



# **Current and Emerging Youth Policies and Initiatives with a Special Focus on Links to Agriculture**

## **South African Case Study Draft Report**

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## Disclaimer

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The views expressed in this report do not necessarily represent the views of FANRPAN.

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## ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

Act	National Youth Development Agency Act of 2008
ABC	Agricultural Business Chamber
AFRA	Association of Farmers for Rural Advancement
AU	African Union
AgriSA	Agri South Africa
ASGISA	Accelerated and Shared Growth Initiative-South Africa
AYC	African Youth Charter
BBBEE	Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment
BRICS	Brazil, India, China, and South Africa
CAADP	Comprehensive African Agriculture Development Programme
CAYC	Commercial Agricultural Youth Chamber
CRDP	Comprehensive Rural Development Programme
CSI	Corporate Social Investment
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DHET	Department of Higher Education and Training
FANRPAN	Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organisation
DoE	Department of Education
FDI	Foreign Direct Investment
FET	Further Education and Training
GDP	Gross Domestic Product

GEAR	Growth, Employment and Redistribution
HIV	Human Immuno-deficiency Virus
HRDSSA	Human Resources Development Strategy South Africa
HSRC	Human Sciences Research Council
IDC	Inter-Departmental Committee on Youth Affairs
IDZ	Industrial Development Zones
ILO	International Labour Organisation
IPAP	Industrial Policy Action Plan
IYD	Integrated Youth Development
IYDS	Integrated Youth Development Strategy
LAR	Land and Agrarian Reform
LED	Local Economic Development
MAFISA	The Micro Agriculture Finance Institutions of South Africa
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MIG	Municipal Infrastructure Grant
MTSF	Medium Term Strategic Framework
NAMC	National Agricultural Marketing Council
NEPAD	New Economic Programme for African Development
NGP	New Growth Path
NSDS	National Skills Development Strategy
NYC	National Youth Commission
NYDA	National Youth Development Agency
NYP	National Youth Policy
QLFS	Quarterly Labour Force Surveys
R&D	Research and Development
RDP	Reconstruction and Development Programme
RSA	Republic of South Africa
PPPs	Public Private Partnerships
SAGDA	South African Graduate Development Association
SDA	Skills Development Act
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SDF	Skills Development Fund
SDLA	Skills Development Levies Act
SSA	Sub-Saharan Africa
the dti	Department of Trade and Industry
TOR	TOR – Terms of References
UN	United Nations
UNWPAY	United Nations World Programme of Action on Youth
UYF	Umsobomvu Youth Fund
WYF	World Youth Forum
WPAY	Worldwide Programme of Action on Youth
YWS	Youth Wage Subsidy

## 1. Executive Summary

*“Africa is the only continent which does not grow enough food to feed itself”. Kofi Anan, 14 October, 2010*

The 2012 FANRPAN Youth Policy Review Report presents the current national policy trends within the context of post-1994 Land and Agrarian Reform, global changing environment; with special focus on youth engagement and participation in the policy formulation, planning and implementation across the food value chains. In this edition, socio-economic challenges surrounding vulnerable rural youth such as increasing levels of poverty (particularly in rural areas), unemployment, disease burden, unhealthy and risky behavior, crime, rising cost of living, climate change and growing population are identified and analyzed against existing and emerging policies within the agricultural sector. The whole exercise is aimed at identifying policy gaps and challenges that hinders and/or promote meaningful participation of youth in the mainstream agricultural economy while highlighting opportunities and possible steps that could be taken to improve the situation for better. Accordingly, the youth study report should be viewed within the context of South African Constitution, Department of Agriculture Policies, National Youth developmental Policies, UN, and AU-NEPAD-CAAP declarations on the active engagement of youth in policy making and planning decision processes.

The Report will be composed of 9 sections illustrated in various headings and sub-headings.

Section 1 – 6 deals with the following:

- Executive Summary
- Purpose of study
- Country background
- Legislative Framework
- Overview of the Agricultural Sector
- Youth demographics
- Methodology
- Study Limitations

The main highlights in these sections are the established global and national legislative frameworks that guide youth engagement into the agricultural economy. It is here where you get to appreciate the fundamental and legal basis for youth mainstreaming and development in the agricultural sector. If you were to ask which regional and national institutions inform youth policies in the agricultural sector, you get an answer here. On the other hand the brief state of agriculture and socio-economic profile of South African youth, especially rural youth highlights the strategic nature of agriculture in transforming rural economy and mitigating socio-economic challenges referred to in paragraph one above. The youth demographics will allow you to see through disaggregated statistics on population growth in terms of age, employment opportunities, poverty, race, etc. Among other things, this section highlights the fact that out of

an estimated 50 million 2011 population, about 46% is resides in rural areas with youth constituting the majority. Many youth are heading households, lack proper education and are faced with huge socio-economic challenges.

Section 7-9 deals with “Literature Review Results”, Challenges, Opportunities and Conclusion. It covers the following:

- Youth and agriculture under current and national youth and other policies and initiatives
- Perception of youth on changing realities of agriculture
- Youth and national policies
- Key institutions, mechanisms and tools for the engagement of youth in agriculture
- Conclusion
- References (all details including in-text references)
- Annexes (Recommendations, SWOT Analysis, acronyms and other relevant documents)

On the one side of this sections, the reviewed literature will highlight the fact that apartheid legacy of a dualism within agricultural sector remain the main feature of South African Agriculture and its value chains 18 years into the 1994 democratic freedom and that youth continue to be victims of chronic generational poverty engineered by the past policy of racial segregation.<sup>1</sup> But it doesn't stuck in the past injustices, rather it places much more focus on policy work post-1994, progress, failures and missing policy gaps.

As you know perceptions inform policy, the report will draw views on how South African youth perceive or understand agriculture and its complexities. In its wisdom, the report highlight on the changing realities of a knowledge-based agriculture and its **massive opportunities** across its complex value chain structure. The role of reproductive infrastructures such as roads, electricity, production and value addition technologies and facilities, irrigation facilities, ICTs, Marketing and so on are highlighted in order to change the negative perceptions among the youth. A detail SWOT analysis is outlined, highlighting critical socio-economic challenges that can be turned into opportunities within the context of CAADP, South African Constitution, Integrated Youth Development Strategy (South Africa) and various policies, as well as weaknesses that can be translated into strength through improved integrated planning and implementation.

If anything, the study, the first of its own kind, acknowledges the fact that the country's history on mainstreaming youth development is one characterized by exclusion of majority of youth for many decades and it is only within the past 18 years of democracy that one can trace and interrogate limited available data in terms of their involvement into policy formulations and planning. The main highlight is that whereas government has managed to register progress in formulating some Land and Agrarian Policies and related programmes such as Comprehensive Agricultural Support Programme (CASP), mainstreaming of youth development in the national policies and practices is still a missing reality. Where such policies and programmatic efforts to incorporate youth into the sector exists, there is lack of focus and a dedicated support which does nothing to change the negative stereotypes associated with agriculture.

