiness creation opportunities in rural areas
- Youth involvement in agriculture
- Increases in livestock productivity and herd health
- A focus on woman livestock keepers
- Support for value chain establishment
- Integration into state extension structures

#### Value chains focusing on productivity and commercialisation



Productivity is the biggest challenge farmers face with their goat herds. Goats are unproductive because kids die from hunger, stress and then health issues .

CAHWs support farmers with basic health interventions which help keep kids alive. This includes making food and feeding them – processing stover and blocks and putting them in protective feeding enclosures.



The GAP project supports commercialisation to motivate farmers to invest in their goat herds, the GAP project is promoting a system of bi-annual indigenous goat auctions across the project area to set goat prices. Additionally, monthly sales at pension points are organised so that farmers can sell more frequently and secure a regular cash income from their goats.