

BRIEFING OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

LANDCARE PROGRAMME 17 OCTOBER 2017



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Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

ACRONYMS

DAFF	Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
EPWP	Expanded Public Works Programme
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
DRDLR	Department of Rural Development and Land Reform
DEA	Department of Environmental Affairs



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LEGISLATIVE CONTEXT

LEGISLATION	MANDATE
Conservation of Agricultural Land Resources Act, Act 43 of 1983 (CARA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">To provide for the maintenance of the production potential of land and control over the utilization of natural resources of the Republic of South Africa in order to promote the conservation of soil, water sources and vegetation and for the combating of weeds and invader plants and for matter connected therewith.



WHAT IS LANDCARE?

- LandCare is a community based initiative underpinned by the goal of optimising productivity and sustainable use of natural resources.
- The purpose of the programme is to enhance a sustainable conservation of natural resources through community based participatory approach, to create job opportunities through expanded public works programme model (EPWP), to improve food security and well being of society as guided by six indivisible principles.



LANDCARE BUDGET AND EXPENDITURE

Financial year	Allocation (R'000)	Expenditure (R'000)	Note
1998/99 - 2006/2007	R 74 926	R 74 926	
2007/2008	R 58 001	R 48 255	
2008/2009	R 48 969	R 47 313	
2009/2010	R 51 417	R 52 644	
2010/2011	R 54 502	R 53 528	
2011/2012	R 57 772	R 56 967	
2012/2013	R 115 661	R 106 723	Inclusive of fencing grant pilot
2013/2014	R 108 997	R 103 179	Inclusive of fencing grant pilot
2014/2015	R 67 837	R 65 147	
2015/2016	R 65 011	R 64 221	
2016/2017	R 69 265	R 67 972	
2017/2018	R 73 604	R 33 121	Q1 and Q2 transfers
TOTAL	R 845 962	R 747 064	



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LANDCARE ROLL-OVER

Roll-Over by Provinces	Amount (R'000)	Financial year	Reason for Roll-Over
KwaZulu Natal	R 6 519	2008/2009	Commitment on project items
North West	R 884		Commitment on project items
Eastern Cape	R 857	2010/2011	Commitment on project items
North West	R 404		Commitment on project items
Eastern Cape	R 829	2011/2012	Commitment on project items
KwaZulu Natal	R 476		Commitment on project items
Northern Cape	R 846		Commitment on project items
North West	R 191		Commitment on project items
KwaZulu Natal	R 705	2012/2013	Commitment on project items
Eastern Cape	R 739		Commitment on project items
Gauteng	R 286		Commitment on project items
Northern Cape	R 132		Commitment on project items
North West	R 1 000		Commitment on project items
TOTAL	R 13 868		



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LANDCARE GRANT SURRENDER

Surrendering Province	Amount Surrendered (R'000)	Financial year	Reason for surrendering
Eastern Cape	R 629	2008/2009	Service providers not completing the task.
Eastern Cape	R 1 192	2012/2013	Community conflict prevented activities within project
Gauteng	R 286		Delay in appointing service providers
North West	R 962		Procurement delays
TOTAL	R 3 069		



LANDCARE OUTPUT PERFORMANCE

Financial year	Hectares rehabilitated (Ha)	Work Opportunities created	Number of Beneficiaries
1998/99 - 2006/2007			
2007/2008	9 959.00	5 376	4 664
2008/2009	28 528.00	6 812	27 157
2009/2010	9 679.00	28 695	29 991
2010/2011	42 713.00	15 500	28 161
2011/2012	43 403.20	2 083	15 867
2012/2013	163 014.70	5 467	41 714
2013/2014	71 651.90	4 256	29 247
2014/2015	40 865.03	2 836	13 882
2015/2016	24 175.51	2 043	25 845
2016/2017	35 187.00	2 483	31 919
2017/2018	1 322.33	443	3 112
TOTAL	470 498.67	75 994	251 559



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LAND CARE PROGRAMME IMPACT

- **SoilCare** - Addresses aspects such as soil erosion, reduction of soil fertility salinisation, soil compaction and land sealing.
- **VeldCare** - Gives attention to rehabilitating and preserving grazing or rangeland to reduce soil erosion, Bush encroachment, alien and invasive species, deforestation, overgrazing and increase the nutritional requirements of grazing animals.
- **WaterCare** - Areas addressed includes conserving and rehabilitating water catchments and wetlands.
- **JuniorCare** - In and out of school activities inclusive of camps.
- **Conservation Agriculture** - Advocates for implementation of minimum soil disturbance (no-tillage), permanent cover and crop association.

Based on the above, the current allocated budget of about R74 million is insufficient



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CHALLENGES

- Limited allocations to the Programme despite more jobs created.
- Insufficient funding for the LandCare Sub-Programmes such as Conservation Agriculture & JuniorCare.
- Not all LandCare Groups are supported by the Provinces.
- LandCare is expected to address international obligations on United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), Land degradation neutrality and Outcome 10 which necessitate additional financial resources.
- Some government programmes duplicating Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF) LandCare mandates and given more funding e.g. Veld Improvement of Department of Rural Development and Land Reform (DRDLR), Working for Land of Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA).
- Funding by government programmes that may support unsustainable conventional practices.



ACTIVITIES TO IMPROVE PERFORMANCE

- a. Align LandCare Organisational structure in all the Provinces.
- b. Combination of equitable and conditional funding to address LandCare matters.
- c. Improve Information Management System of the Programme.
- d. Decentralise funding to community LandCare Groups and formalise their existence.
- e. Approval and use of Conservation Agriculture Policy as a means to curb land degradation with specific reference to soil care focus area.
- f. Additional resources for the LandCare Programme will increase focus in streamlining Youth, JuniorCare and Conservation Agriculture areas.
- g. Support LandCare Specialist Function to advance applied evidence policy interface and monitoring of the Programme.
- h. Support mechanism for Traditional Authorities to curb land degradation.



THANK YOU



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