Interviewee:Mmabatho

1. Date: 2021-03-8
2. Time: 14:00

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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? Mmabatho  RQ2: Where do you live? Soshanguve.  RQ3: What is your highest level of qualification? Matric  RQ4: Gender: Female  RQ5: Age: 31 | | | |
| 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 |
| I belong to a cooperative, we farm and have a Stokvel to generate income. | | | |
| RQ:8 Where do you farm? | |  | Rooiwaal |
| RQ9: What do you grow? | | High-value crops | I grow spinach, pepper bells, lettuce, and carrots |
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| RQ10: How many hectares do you farm? | |  | 500m2 |
| RQ11: How did you obtain this land, and under what tenure? | |  | We responded to an advert in the district and applied for the land. |
| 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. Crop variations are very seldom. |
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| RQ13: How did you start farming? | I kept pot plants since my school years, and had a small garden. | | |
| How did you learn about the Agripark? | I responded to an advert in the district office which spoke of vacancies. | | |
| Where did you obtain the capital? | We did not have to pay for the land, we use our money to buy the initial seeds, there was not any here, we also had assistance from the farmers. | | |
| RQ14: How many people work here, temporary and full-time? | There is five of us, we get support from our family member as an when we ask them. | | |
| 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, other we buy from retailers.  How can Agriparks improve support? Our land is not covered, we need that to protect our plant from the weather and infections.  RQ19: Where do you sell? Community stalls and bakkie off-takers. | | | |
| RQ20: What do you supply? | |  | spinach, pepper bells, lettuce, and carrots. |
| * How often? | |  | Once a week or every second 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.  I go to workshops on my own accord, and get advice from experts.  We want to specialise and growing and selling various seedlings to farmers and the public. For that we need funding and training. |
| What market works best, and why?  What could be done to make markets work better? | |  | We are happy with our market.  It would be good to get orders from the retailers our quality is good. |
| * 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? We share ideas with farmers. | | | |
| * has there been any changes in your farming? | |  | Our focus on seedlings has improved the quality of our plans, we also have a steady supply for our own farming. |
| * 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? | |  | From the radio, tv and management.  I did not catch it, our plants and seedling died we to start from the beginning.  I stayed home.  I did not apply or benefit from the relief grant. |
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| Any other issues, you would like to raise? | | No. | We want to move into the tunnels for protection and start with seedling production. |
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Observation: She is committed to producing seedlings for the retail sector.