Interview: Ronewa

1. Date: 2022-11-02
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 to understand your farming practices and experience, as well as 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? Ronewa  RQ2: Where do you live? Tshakhuma.  RQ3: What is your highest level of qualification? Matric  RQ4: Gender: Female  RQ5: Age: 43   * Do you farm? I’m a fresh produce farm worker (horticulture). * What do you farm? Spinach, kale, pumpkins, and tomatoes. * When did you start? I started in my early childhood. | | | |
| RQ6: Where is the land located? | | Tshakhuma |  |
| RQ7: How long have you been farming here? | | +20years |  |
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| RQ8: How did you get access to the land? | |  | It is communal land under the local chief, he together with his council allocate land to community members. |
| RQ9: Do you own the land? | | No | Yes. It was allocated to my great grandparents by the chief. |
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| RQ10: Where did you learn to farm? | |  | I grew up here in the village, you start farming as soon as start to walk. I joined my grandparents and then my parents when they farm. |
| RQ11: Have you received any training on farming? | | No. | I learned a lot from my family and the community. |
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| RQ13: What are the sources of your livelihoods? | |  | My husband, a migrant worker in the city, sends me money and have a grant for the children. I also earn and income from my farming. |
| RQ14: How do you support your family? | |  | Above. I keep some of the produce for the family. I grow maize on the side-line. |
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| RQ15: What forms of labour/equipment do you use? | Mainly manual labour, hoes, spades shovels, and other innovations. It is family labour; my husband joins us in the field when he is on leave. | | |
| RQ15: What other forms of support do you get? | None. | | |
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| RQ16: When did you get involved in the Agripark? | I’m not involved in Agriparks. | | |
| RQ17: Where did you hear about Agriparks? | I do not have information about Agriparks. | | |
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| RQ18: What actual support have you received from Agripark? | | None |  |
| RQ19: what other support and services have you received? | | None |  |
| RQ20: What improvement has been brought? | |  | The quality of our products has always been good. |
| RQ21: Do you sell any of your products? | | Yes. | I sell to a few women who have stalls in the street market. They in turn sell to the general public. |
| RQ22: When did you start selling? | |  | It is family tradition, I have joined my parents and sell to the same families. |
| RQ23: Have you been involved in planning meetings and deciding on priorities? | | No |  |
| RQ24: What concerns and issues have arisen concerning the Agripark?  How are the issues resolved? | |  | I wish I had information about the Agriparks, I think I would have benefited. |
| RQ25: In what way can Agriparks be improved, any suggestions? | |  | Agriparks must reach out to the villages and provide services, coaching and mentoring. |
| RQ26: Did hear about the Covid-19 pandemic and how were you impacted? How did you learn about Covid-19 | | Yes. | I heard from the news and radio. Our farm is close to us, we could walk to it and work. |
| Did you benefit from Covid-19 relief grant? | |  | No |
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| RQ27: Have you benefited from working with youth or women? | | Yes. | The family is mixed women and youth they all assist. |
| RQ28: Are there any other issues you would like me to look into? | |  | What are government’s plans with us who farm in the village? We want to grow and sell in markets in the city. |
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Observations: