Poverty Alleviation Project Review

OAS R

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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 25S 27E

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

	No. of Jobs Created
Farming	148
SMME's	17
Total Participants	165



Investment

Duration	2001/2004
Total allocated	R 2.3 mil
Total invested	R1.1 mil

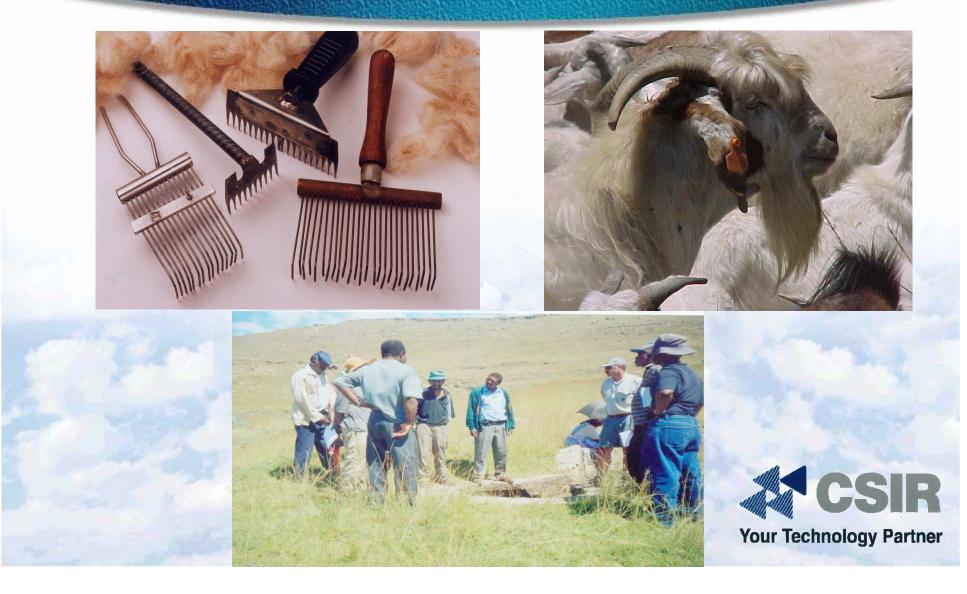


Project Outcomes

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 harvestingur Technology Partner



• 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





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