Finally, the Report concludes by offering viable recommendations on actions required to improve engagement and involvement of youth in the agri-business industry's current and

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<sup>1</sup> South African National Youth Policy, 2009-2014

future plans. In the main, we will highlight the importance of State's role in creating an enabling environment, **the improvement of access to education, training, learning, entrepreneurship development and capacity building, possible policy shifts and the benefits of agro-ecological approaches.**

## **2. Purpose of the Report**

The purpose of this report is:

- a) To conduct a Country Case Study (Literature Review) and present the findings of the current and emerging policies as well as related Initiatives regarding the mainstreaming of youth development in the agricultural value chain in South Africa
- b) To identify space and opportunities for developing national 'youth and agriculture policies' within agricultural policies and make appropriate policy recommendations

## **3. Project Background**

### **3.1. Facts-based Global Need**

Africa is said to be having a unique population profile, with 44% of its population under the age 15 in 2006 making sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) the youngest region of the world. Today, two out of three inhabitants of SSA are under 25 years of age. SSA is home to over 200 million young people, who are employed primarily in agriculture, where they account for 65% of the total employment. Thus, young Africans are the key to African agriculture development. However, many are unable to fulfill their potential because of poverty, hunger, poor health and lack of education.<sup>2</sup>

Youth face challenges brought about by limited access to resources, healthcare, education, training, employment and economic opportunities. Many youth remain marginalized, disconnected or excluded from the opportunities that globalization offers. Africa, 40 percent of the total unemployed are youth - 70 percent of these live in rural areas. Those who are employed have insecure work arrangements, characterized by low productivity and meagre earnings. Among the youth, females and the rural youth face particularly stronger challenges especially because of early motherhood and lack of educational and job opportunities.<sup>3</sup>

Following its successful 2011 Regional Food Security Policy Dialogue which focused on Youth and Agriculture held in Swaziland on September 2011, FANRPAN through its CEO, Dr. Lindiwe Majele Sibanda published an article synthesising the core messages of the event. In line with Policy Dialogue Declaration, she observed the dire need and possible strategies for youth to be lured into agricultural value chain as key drivers of the Comprehensive African Agriculture

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<sup>2</sup> Fanrpan South African Country Case Study on Current and Emerging Youth Policies and Initiatives with a Special Focus on Links to Agriculture Terms of Reference Document November 2011

<sup>3</sup> [www.future-agricultures.org](http://www.future-agricultures.org)



Development Programme (CAADP), localising and coordinating efforts to assist Africa to achieve its international commitments referred to herein.

In short, Dr. Sibanda made a passionate call that “For Africa to achieve food security, youths must be regarded as critical agricultural players who need and deserve special attention, support and follow-up.” She further highlighted that for a full potential of youth to be unleashed to the benefit of on-going Africa’s Green Revolution Project, right and relevant supportive tools are urgently required.

As a result of this untenable SSA dire situation, which South Africa also faces, young people (unskilled) are alertly deserting rural areas for urban and semi-urban areas, leaving food production to the ageing population. “Many may have witnessed their parents and grandparents spend a lifetime surviving on a tiny income, perhaps as smallholder farmers, never having much to show for their effort”, so says the FANRPAN TOR document justifying this Policy Review.

In the face of all this background view, what appears more pleasing is that there is an increasing will by Africans and adequate legal framework upon which targeted and development of youth should be based, and the following constitute such:

- African states, South Africa included, are signatories to UN’s Millennium Development Goals (MDG) to halve poverty by 2015; UN World Programme of Action for Youth (UN WPAY) which emphasizes “full and effective participation in decision-making of youth in communities and society is one of the priority areas of the programme”.
- African states, South Africa included, are also signatories to the Maputo Declaration of 2003. Under the Maputo Declaration, heads of state of the African Union recognise that it is the responsibility of Africa to invigorate its agricultural sector, increase food production and ensure economic prosperity and the welfare of its people by guaranteeing sustainable food security. Under the declaration, the heads of state acknowledged that 30% of the continent’s population is chronically and severely undernourished.
- Again African leaders have adopted NEPAD as an economic development programme of AU, and went on to ratify and committed themselves to implement its sub-programme known as the Comprehensive Africa Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP) in 2003. It commits countries to investing 10 percent of national budgets in agriculture and pursuing policies that will achieve a 6 percent increase in farm production. The following are some key aspects for CAADP and are geared towards improving policymaking:
  - a) Broad participation in – and thus ownership of – the development of policies and strategies;
  - b) Better harmonisation of these policies and strategies and stronger efforts to embed them in regional and pan-African agendas;
  - c) Evidence-based policymaking, including peer learning and review;
  - d) Building partnerships to enhance private and public investment.

African states also ratified the African Youth Charter of which Article 11 provides that “every young person shall have the right to participate in all spheres of society” while article 14 emphasized on “Poverty Eradication and Socio-economic Integration of Youth”

Africa is not alone in this renewed agenda. In response to CAADP and the political will for a green revolution, the Rockefeller Foundation and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation established the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA).

Dr Namanga A. Ngongi, President of Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa, the reputable civil society organisation of note, has urged African Leaders in Ghana News Agency in 2011, in line with CAADP, to “encourage the youth to move into agriculture and regard agriculture as a business venture and not as a way of life, whilst governments invest in the sector.”

The recent FAO-ILO-NEPAD discussion document has identified global recession, rising cost of living due to sky-rocketing food commodity prices, and the so-called Arab Spring as but factors contributing to high levels of unemployment in the middle income countries such as South Africa.<sup>4</sup> This then provides a context within which the report on “*South Africa Youth in Agriculture Country Case Study*” is to be understood and critiqued.

## 4. Country Background

### 4.1. Broad Legal and Policy Framework

At 18 years, South Africa is fairly a new democratic nation with a new Constitution. The 1994 negotiated transition from apartheid to constitutional democracy remains one of the most important and impressive political transitions of our time. It is a powerful demonstration of the proposition that a drastic democratic policy change is possible through a peaceful and negotiated means from conflict and injustice to cooperation and reconciliation; despite the complex history of oppression, institutionalized violence, and diverse social fabric that has defined and divided South Africa over centuries.

Under the current dispensation, the 1996 Constitutional Document is the Supreme Law of land, guaranteeing and entrenching fundamental human rights, among them the right to food and social security.<sup>5</sup> With the end of apartheid, it was clear that the injustices of the past needed to be rectified. The importance of land is illustrated by the fact that provision for such rectification was included in the interim constitution (Roux, 2004: 518). Redress in terms of land was, therefore, a given; the concern was how to balance redress with reconciliation and economic sustainability. The constitution obliged government and its citizens to among other things heal the divisions of the past.<sup>6</sup> However, land and agriculture remains an emotive policy issue that is proving challenging to deal with.

This all encompassing policy shift provided both opportunities and challenges. In its attempt to achieve what it term a “united, non-racial, non-sexist and democratic South Africa, the successive ANC-led Government adopted a Broader Transformation Program in order to address the objectives of “access, equity and redress” to address the imbalances of the past policy regime.

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<sup>4</sup> Youth, Decent Employment and the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme

<sup>5</sup> The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996, Section 27

<sup>6</sup> The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996, Preamble.

