Interviewee:Phindi

1. Date: 2021-02-13
2. Time: 10:AM

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| Hello, I am Zakes Hlatshwayo, a Ph.D. candidate at UP, conducting a study on emerging black farmers’ practices and state support to them, the study is conducted in three provinces. This study aims to understand emerging black farmer practices and how they are supported by the state. Thank you for your willingness to participate. I am interested in understanding your farming practices and experience and the support you receive. Information will be used only for academic and research purposes. You do not have to give your name if you don’t want to and can decline to answer any question. I appreciate your assistance and request you provide as much information as possible to help us understand your work.  The research study has been approved by the University of Pretoria’s Research Ethics Committee. Your privacy and confidentiality will be secured. No direct reference will be made to you, I will use a pseudonym, codes and categories to keep information about you confidential, and to protect it from unauthorized disclosure, tampering, or damage. You are not required to use your name, do not write your name on any of the documents. The data will be kept for 15 years in a password protected format and used for University of Pretoria research only.  For the purpose of this research I will use semi-structured questions, with your permission I will record the interview and take notes. The interview will not be longer than 50 minutes. Hopefully, the information will help policymakers, practitioners, officials and managers to make informed decisions on such programmes in the future. | | | |
| RQ1: What is your name? Phindi  RQ2: Where do you live? Vlakfontein.  RQ3: What is your highest level of qualification? Matric  RQ4: Gender: Female  RQ5: Age: 32 | | | |
| RQ6: Do you farm? If so what do you farm? When did you start? How did you start? Why did you start, what informed your decision? Where is the farm located? | | Yes. |  |
| RQ7: How long have you been on this farm? | | +3year | Since 2018 |
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| RQ:8 Where do you farm? | | Sedibeng |  |
| RQ9: What do you grow? | | High-value crop | Basil, butternut, coriander, spinach, pepper bells, lettuce, and carrots |
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| RQ10: How many hectares do you farm? | |  | Tunnel farms at 2x300m2 |
| RQ11: How did you obtain this land, and under what tenure? | |  | I was unemployed and got interested about what was happening here. I came, asked questions and applied. |
| A contract to use the land, which is owned by a local municipality, is valid for 3 years, renewable. | | | |
| RQ12: Have you always produced and sold the same things? | | Yes | I produce and sell the same crops; the volumes vary according to yield. |
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| RQ13: How did you start farming? | I learned everything here, advice from the manager and coaching from fellow farmers. | | |
| How did you learn about the Agripark? | On site, when came here. | | |
| Where did you obtain the capital? | I was provided for by the Agripark, I paid for my transport and maintenance here. | | |
| RQ14: How many people work here, temporary and full-time? | I’m alone. | | |
| RQ:15 What are your main inputs? | Seedlings, water, pesticides, and fertilizers. | | |
| RQ18: Where do you get your input from? We get our inputs from the official.  How can Agriparks improve support? Provide a comprehensive programme that qualify us a farmer, this will help us when go into commercial farming or approach banks. Expert much teach us of all the intricacies of farming and the different methods.  RQ19: Where do you sell? Community stalls, bakkie off-takers and take orders from the township. | | | |
| RQ20: What do you supply? | |  | Basil, butternut, coriander, spinach, pepper bells, lettuce, and carrots |
| * How often? | |  | Once a week or every other week |
| * How did you get the market? | |  | Referrals from the farmers, we work together in many ways. |
| * Are produce collected or delivered? | |  | Some products are collected and the others we deliver. |
| * What quantity or value of each crop produced?   RQ21: What actual support have you received from Agripark?  RQ22: What other services do you receive?  RQ23: How can support and other services be improved? | |  | The quantities are not stable, a sell per bunch and the prices vary.  Land, water, seeds, fertilizer.  None.  Regular news bulletins of affairs in agriculture, now we look like casual farmers with not future. |
| What market works best, and why?  What could be done to make markets work better? | |  | Local markets are good for a cash business.  It is expensive to go to Joburg market you have to rent transport and spend time there. |
| * Have you sold elsewhere before, if so, where? | | No |  |
| * Are you part of an organisation or association? No * Do you have any other collaboration, individual or group? I share ideas with farmers. | | | |
| * has there been any changes in your farming? | |  | I have green fingers my crops come out good. |
| * How did you hear about Covid-19? * How did Covid 19 affect you? * How did you respond to the government’s lockdown? * How did you hear about the government’s response and how did you benefit? | |  | N/A  N/A.  N/A.  N/A. |
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| Any other issues, you would like to raise? | | No. | I need money grow into full time farming, but I know that I cannot get a lone. Can the government provide me funds or help me with the bank? |
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Observation: She was hard at work and very articulate.