



SUPPORTING SOUTH AFRICA'S MICRO-FARMERS

WHAT IS SMALL SCALE AGRICULTURE?

Small-scale agriculture is the production of crops and/or livestock on a small-piece of land, without using expensive technology or inputs. These farms are usually family-owned, or on traditional lands, and the primary aim is for personal consumption, with surplus typically sold to local or surrounding markets.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

Approximately 71% of South African households living in rural regions depend on farming activities for their survival and income generation, or to supplement other sources of income. Many of these farmers live in severely degraded environments and are extremely vulnerable to climatic conditions such as droughts.

With almost a quarter of the country's population going hungry every day; subsistence, smallholder

and micro-farmers can play an important role in reducing food insecurity. They can also contribute to local economic development through improved livelihoods and employment opportunities and reduce food price inflation.

It is important that our farming practices not only ensure profitable yields, but also protect the long-term productivity of the land, and the well-being of farmers and farm workers.





WHAT ARE WE DOING?

- We help establish small scale, community and market gardens across KZN (6,000+ and counting).
- We provide a variety of training courses, including entrepreneurship, value-adding and marketing and on site mentorship.
- We establish supportive infrastructure, such as rainwater harvesting systems, seedling nurseries and agricultural processing hubs
- We help to create collaborative and cooperatives and facilitate links to markets.

It is estimated that by 2050, the world's agricultural systems will need to produce 70% more food than we have today to meet the demands of a population expected to reach 9.6 billion

WHAT DO WE DO DIFFERENTLY?

- We are committed to helping those we want to help themselves and select beneficiaries who already have some form of garden, or show a demonstrated aptitude for agriculture.
- Our 'pay-it-forward' system means that our funder's generosity is repaid in-kind and this knowledge is shared with other community members.
- We focus on sustainability in activities like seed saving, training and mentorship to foster increasing independence over time.
- We recognise and appreciate indigenous knowledge systems (rather than imposing pre-conceived methods).
- We meet with communities, ward councillors and traditional leaders to identify and meet specific needs - and maintain relationships with these stakeholders throughout.