In the agricultural sector, government **deregulated** the sector to provide for competitiveness, and introduced Land and Agrarian Reform Policy (details illustrated in the relevant section herein) in order to begin creating an “inclusive, united and prosperous agricultural sector”.

Since then, the country has ratified majority of key international human rights instruments that are aimed at addressing underdevelopment and protect the right to food and social security in line with its own Constitution. The Constitution further obliges the State to take reasonable legislative and other measures, within its available resources, to achieve the progressive realization of these rights. The country has since adopted various related strategies and policies to realize its international and national obligations. (Please refer to relevant section herein).

Following its sweeping political revolution in the 1992–1994 period, South Africa has been facing the challenge of moving from an economic system that was exclusively serving the interests of the white minority, representing one tenth of the population, to a much more inclusive system, that could reverse the injustices of the past and close the gap between the various groups composing society.

It is within this context that the involvement and participation of youth in the Transformation of South African Agricultural landscape post-1994 will be studied and analyzed.

#### **4.2. Overview of the Agricultural Sector**

South Africa has a **dual agricultural economy**: a well-developed commercial sector and a subsistence sector predominantly occupied by resource-poor black farmers. However, while the opposition between white large-scale commercial farmers and black<sup>7</sup> small-scale subsistence farmers has been used for long and remains valid, South Africa’s agriculture is best described today as a **three-tiered sector**.

First, an estimated 35,000 large-scale commercial farmers, predominantly of white origin own farms with an average size of 2,500 hectares according to AGRI-SA. About 82 million hectares of land was owned by 60 000 white farm divisions (Levin and Weiner, 2003: 39). These farmers produce 95 per cent of all marketed outputs and they collectively occupied 87 per cent of the agricultural land in 2003, and there is no indication that this figure has significantly changed since then. A second category of farmers is composed of approximately 200,000 black farmers “emerging” since 1994. It is estimated that 13 million people lived in “homelands” (rural & segregated areas for blacks during apartheid) in poor living conditions. South Africa has a large proportion of its population residing in rural areas and are, one way or the other, involved in some agriculture-related activity.

**Productivity** - About 12% of the country can be used for crop production. High-potential arable land comprises only 22% of total arable land. Some 1.3 million hectares (ha) are under irrigation. Agricultural activities range from intensive crop production and mixed farming to cattle ranching in the bushveld, and sheep farming in the more arid regions. The largest area of farmland is planted in maize, followed by wheat and, on a lesser scale, sugar cane and sunflowers. RSA has

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<sup>7</sup> In South Africa, “Black” refers to all groups that were classified as “non-White” under Apartheid classifications. Black can be further broken down into the groups African, Coloured and Asian/Indian.

very well-established upstream and downstream industries (inputs industry, food processing, beverages, textiles, wood, paper, leather, rubber).

**Economic contribution** - Agriculture, forestry, and fisheries is a R66billion industry. Primary agriculture contributes about 3% to the gross domestic product (GDP), down from 15% in the 1950s and about 7% to formal employment.<sup>8</sup> However, there are strong linkages into the economy, so that the agro-industrial sector comprises about 12% of GDP. Although South Africa has the ability to be self-sufficient in virtually all major agricultural products, the rate of growth in exports has been slower than that of imports. The only increase in agricultural export volumes occurred during the period of exchange-rate depreciation in 2002 and came to about nine million tons (mt). Major import products include wheat, rice, vegetable oils and poultry meat.

While 13% of South Africa's land can be used for crop production, only 22% of this is high-potential arable land. The most important limiting factor is the availability of water. Rainfall is distributed unevenly across the country, with some areas prone to drought. Almost 50% of South Africa's water is used for agriculture, with about 1.3-million hectares under irrigation.

According to Aliber, et al, (2009) cited in Cousins (2009), agriculture employs 4, 75 million people, of whom 4 million are engaged in agriculture for “own consumption” purposes. Given that the non-agricultural sectors jointly employed 8 million employees, it means that those who grow their own food, i.e., the smallholders “employ” or have the potential to employ approximately 33 percent of the total labour force in the country.

**Employment** - Employment in agriculture (including forestry & fishing) has experienced long-term decline due to a number of factors (decrease in number of farming operations, younger generation less interested in farming, market deregulation).

According to Table A, there were 431 664 full-time and 365 142 casual employees in the formal agricultural sector. Western Cape (90 943), KwaZulu-Natal (66 685), Free State (53 994) and North West (53 741) accounted for the highest total number of full-time workers. Northern Cape (26 871) and Gauteng (22 979) accounted for the lowest number of full-time workers.

What is interesting is that provinces with highest rural population such as Limpopo and Eastern Cape are lagging behind their counterparts regarding employment rate.

**Table A – Number of paid employees and total salaries and wages per province**

Province	Full-time employees	Casual and seasonal employees	Remuneration	
			Full-time	Casual and seasonal
	Number		R'000	
Eastern Cape	34 253	30 565	510 404	106 497
Free State	53 944	45 150	737 796	98 996
Gauteng	22 979	11 957	534 083	93 461

<sup>8</sup> Statistics South Africa, 2010.

KwaZulu-Natal	66 685	34 383	968 455	154 286
Limpopo	35 728	31 833	625 436	124 159
Mpumalanga	46 520	32 826	853 396	176 363
North West	53 741	32 008	574 596	75 250
Northern Cape	26 871	47 874	339 948	123 723
Western Cape	90 943	98 546	2 029 275	485 108
South Africa	431 664	365 142	7 173 389	1 437 843

**Source: Statistics South Africa, Census of Commercial Agriculture, 2007**

Therefore, bringing the youth into mainstream economic activities lies at the core of achieving the development path which is desired by government.

#### **4.3. Definition of Youth**

After 1994 a broad pragmatic chronological age definition of youth was adopted for historical reasons. To date it has been used to guide the sector with different role players setting their own limits. In South Africa youth is defined as the group of people between 18 - 35 years of age and this will serve as an official guide to this study.

As is the case in all societies, youth are **not** a homogenous group.

