Interviewee:Fauza

1. Date: 2021-02-13
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? Fauza  RQ2: Where do you live? Vlakfontein.  RQ3: What is your highest level of qualification? Graduate  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 |
| I member of the military veterans association, there are six of us. | | | |
| RQ:8 Where do you farm? | | Sedibeng |  |
| RQ9: What do you grow? | | High-value crop | I grow 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? | |  | We were invited as military veterans to come here. |
| 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 started farming in exile, we produced our own food. | | |
| How did you learn about the Agripark? | I heard from the department of military veteran that there such vacancies. | | |
| Where did you obtain the capital? | We did not have to pay for the land, we received all our inputs from the Agripark. | | |
| RQ14: How many people work here, temporary and full-time? | There are six of us, we manage well | | |
| 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? We need more scientific ways of farming and the necessary technology, the Agriparks use old system reliant on labour.  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.  Meeting rooms, crates and boxes for the products.  Agriparks should adopt innovative farming practices to improve quality and efficiencies in the production and distribution system. |
| What market works best, and why?  What could be done to make markets work better? | |  | Local markets are good for a cash business.  Contracting farming and pre-orders bring certainty in farming, we need that. |
| * 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? | |  | We are improving product volumes and quality to supply retailers. |
| * 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. | We need more support to scale up our farm operations. |
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Observation: The tunnels are well kept.