Poverty Alleviation
Project Review

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January 2003
What is cashmere?

- All goats except Angora goats
- Second finest animal fibre
  (14 to 18.5 micron)
- Worlds sought after animal fibre
- Because of its superb softness and comfort
- World demand 12 000 tons
- World production 8 000 tons
How was the project started
- Recognising SA’s rich resource of ± 5 mil. indigenous goats and possible potential to produce cashmere
- CSIR joined hands with Grootfontein Agric. Dev. Inst. in a countrywide survey

Progress to date and outcome of survey

Objectives
- Aim to increase cashmere producing ability of indigenous goats
- Purpose to establish viable enterprises (SMME’s) in converting yarn into high quality cashmere products therefore improve socio economic life of the people
Project approach

- 3 Phases

**Farming**: Fibre production

**Processing**: Scouring, Dehairing, Carding, Roving, Yarn formation

**Manufacturing (SMME)**: Knitting / Weaving
Stakeholder:
Dept. of Science and Technology
Funders of the Cashmere Project
Role Players:
Get the buy-in and determine roles of each

- Department of Agriculture through Animal Improvement Officers, Animal Scientists and Extension Officers of the Eastern Cape and North West provinces
- Members of the Local Economic Development Unit of Matatiele, Emalahleni and Lukhanji Municipalities, Ward Lukhanji Municipality Councilors, Tribal Leaders (Hlomendlini - Chief TM Magadla) and Communities of each of the areas
Location

Established: 2 Farming activities and 2 SMME’s

- EC - Maluti area - Hlomendlini Junior Sec. School – 30°S 28°E
- NW – Madikwe / Mankwe area - Klipkuil Res. Station - 25°S 27°E

New

- EC - Lady Frere area - 31°S 27°E
- EC - Whittlesea Area - 32°S 26°E
Beneficiaries

Communities

1. Emerging farmers (138 EC and 10 NW)
2. Two SMME’s (1EC and 1 NW with 17 participants in total)
## Participants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>No. of Jobs Created</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Farming</td>
<td>148</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SMME’s</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Participants</td>
<td>165</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CASHMERE IS KING

**Investment**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>2001/2004</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total allocated</td>
<td>R 2.3 mil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total invested</td>
<td>R1.1 mil</td>
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Project Outcomes

Emerging Farmers

- Three hundred combs for combing cashmere hair, constructed by CSIR, were provided to the farmers free of charge.
- Farmers have earned in total ± R11 000 income from harvesting cashmere hair for the 2002 combing season.
- Farmers have received seven pure cashmere rams from project. EC farmers have also received 43 upgraded cashmere rams from Dept. of Agric. EC. From the ± 1800 goats involved in the project at least 450 kids / offspring of the improved goats have been born.
- At Maluti EC farmers received building plans and fencing material for the erection of handling facilities.
- Animal health medicine, instrumentation and feeding licks for the dry winter months were provided continuously to the farmers in the EC.
- Capacity and skills transfer
  Farmers have received training in good goat farming practices, record keeping, upgrading of present animals and fibre harvesting.
CASHMERE IS KING
Outcomes (Cont.)

SMME’s

- Screening process was followed to obtain the best 10 trainees at each area
- Secured knitting venue at each area
- Provided chairs and tables, 10 knitting and one sewing machine and 2 overlockers (industrial and domestic) at each knitting venue
- Electrified and supplied burglarproofing to knitting venue at Maluti
- Supplied acrylic yarn for training and between training session
- Capacity building and skills transfer in machine knitting
CASHMERE IS KING

Project Success

A way to diversify existing agriculture resources

- Utilizing down fibres as an additional source of income (value addition)
- Development of technical skills of goat farmers
- Converting yarn into products to improve socio-economic life of people
- Capacity building and job opportunities
**Lessons Learned**

- Get the buy in of stakeholders
- Important to get community interested and involved
- Get community committed
- Get community eagerness to improve their skills and social well-being
- Sensitize beneficiaries of the enterprise
- To ensure that they perceive ownership as their own from beginning to end
WAY FORWARD

- Capitalise on foundation laid
- Give aftercare support
- Extend the project to other areas
- It needs to be expanded over a five year period