##### **Youth subgroups**

- School going youth
- Out-of-school youth
- Unemployed youth
- Employed youth
- Rural and urban young men and women
- Youth in conflict with the Law
- Young women
- Young people with Disabilities
- Young men and women heading households
- HIV / Aids Infected and Affected Youth

#### **4.4. Youth Demographics**

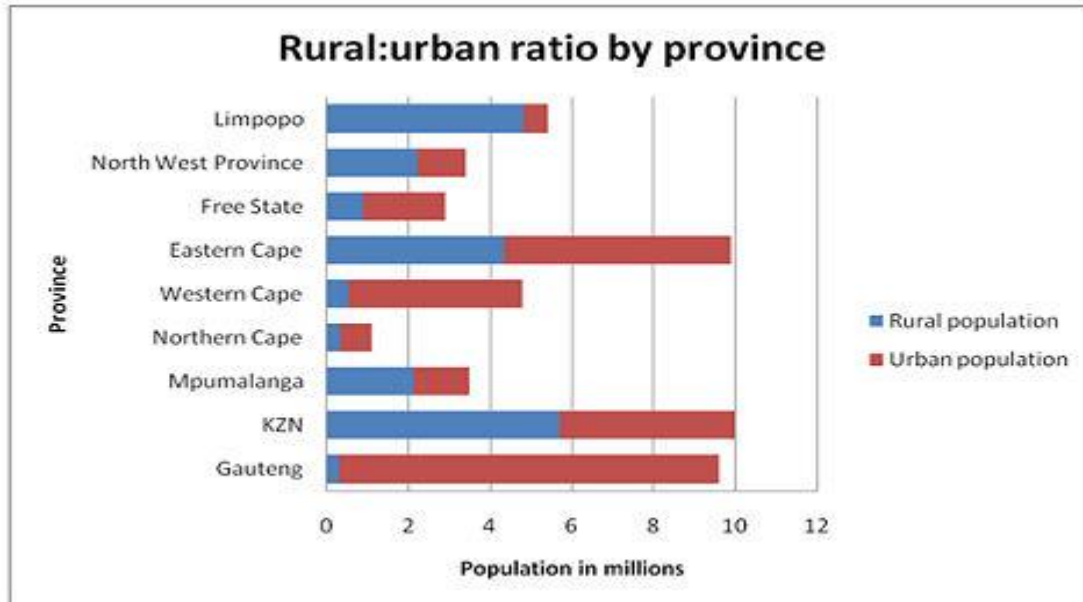
The overall population is estimated at 50 million, an increase of about 2.5 million between the year 2005 and 2009. At **37%** of the entire population, the youth constitute the biggest age category of the South African population. Of the 37%, Africans make about 80% of the total youth population. Almost one-fifth of the facilities in South Africa are headed by youth, often without stable means of livelihood.

Over 48% of youth live in household that have reported hunger. About 60% of youth aged between 15 to 24 years in seven of the South African' nine provinces live in households with low income. The poorer and rural provinces like Limpopo, KwaZulu-Natal, and the

Eastern Cape have the most number of youth living in households with low income. Over 30% of youth live in households without an employed member.

**Figure 1** below depicts the graphic proportions of rural and urban populations in each province. The totals were calculated based on a total national population of 47 million (2006 estimation). In total, South Africa's population is 53.7 % urban and 46.3 % rural. This reality places agriculture as key policy issue to unlock rural economy where the masses are still stuck at subsistence farming.

**Figure 1**



In terms of age demographics, South Africa is a young country, as 50 % of the total population is below the age of 25 (20.3 % is below the age of 10). With such a relatively high proportion of children to adults, it is natural to assume that the age demographics for rural areas mirror this phenomenon. However, data from the National Household Survey 2004 shows that 54 % of South Africa's children live in rural areas. This equates to around 10 million children, of which almost 75 % live in the Eastern Cape, KwaZulu-Natal and Limpopo.

**Table B: Population Distribution by Age and Year 2005-2010**

Age Group	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
0-4	5,265,523	5,243,899	5,216,905	5,186,353	5,153,944	5,120,704
5-9	5,228,573	5,215,800	5,203,946	5,193,900	5,187,712	5,181,221
10-14	5,228,315	5,249,159	5,257,494	5,252,668	5,231,543	5,202,410
15-19	5,016,193	5,062,472	5,108,465	5,152,316	5,194,242	5,226,212
20-24	4,596,290	4,660,783	4,735,367	4,820,935	4,916,044	5,018,533

25-29	5	4,271,01	4	4,323,82	9	4,381,70	9	4,438,85	8	4,487,17	8	4,518,96
30-34	1	3,786,00	7	3,862,62	3	3,907,86	2	3,941,63	4	3,982,08	3	4,035,76
35-39	6	2,772,66	8	2,880,04	5	3,024,71	8	3,188,56	0	3,343,14	6	3,465,08
40-44	2	2,435,40	8	2,428,72	5	2,420,60	1	2,425,56	2	2,458,40	3	2,524,17
45-49	0	2,181,74	1	2,201,04	9	2,212,86	0	2,220,66	9	2,226,24	8	2,230,46
50-54	8	1,805,72	8	1,852,35	1	1,901,58	8	1,949,52	6	1,990,24	8	2,019,04
55-59	9	1,476,76	1	1,511,43	0	1,544,18	5	1,577,49	2	1,613,83	2	1,653,58
60-64	8	1,145,00	7	1,178,32	9	1,213,42	1	1,249,65	9	1,285,51	9	1,319,60
65-69		854,360		880,530		906,054		931,577		957,829		985,185
70-74		579,874		601,952		625,043		648,708		672,227		695,092
75-79		363,683		378,560		393,569		408,932		424,868		441,484
80+		282,827		295,831		309,545		323,902		338,716		353,934
14 -35	51	19,333,7	27	19,602,6	33	19,855,8	29	20,104,9	73	20,355,2	35	20,593,2
% Change				1.39%		1.29%		1.25%		1.25%		1.17%
Total Population	67	47,289,9	70	47,827,3	39	48,363,3	45	48,911,2	75	49,463,7	72	49,991,4
% Change				1.14%		1.12%		1.13%		1.13%		1.07%
Source:		Stats SA Mid-Year Population Estimates Releases, <a href="http://www.statssa.gov.za">www.statssa.gov.za</a>										

The data estimates that youth between the ages of 14 – 35 years is estimated to be at 20.5 million representing 40.9% of the total population of 50 million. The estimates indicate that the youth population group, year on year, has been growing higher than the national average population growth meaning that there are more people joining this age group than national population growth average.

**Table C: Proportion (%) of households headed by youth, by province**

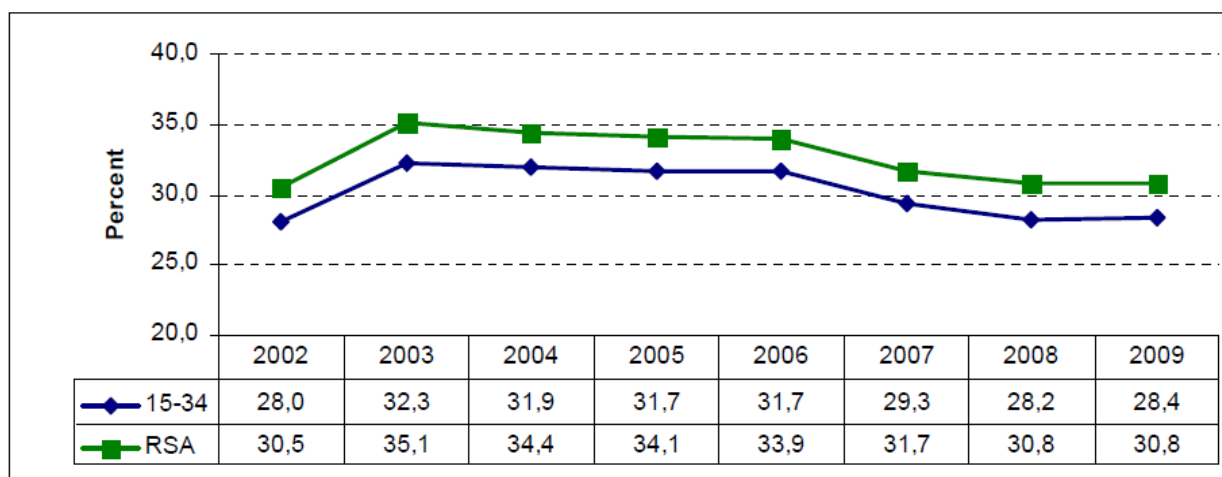
	2005		2006		2007		2008		2009	
Age groups	15-24	25-34	15-24	25-34	15-24	25-34	15-24	25-34	15-24	25-34
WC	3,2	24,1	4,1	22,7	5,1	21,1	5,1	20,5	4,2	20,8
EC	7,6	17,5	8,9	16,2	8,0	17,1	7,4	18,1	5,7	20,2
NC	6,0	19,9	5,0	20,5	4,8	20,3	4,3	20,9	5,5	19,4
FS	8,8	20,5	8,4	20,5	7,9	20,5	7,2	21,1	6,7	21,3
KZ	7,8	20,7	7,9	20,7	7,4	21,3	6,3	22,5	5,5	23,3
NW	6,	16,	4,	17,	5,6	15,	4,4	15,	3,8	15,

