

# Portfolio Committee On Agriculture, Land and Rural Development 10 October, 2023

WELCOME



10 October 2022

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- Deciduous Fruit

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# THE CONTEXT OF OUR EXISTENCE

General Household Survey (GHS) conducted by Statistics South Africa in 2021.

- Out of the total of about 17,9 million households in South Africa, “almost 79% (14,2 million) reported that they had adequate food, while 15% (**2,6 million Households**) and 6% (**1,1 million Households**) stated that they have **inadequate and severe inadequate access to food**, respectively.”

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# THE CONTEXT OF OUR EXISTENCE

General Household Survey (GHS) conducted by Statistics South Africa in 2021.

- We do know, also, that of the **3.1 million households** (17,3%) **who are involved in agricultural activities** (32,2% in Mpumalanga; 32,9% Kwa-Zulu; and 44,3% in the Eastern Cape), about **12%** of them reported that they are involved in **food production as their “main source of food”**, while **74, 5%** stated that agricultural production activities **provide an “extra source of food” for their households.**





## E.G White's Sustainable & Tested Design For Eradicating Hunger: (*Ministry of Healing: 10*)

- *“There are largehearted men and women who are anxiously considering the condition of the poor and what means can be found for their relief.*
  - ***How the unemployed and the homeless can be helped to secure the common blessings of God's providence and to live the life He intended man to live, is a question to which many are earnestly endeavouring to find an answer”.***
-

## E.G White's Sustainable & Tested Design For Eradicating Hunger: (*Ministry of Healing: 10*)

- *“But there are not many, even among educators and statesmen, who comprehend the causes that underlie the present state of society. Those who hold the reins of government are unable to solve the problem of poverty, pauperism, and increasing crime. They are struggling in vain to place business operations on a more secure basis.”*



## E.G White's Sustainable & Tested Design For Eradicating Hunger: (*Ministry of Healing: 10*)

*“Much might be learned from the Old Testament in regard to the **labour question and the relief of the poor;**” that the Creator’s sustainable design, which provides for **“both the means and the incentive for a useful, industrious, and self-supporting life”** for humanity, was that **“every family had a home on the land, with sufficient ground”** for carrying on productive agricultural activities.*

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# E.G White's Sustainable & Tested Design For Eradicating Hunger: (*Ministry of Healing: 10*)

*“no devising of men has ever improved upon that plan. To the world's departure from it is owing, to a large degree, the poverty and wretchedness that exist today”. (The Ministry of Healing: Chapter 10)*





## Modern Testimonies

The experiences of at least three structural economic transformations, namely, India, China and Brazil, all, South Africa's BRICS partners, are indisputable testimonies to the master design of land use and management articulated above by E.G. White. These are briefly covered as illustrative instruments in this submission.



## Modern Testimonies

South Africa, when compared with India, China, Brazil, Kenya, in terms of structural transformation experiences, belongs to a group of countries characterized by **large subsistence and smallholder producer populations**, that constitute the majority the agricultural sector.



## Modern Testimonies

\* Investment by the state, in land development support of subsistence and small-scale farmers, under-girded what has proven a successful economic transition for China and India from the middle to the late 20<sup>th</sup> century.

\* A similar trend played an important role in Brazil's remarkable success in family farming driven poverty reduction at the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.



# The Importance of Joined-Up Government

- **The key lesson**, especially from China and India, is that agricultural transformation succeeds only when driven by the phenomenon of Joined Up Government.

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# The Importance of Joined-Up Government

- China's agrarian transformation was not only successful due to its **consistent provision of support** to and **careful organization of its small-scale farmers**, but the fact that *agricultural reforms were bolstered by other interlinking rural development and economic diversification measures that integrated all sectors of the economy.*
- Key among these were purposeful investments in public infrastructural development, human capital and poverty alleviation interventions driven by the state.





# Key OBJECTS Of The Bill, That BACF FULLY SUPPORTS

BACF Fully Support the Objectives of the Bill In As Far As It Seeks To:

- *“(a) promote the preservation and sustainable development of agricultural land;*
  - *(c) demarcate protected agricultural areas to ensure that agricultural land is preserved and protected against non-agricultural uses in order to promote long-term agricultural production;*
  - *(d) implement a coordinated national framework, including norms, standards and authorisations for the use of agricultural land to—*
  - *promote and encourage viable farming units from a long-term economic, environmental and social perspective;*
  - *discourage land use changes from agricultural to non-agricultural uses to prevent the fragmentation of the agro-ecosystems; and*
  - *(iii) facilitate concurrent land uses on agricultural land without jeopardising long term food security;*
  - *(e) provide for mitigating measures to counteract the loss of agricultural land and the impact of non-agricultural developments on agricultural production capacity*
-



