Interview: Boity

1. Date: 2021-11-08
2. Time: 9:00

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | | | |
| 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? Boity  RQ2: Where do you live? Kimberley  RQ3: What is your highest level of qualification? Post-Graduate  RQ4: Gender: Female  RQ5: Age: 45 | | | |
| RQ6: Are you a farmer, what farming practice are you involved with? When did you start? How did you start? Why did you start farming, what informed?  your decision? Where is the farm located? | | Livestock farmer | My entire family is into farming, I started as young girl. It has been my childhood dream to farm on my own, the farm is just outside Kimberly. |
| How long have you been in this farm? | |  | 6 years. |
|  | | | |
| RQ7: Do you own the land? How was the land obtained? Is farming the only source of income, if not what other sources exist? How do you sustain your farming practices? Is there a family history to farming? Who decides on land use? | | No. | I’m leasing the land from the department of public work. I work for government, I’m not making money from farming, yet. I finance the farm from my income. |
| RQ8: How did you get access to the land where you farm? Do you own it, rent it, have permission to occupy, or another type of right to the land? Who decides on land use? | |  | I lease the land, I pay a monthly rent. The land is good for livestock farming, which is what I’m farming. |
|  | | | |
| RQ9: Where did you learn farming? Have you ever received training or advice on farming and if so from whom? Were your parents farming? | |  | I have learned from my family and keep myself informed by reading and following livestock related programmes. |
| RQ10: What are the sources of your livelihood (that is how do you support yourself and your family)? | |  | I support both myself and farm from my income. I get help from my parents. |
|  | | | |
| RQ11: What forms of labour or equipment do you use, if any? Do you farm for self-consumption, or selling or a combination of both, explain? What form of support do you get and from whom? | |  | I have a feedlot, shelter, dip and fence, I farms hand who help with herding and security from theft. It is only for business. My father helps with finances when there is a need, e.g. veterinary intervention or medicines. |
|  | |  |  |
|  | | | |
| RQ12: Are you aware of the state support programme to emerging black farmers? If so, how did you become aware of it? Why are you not participating in the Agripark? Did you intend to participate, if not, why not? | Yes, I was informed by the department of agriculture. I was assured of help from the department, but have not received any. Agripark are a good idea, because they provide targeted support. I would l like to participate but it is quite. | | |
| RQ13: Did you do anything to be allowed to participate, if so, what? Do you know why you were not included? Is any other of your family benefiting, if so, how? | I’m not sure what is going to happen in this region, I’m waiting to hear from the department. | | |
| RQ14: Do you sell any of your agriculture produce, if so, what do you sell? Where do you sell them? When did you start to sell there? How did you come to sell there the first time? | I m not selling, I’m still building a sizeable number. | | |
| RQ15: What are your actual experiences? What issues and concerns have arisen in connection with your faming? What efforts are you making address these issues and challenges? How can support to black farmers be improved? | Government officials are not committed or motivate to do the work, want to be fetched at own expense because can’t use own cars. Agriparks good ideas but idealistic, not effective on the ground. Instead she prefers the former Bophuthatswana training centres which place extension office at villages. Huge out of pocket financial cost, feed, medicine and other necessary resources. It is difficult to get started without state support or a solid financial base. | | |
| RQ16: In what way can Agriparks be improved, do you have any recommendations? Are there any other issues that you suggest I should look into? | Government must subsidise infrastructure and bill for use, and employ extension office instead of badly qualified government officials. I need funding, it is difficult to get funds when you are a black woman facing challenges. | | |
|  | | | |
|  | |  |  |
|  | |  |  |
|  | |  |  |
|  | |  |  |
| RQ17: How did you hear about Covid-19? | |  | Radio and tv |
|  | |  |  |
|  | |  |  |
|  | | | |
|  | |  |  |
| RQ18: How did Covid 19 affect you? | |  | It restricted my movement, initially it was struggle to get permission to travel to the farm to tend to the cattle. There was confusion with the issuing of permits. |
|  | |  |  |
| RQ19: How did you respond to government’s lockdown, did you benefit? | |  | I had to negotiate with the police, most were reasonable and allowed me to go the farm.  No, I did not qualify for the grant. |
|  | |  |  |

Comments and Observation: She is frustrated by the banks who refuse to lend her money, for what she regards as discriminatory reasons.