	1	8	6	2		2		5		2
GP	5, 5	27, 6	5, 9	26, 7	6,3	25, 4	6,0	24, 8	5,2	24, 8
MP	8, 3	22, 5	8, 4	22, 1	8,6	21, 8	7,4	22, 8	7,7	22, 4
LP	10 ,6	18, 5	10 ,1	19, 0	10, 8	18, 2	10, 9	18, 1	10, 1	19, 0
RS A	6, 9	22, 0	7, 1	21, 5	7,2	21, 0	6,6	21, 3	5,9	21, 8
<i>Source: Statistics South Africa, Social profile of South Africa, December 2010</i>										

The table above shows that a significant proportion of youth in South Africa are heading households. About 6% of youth between the ages of 15 to 24 years are heading households, and one in five or around 20% of youth between the ages of 25-34 are heading households. On average, a quarter of the young people in South Africa are heading households.

The table further shows that between 2005 and 2009 in both youth age groups have experienced relative stability. For youth between the ages of 15-24 years, the pattern increased by 1%, while for those between ages of 25-34 years, it decreased by 2%. The stability could be attributed to the increased up-take of ARVs. Given the high prevalence of HIV/AIDS in the country, the proportions of youth heading households is likely to increase.

**Figure 2: % of 15-34 yrs youth living in households without an employed member**

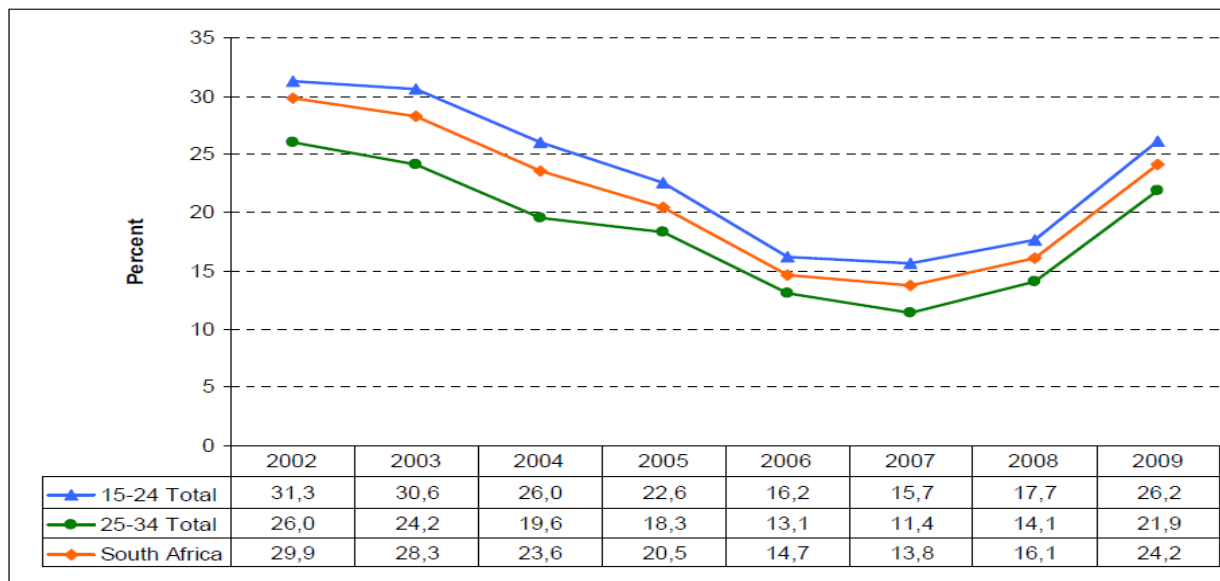


Source: *Source: Statistics South Africa, Social profile of South Africa, December 2010*

Young people living in households without an employed member have been averaging about 30% from 2002 to 2009. The proportion increased in 2003, from below 30% to about 32% and remained stable until 2006, where it began to fall to just below 30%. An average of 30% is a substantial amount when one takes into account that young people constitute about 37% of the South African population.

**Figure 3: Proportion of youth that live in household that reported hunger**





Source: Statistics South Africa, Social profile of South Africa, December 2010

The data illustrates that in 2009 about 48% of young people between the ages of 15 and 34 years live in households that have reported hunger. Young people between the ages of 15 and 24 years are the most affected, with figures being above the national average. It also shows that the proportion of youth living in households that reported hunger decreased sharply from 2002 to 2007, again rising onwards.