## Omission In The Bill

The Federation, **HOWEVER**, proposes these OBJECTS need to be aligned to those of the United Nation's **Decade on Ecosystem Restoration: 2019 to 2030**, by: Promoting the protection and revival of land used as indigenous agro-food forests that support the livelihoods of indigenous people, halt the degradation of such cultural ecosystems, finance sustainable farming and facilitate nature-based solutions to environmental degradation that is associated to climate and nature crises and the object of transforming South Africa's exclusionary food system to ensure broadened food security and end hunger, has to be included

# PART 3: Recommended Inclusion

- Part 3 of the Bill deals with the “**Preparation of provincial agricultural sector plans**”, and stipulates as follows:
- 6. (1) **The Minister must prescribe criteria** for the compilation of a provincial agricultural sector plan to ensure that it—
- *“(a) is based on agricultural science;*
- *(b) promotes sustainable agriculture;*
- *(c) promotes food security;*
- *(d) preserves agricultural land*



# PART 3 of the Bill: Recommended Inclusion

- BACF RECOMMENDS ADDITION of these Criteria:
- (e) preserves, protects and expand land for the cultivation of indigenous agricultural commodities such as fruit and herbal plants;
- (f) recognizes and respects the diversity of cultural uses of agricultural land among those who use it;



# The Rationale Behind The Recommendation

- {The Ngoni (wrongly known as Nguni) land users, for example:
- Have a wide variety of indigenous fruit growing areas. The various fruit include beautiful commodities such as umQokolo at the Eastern Cape and Marula in Limpopo ...
- Connect the ritual of passage from boyhood to manhood with schooling in environmental appreciation and the use of a variety of agricultural products such as herbs and natural medicines in the entire ritual and beyond}





**BLACK AGRICULTURAL  
COMMODITIES FEDERATION**

Preserve & Develop Land For  
Cultivating and Protecting  
Indigenous Fruits & Herbs

**Umthunduluka:** Red Orange







**BLACK AGRICULTURAL  
COMMODITIES FEDERATION**

Preserve & Develop Land For  
Cultivating and Protecting  
Indigenous Fruits & Herbs

Facilitate commodity value  
adding and the **growth of  
community economies**

**UmQokolo:** Kei Apple





**Umbulwa:**

The Delicious Mobola Plum



Preserve & Develop Land For  
Cultivating and Protecting  
Indigenous Fruits & Herbs

**Umganu:**  
Marula







Section 7 Addition:  
Purpose of Provincial  
Sector Plans

7. The purposes of a provincial agricultural sector plan are to—

*“coordinate and harmonise agricultural land use policies, plans, programmes ... aimed at promoting, achieving and preserving a sustainable agricultural environment, in order to—*

*(i) minimise the duplication of procedures and functions; and  
(ii) promote consistency in the exercise of functions ...*

*(b) give effect to the principle of cooperative government ...;*

*contribute to securing the preservation and development of agricultural land across the country as a whole;*

**BACF RECOMMENDS ADDITION of {c}:**

[c] promote and give effect to the principle of equity by amplifying the voice of the previously disadvantaged users of agricultural land;



**CHAPTER 4:**  
**Institutional**  
**Frameworks**

- “21. (1) The Minister may, by notice in the Gazette, establish an advisory committee to advise the Minister, on request or of its own accord, on—*
- (a) achieving the objects of this Act; and*
  - (b) any other matter concerning the preservation and sustainable development of agricultural land.*
- (2) The advisory committee consists of not more than 10 members appointed by the Minister for a period not exceeding five years from the date of nominations received in terms of subsection (3), which must include—*



**CHAPTER 4:**  
**Institutional**  
**Frameworks**

- (a) not more than two members from nominations received from farmers' organisations;
- (b) not more than five members, each with knowledge and expertise in one of the following fields: agricultural development, agricultural economics, environmental management, spatial information or law;
- (c) not more than two members with knowledge and experience in agriculture at provincial government level;  
and
- (d) a member with knowledge and experience in local government."



CHAPTER 4:  
BACF  
Recommendation

**BACF RECOMMENDATIONS**, in the interest of Equity, more representation for those whose livelihoods are more directly affected in the sector:

A **4 : 4 : 1 : 1 split** across bullet points a; b; c & d above, as follows:

\*Not more than **FOUR members from nominations received from farmers' organizations** – two of which must represent the Designated Groups as contemplated in the Black Economic Empowerment Act

\*Not more than **FOUR members, each with knowledge and expertise in EACH of the following fields: Agric. Development; Agric Economics; Environ. Management; Spatial Information OR Law**

\***Not more than ONE** member with knowledge and experience in agriculture at provincial govt level; and

\***Not more than ONE** with knowledge and expertise in local government OR at local government level

# BACF's SUPPORTIVE PROGRAMME OF ACTION: 2024 – 2030

- In the interest of giving due regard to vital lessons learnt from recently transformed economies, and to ensuring that these written submission do not amount to mere talk, a set of seven considerations are proposed by the BACF. These will form the bases of the **Federation's Supportive 2024 – 2030 Programme of Action** and discussion with the state and all agricultural formations.