**Figure 4: Main sources of income for youth headed households, 2009**



Source: Statistics South Africa: Social Profile, 2010

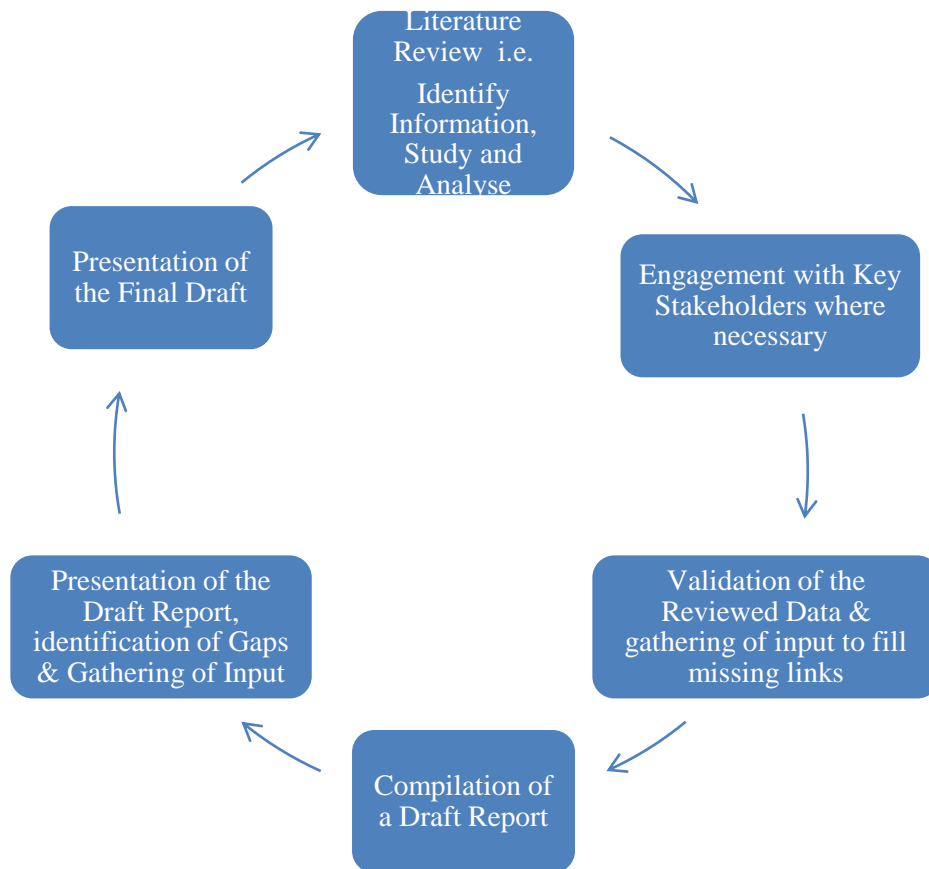
The graph shows that compared to other sources of income like salaries and remittance, income from business, is low at 4.6%, with income from sales of farm products at 0,6%. This seems to correspond with the low level of entrepreneurship and therefore ownership of business by young people. Salaries are the main source of income at 42.0% for those aged between 15 and 24 years and at 73.8% for those between the ages of 25 and 34 years. This underscores the importance of employment amongst young people. Between 6% and 7% of all households in South Africa are headed by youth in the 15 – 24 year age category which is where the highest unemployment exists.

Any meaningful policy intervention aimed at changing the life of youth for better, particularly those in rural areas will have to take into account the demographic profile as illustrated above.

## **5. Methodology**

The deliverable OUTPUTS are drawn after a detailed document review and analysis on policy, strategy, institutionalisation and programme implementation. The thrust of the methodology is centred on the following gap identification tactics relating to challenges, opportunities and best practices:

- Desktop review, Case studies and Analysis of Data Reviewed only to the extent to which it relates to the Project Deliverables – main project activity
- Unstructured interviews with identified policy-making stakeholder representatives – to validate the Reviewed Materials and fill in the information gaps that Data Review exercise might have missed out;
- Templating and Writing of a Critical Report on the Deliverable themes
- Submission of Draft, identification of gaps, Gathering of Inputs
- Incorporating of Inputs into a final Draft
- Submission of Final Draft



## 6. Study limitations and Mitigating factors

The Study only Focused and planned (budget) for a Review yet certain information would have required data collection for proper analysis. Where such gaps were identified, particularly where there is no available empirical data to explain such policy gaps, this report resisted a temptation of creating its own new data, but went on to deal extensively with the policy gaps in its Recommendations.

## 7. Youth Study Results – Current Situation

### 7.1. Perceptions of Agriculture among South African Youth

#### 7.1.1. Changing realities of agriculture and how they are perceived by young people

##### Changing Realities

Reviewed literatures concurs that sustainable farming is about meeting the needs of people today and in the future. **Rapid Urbanization, Climate Change, Poverty, Unemployment, growing levels of inequalities**, the recent **global rise in food prices** and repeated reports about **social unrest** in a large number of countries reveal the strategic and basic importance of the

agricultural sector for social and economic stability against mitigating rising cost of living in a competitive environment.<sup>9</sup> Under these dire circumstances, there is just no doubt that time has come when youth are given a chance to take an active part in the decision-making at local, national and global levels. They must be allowed to map out their own future with much more increased and dedicated resourceful support.

South Africa's population is growing at almost 2% per year. The population of 49 million in 2009 is expected to grow to 82 million by the year 2035. Food production or imports must more than double to feed the expanding population, and production needs to increase using the same or fewer natural resources.<sup>10</sup> In addition, the demand for certain food types will shift as more people become wealthier. South Africans have already shown interesting changes in food consumption since the 1970s. This can be attributed to increased wealth and post-apartheid reforms, the country's middle class have increased by 30% between 2001 and 2004. This has allowed a shift from staple grain crops to a more diverse diet. South Africans have shown a decrease in the consumption of the staples maize and bread, and have massively increased their annual consumption of chicken from 6 kg to 27 kg per person. Per capita egg consumption has also doubled. Interestingly, the per capita consumption of fruit and vegetables has remained constant, while beef, mutton, pork and milk consumption has declined (Agricultural Statistics, 2008).<sup>11</sup>

More alarming though is that South Africa has developed a reputation of presiding over the *highest levels of inequalities* in the world.<sup>12</sup> In terms of age demographics, South Africa is a young country, as 50 % of the total population is below the age of 25 (20.3 % is below the age of 10). In total, South Africa's population is 53.7 % urban and 46.3 % rural. Poverty and unemployment spread at **geographical, racial and of late class levels** have already started sowing seeds of civil unrest among youth with isolated service delivery protests which sometimes turn violent.

In his book published in collaboration with the Agricultural Business Chamber (ABC) and National Agricultural Marketing Council (NAMC), Professor Marcos Fava Neves, highlighted the following factors that are changing and placing pressure on the capacity to supply food to the world, which, as he said, are related to the economic and financial crisis and also relevant to this work:

- a) Increase in areas dedicated for growing crops for *biofuels*. Balancing the competing needs between food and alternative energy for cars; demand for ethanol and bio-fuels has driven up commodity prices and fertilizer prices to historical highs.
- b) The *growth of world population* contributing to increased need for food production;
- c) Economic development and *income distribution in populated countries* such as India, Brazil, Eastern Europe, China, South Africa, Argentina brings with it new food consumers in the market. Experts see increase in food consumption in developed and emerging economies from a current ratio of 60:40 to 50:50 in ten years.<sup>13</sup>

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<sup>9</sup> United Nations World Youth Report, 2011

<sup>10</sup> Statistics South Africa, 2008

<sup>11</sup> Agricultural Census, 2008

<sup>12</sup> **Gini coefficients by race and location, 2007.**

<sup>13</sup> Global Demographics Report, 2008.

- d) Stronger *governmental programmes* are needed for aid and food consumption such as the one undertaken in Brazil, reaching 10 million families and 40 million people.
- e) Migration and Urbanization of society are creating mega-cities, increasing food consumption and changing consumption habits towards less grain, and more protein, becoming more individually based, more sophisticated and more energy consuming. In total, 46.3 % of South Africa's people reside in rural areas, which amount to roughly 22 million people.
- f) *Rising Price of Oil* impacting on production and transport costs.
- g) *Production Shortages (food supply)* due to a number of factors such as lower margins, climate, lack of integrated support to small-scale farmers, particularly financial and training support etc.
- h) *Investment funds* are now operating in future markets and others in agribusiness. (Neves, 2010).

**Other factors include:**

- i) *Commercialization of Agriculture* in developing countries like South Africa to uplift small-scale farmers and create sustainable rural economy requires access to reproductive infrastructures such as land, roads, electricity, marketing facilities, irrigation facilities, small-scale agro-processing technologies, credit institutions, specialized agricultural careers across the value chains etc.

For Example:

The high cost of doing business & perceived challenges facing youth in both rural & urban requires among other things the spirit of entrepreneurship & related investment focusing on youth special needs. It is therefore held that, understanding place & role of ICT in disseminating information, particularly in rural areas depends on recognizing that:

- Knowledge is increasingly a factor of production;
- All actors in the agricultural sectors are part of the evolving agricultural system;
- ICTs remain essential coordinating mechanisms in global agricultural initiatives;
- ICTs can be used to produce, access, and share information on services & products provided by the Ministry of Agriculture

- i) *Climate change* is and will continue to pose huge challenges of drought, floods and food shortages and as such innovative adaptation measures are inevitable.

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**Climate adaptation Example at Production level**

From all these trends, it is clear that *youth-driven innovation* would be important to keep food chains competitive and responsive to changing realities. Faced with all these contemporary challenges, opportunities will have to be created in the value chains, *from farmers, industry, wholesalers, retailers, food services, and service providers, like storage companies, transport companies, banks, and other institutions*. Therefore the educational potential of youth in those specialise areas must be freed in order to drive innovative change to deal with evolving societal challenges.

**These “pull” and “push” factors** must indeed exert pressure on African countries to re-focus on food self-sufficiency and increase support for smallholder farmers in rural areas where majority of youth are unemployed.

### **Youth Perceptions about such changing realities**

In this section we look at the (limited) literature which speaks to youth perception in relation to agriculture. Perceptions inform policy and as such they are as important as realities. The extensive review reveals that there is neither study nor concerted efforts that have been undertaken which clearly capture the perceptions and interest of youth in as far as agriculture is concerned in South Africa. However, looking at the Department of LAND Affairs Youth Empowerment Strategy of 2007, coupled with the Commercial Agricultural Youth Chamber (CAYC) experience<sup>14</sup> working with youth, the following constitute key perceptions in our findings:

- Generally the South African youth, rural and urban, appreciate less of the opportunities provided by the food and fiber chain due to lack of information such as one illustrated under “changing realities” and “opportunities” herein;

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<sup>14</sup> Agricultural Youth Summit Report, 2008

- Whereas the views of those living in rural areas on why young people were not taking up agricultural activities indicated lack of enabling environment and focused support as more important factor, urban-based youth see it as alienating from youth popular culture, old-fashioned and of low status, offering little opportunity for making money and only reserved for the elderly and the poor in rural areas. As a result, South African youth are attracted by the possibilities of well-paid work in the towns and cities rather than farming;
- Lack of *structured interventions and support services such as incentives and access to basic infrastructural resources to engage and attract young people as 'new entrants' in the land and agrarian sector*, is seen as confirming the perceived view that Agriculture doesn't matter much; and consequently the potential of the youth is not being exploited;
- There is a growing perception, particularly among the politically inclined youth that government is not doing enough to redistribute agreed 30% of productive agricultural land from white commercial farmers to emerging black commercial farmers;
- Where there are known interventions in the land and agrarian sector, there are perceptions that those *programmes seem to have a limited life span* i.e. once-off interventions, with no remedial and retention strategies and this forces young people to leave the sector if they don't make it. Furthermore it is perceived that the programmes also take a *'one-size fits all approach'* with little flexibility in them to accommodate the various needs envisaged by young people;
- the sector is seen as highly unattractive - due to ignorant assumption which often limit it labour-intensive engagement; ignoring many other professional and entrepreneurial opportunities across the value chain,
- This has resulted to the fact that agriculture is regarded as an employer of the last resort to young people. (Juma, 2007:2).

#### **7.1.2. Perceptions on sources of information on agriculture used by the youth**

Knowledge is an increasingly significant factor of production. All actors in the Agricultural sector are part of the evolving Agricultural system; yet the majority of youth are seldomly involved in the policy making and planning processes.

**The 2008 Agricultural Youth Summit emphasized, among others, that** Information, Communication and Technology (ICT) cover a wide range of tools and technologies that can be used to foster development and change negative youth perception about Agriculture. Both urban and rural youth can easily be accessed through the following 3 ICTs categories:

- Traditional ICTs: Notice boards, Newsletters, Newspaper,
- Modern ICTs: Radio, Television, Camera, Internet, Computers, mobile phones,
- New Media/social networks/web 2.0 tools/New ICTs: Skype, twitter, facebook, LinkedIn, myspace, blogs, RSS etc

#### **7.1.3. Needs and requirements for engaging young people in agriculture and agricultural processes.**

Reviewed literature seem to suggest that in order to understand youth's needs and constraints, the most viable way would be to understand their aspirations first. The fact that



youth are not a homogeneous group has been emphasised by many researchers and policy makers. They might all be victims of *chronic generational poverty*, unemployment, underdevelopment and illiteracy yet all that happens within different context as circumstances are never the same. (Leavy and Smith, June 2010).

For example, you may want to know how the perceptions and aspirations of farm-based youth fit with emerging visions and future models of agriculture in Africa as compared to their urban or village counterparts.

In South Africa, Kritzinger (2002) found that most teenage girls living on fruit farms had negative views of farm life, relating to: nature of farm work and low wages; low status ascribed to farm children compared to children living in towns and villages; alcohol abuse, gossip and jealousy among farm workers; lack of privacy, boredom and social isolation. Most want to escape farm life and improve their economic position, as well as their status.

The other question that again arises is under which considerations the youth can be engaged in agricultural processes.

These give rise to the following hypotheses:

- The aspirations of rural and urban youth in SA may be differently influenced, however their perceptions are converging, and are significantly influenced by the fact that *“many may have witnessed their parents and grandparents spend a lifetime surviving on a tiny income, perhaps as smallholder farmers, never having much to show for their effort”*, which ultimately reinforce the urban youth perception that agriculture is not profitable. Therefore, policy makers must, within the context of South Africa, seek to understand the perceptions and aspirations of youth **across geographical, racial, and class divides**.
- Young people in areas of high agricultural growth are likely to be more interested in making farming a central element of their livelihood than those living in low growth areas. Young people tend to be more influenced by viewable material reality than theory.
- Young people’s interest in making farming an important element of their livelihood will likely be positively related to their ability to put together or gain access to the resources needed to farm on a “commercial” basis, which are:
  - proper education and training on “hidden” exciting opportunities in value chains i.e. please refer to Annexure C on Agricultural Opportunities provided for by South African Universities across the value chain;
  - basic infrastructures such as land, improved roads,
  - ICTs, Marketing Infrastructures,
  - access to credit,
  - labour etc.
- There is a fundamental tension between MDG 2 (universal primary schooling) and the desire to see young people maintain an engagement in farming. This may be particularly so for girls and young women.<sup>15</sup>
- Engaging youth in research, policy and planning processes may lead them to develop a deep sense of ownership and custodianship of policy implementation.