**BACF**  
**Programme**  
**of Action:**  
**2024 - 2030**

**Joined Up Government As Envisaged in the District Development Model (DDM)**

- Replicate India's NREGA experience through across Departmental boundaries. These include the **Expanded Public Works Programme** and the **Community Works Programme** and initiatives being undertaken with the **Animal Veld Management Programme, Comprehensive Rural Development Programme (CRDP) and the Farmer Production Support Units (FPSUs)** introduced by the former DRDLR, and the Department of Public Infrastructure's programmes.

**State Support of the UN's International Fund For Agricultural Development: IFAD's Decade of Family Farming**

- Provide state incentives for Family Farming and the support of production of agricultural commodities consumed most by the majority of people on rain-fed communal land areas. Such a state driven investment will accelerate the attainment of comprehensive and inclusive national Food System and broadened household food security.



**BACF**  
**Programme**  
**of Action:**  
**2024 - 2030**

**State Support of the UN's  
International Fund For  
Agricultural Development:  
IFAD's Decade of Family  
Farming**

**IFAD's Decade of Family Farming: 2019 to 2028.**

Can be advanced through the restoration and expansion of state's agricultural land development programmes such as the:

- \*One Household One Hectare;** (including Land Reform Beneficiaries)
- \*One Household Two Dairy Cows;**(including Land Reform Beneficiaries)
- \*National Red Meat Development Programme:**  
Community Custom Feedlot Expansion:
- \*Genetic Improvement of Wool producing rams;**
- \*Communal land for Cotton Production** lands in Mpumalanga and Makhathini Flats in the KZN
- \*Communal land areas and Township Production Schemes on commonage land** as envisaged in the *Agriculture and Agro-Processing Master Plan* of government and participation trade as envisaged in the BRICS Plus platform.

**SUPPORTING COMMUNAL WOOL SHEEP PRODUCERS IN SOUTH AFRICA:  
Quality Ram Exchanges with Households (Imigqutsuba Exchange)**

**Infrastructure For:  
Fencing & Enriching Amadlelo  
Sheep Shearing**

**COMMUNITY RAMS EXCHANGE FOR IMPROVED WOOL QUALITY**





# Communal Lands Preservation And Development For Cotton Production: Cotton-SA

**Partnership Initiative: VILLAGE  
COTTON PRODUCTION**



**Labour Intensive Village Cotton  
Cultivation: Limpopo/MP/KZN**





# Investing In Communal Land And Development Infrastructure: Communal Custom Livestock Feeding & Auction Programme



**BACF  
Programme  
of Action:  
2024 - 2030**

**Recapitalization of  
MAFISA**

Provide for the recapitalization of MAFISA as access to affordable credit support This will contribute to the further stimulation of small-scale agricultural production in both rural communal and township lands.

**Access To State Markets For  
Producers on Communal and  
Township Lands**

**Link production on communal lands** and consumption on **state driven markets** such as:

The Department of Health's hospital and clinics.  
The Department of Correctional Services' prisons  
The Department of Social Development's Community Kitchens and Restaurants  
The SEFA's: TREP: Township and Rural Enterprises development Programme

**The Revision of the National  
Agricultural Marketing Act of  
1996.**

1.To regulate prices and curtail the inflated, irrational and exploitative food prices that exacerbate food insecurity, especially among Black households, in the nation;

**BACF  
Programme  
of Action:  
2024 - 2030**


**Revision of the National  
Agricultural Marketing Act of  
1996.**

.....

2. To be empowered to champion the development of various production schemes that support production by small, previously disadvantaged producers across commodity areas, especially those monopolized by White commercial producers, such as the wine, grape, and many other deciduous fruit; dairy products and grains such as wheat;

3. To provide, directly to Black commodity producer organizations, access to levies, without the need to affiliate and depend on existing White structures and the need to get the nod of these large Apartheid nurtured monopolies first.

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# Siyabulela - Dankoo!

- For further interaction on the above please communicate with M.E. Swartz, CEO of the BACF as follows:
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# Benefits

- Increased governance and reporting capacity
- Farmers working across multiple commodities can be supported
- Creates a strong, united and successful voice for black farmers