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<sup>15</sup> **Future Farmers: Youth Aspirations, Expectations and Life Choices, draft paper 2010**



Beginning in 1998 up to date, the South African Government came with all sorts of top-bottom policy initiatives to lure the interest of young South Africans into mainstream agricultural activities. Unfortunately this elitist approach did nothing to register desired impact on the ground as no proper institutionalisation; monitoring and evaluation system was put in place to ensure success.

In many instances, these initiatives had tended to be ineffective as they only operate seasonally, often for political grandstanding purpose. For example, the Youth in Agriculture and Rural Development (YARD 2008) and Department of Land Affairs Youth Empowerment Strategy (2008) are the latest land and agrarian policy instruments which are battling to get off the ground. There is neither budget nor dedicated support to implement the purpose behind these noble initiatives. Inevitably, this lead to structures becoming dormant as they never get to be supported by realistic strategies, programmes and systems rooted in the local communities and available resources.

## **7.2. Rural Youth and Agriculture under current national youth and other policies and initiatives**

### **Understanding Policy Formulation.**

Public policy is the product of the social, economic, political, cultural, technological, and natural conditions of a given society in a particular epoch or period in the historical development of that particular nation or society and is influenced by dominant national and international forces and these influences may be cultural, economically, socially, politically, technological, and type and system of government. In South Africa this places itself within the context of a divisive policy regime of the past apartheid whereby development was based on only on race.

Policy formulation in the Department of Agriculture is a result of Constitutional obligations brought by the 1996 Constitution on the part of government. South Africa furthermore is signatory to a number international conventions and is therefore obligated to honour and ratify these conventions.

## **7.3. Quick Review of National Policies to see how youth are incorporated**

As we have indicated, South Africa is a young nation. Most of the reviewed policies have got less than six years in existence. The past 18 years of democracy has seen the piloting of policies to dismantle the legacy of apartheid. It is only in 2008 when the National Youth Development Agency Act which provides for an Integrated Youth Development Approach across all the sectors got enacted. As a result, not so much data is available on the impact of youth policy initiatives in the agricultural sector as the emergence of NYDA is a tacit acknowledgement that youth development was not mainstreamed before 2008. The uncoordinated policy efforts prior NYDA has tended to sideline youth in rural area as they are hardly ever involved in policy decision and planning processes. Policy making, planning and implementation has tended to be silently bias to urban and semi-urban areas, and given the youth status as illustrated by demographics, the

majority of rural youth are still excluded from participating in the mainstream agricultural economy.

It is widely accepted that South Africa formulates reasonably good policies on paper following inclusive processes but little attention had been paid to implementation and review of policies.

Table D depicts national policies, initiatives and their link to youth

National Policies		Purpose	Youth Link & remarks
1	National Youth Development Act of 2008	It sets a broad youth development agenda and provided for the mainstreaming of youth development across all the sector	Entirely focused on youth
2	National Youth Policy (2009-2014)	It provides for integrated youth development trajectory	Entirely focused on youth
3	Integrated Youth Development Strategy (IYDS 2011)	<b>Broad and renewed mandate</b> of ensuring that <b>all sectors</b> of society prioritise youth development in their service delivery models, agricultural sector and its value chain included. The Agency's mandate is informed by the NYDA Act of 2008 and the National Youth Policy 2009-2014 (NYP).	Entirely focused on youth
4	South African Government's New Growth Path Of 2010	<b>It provides for key strategic sectors for public investment in the next decade, and youth are already set to play a major role in the agricultural value-chain. See IYDS 2011.</b>	List youth as targeted beneficiary
5	South African Government's Medium Term Strategic Framework (MTSF) for 2009 to 2014	It sets out ten priorities that should be government's focus in the short-medium term. Rural development, food security and land reform is but one of them, and youth are poised to take an active role within the context of integrated youth development trajectory	List youth as targeted beneficiary
6	AgriBEE Charter of adopted in 2008	<p>-increasing the extent to which black women, people living with disabilities and <b>youth own</b> and manage existing and new agricultural enterprises, increasing their access to economic activities, infrastructure and skills training;</p> <p>-Empowering rural and local communities to have access to agricultural economic activities, land, agricultural infrastructure, ownership and skills.</p>	<p>List youth as targeted beneficiary</p> <p>The NGP seeks to introduce measures to incentive employment creation within the context of Broad Based Black Economic Empowerment (BBBEE).</p>

	<i>White Paper on South African Land Policy,</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Land restitution – which provides land or compensation for victims of land dispossession which took place after 1913;</li> <li>• Land redistribution – which provides a system of discretionary grants that assist certain categories of people to acquire land through the property market; and</li> <li>• Tenure reform – which secures and extend the tenure rights of the victims of past discriminatory laws and practices.</li> </ul>	
7	Rural Development and Land Reform <b>Youth Empowerment Strategy of 2008</b>	a) mainstreaming youth development programmes b) ensuring effective participation of youth in land and agrarian reform c) ensuring that youth are direct beneficiaries of the DLA products	<b>Entirely focused on youth</b>
7	Integrated Food Security Strategy (2002) & the Zero Hunger Strategy (2009),	Realises the importance of food security and therefore prioritises expenditure for the good of the historically disadvantaged groups. The policy has resulted in increased spending in social programmes such as school feeding schemes, child support grants, free health services for children between 0-6 years, for pregnant and lactating women, pension funds for the elderly, working for water, community public works programmes.	<b>List youth as targeted beneficiary</b>
8	Comprehensive Rural Development Programme (CRDP 2009)	a) Household and ward level based interventions (wards) b) Funded programme c) Based on a referral systems to provide better services to Households d) Reliant on coordination and joint planning of the 3 spheres of government	<b>List youth as targeted beneficiary</b>
8	Comprehensive Agricultural Support Programme (CASP), August 2004	On farm and off farm SUPPORT i.e. basic infrastructure; business training and planning (entrepreneurship),  To expand the provision of support services to promote and facilitate agricultural development targeting beneficiaries of the Land and Agrarian Reform programmes	<b>Youth doesn't benefit as targeted beneficiary (See Annexure B on database of youth beneficiaries)</b>
9	Land Redistribution for Agriculture Development (LRAD)	<b>The stated purpose of this programme is to facilitate the transfer of at least 30% of productive agricultural land from white to blacks by 2014 in order to attend to past injustices</b>	<b>Youth doesn't benefit as targeted beneficiary</b>
1	<b>Land and</b>	a) Redistribute 5 million hectares of white-owned agricultural land to 10 000 new	<b>Women and youth as priority</b>

0.	<b>Agrarian Reform Project (LARP); February 2007</b>	agricultural producers b) Increase Black entrepreneurs in the agribusiness industry by 10 %.Provide universal access to agricultural support services to the target groups1 c) Increase agricultural production by 10-15% for the target groups, under the LETSEMA-ILIMA Campaign2. d) Increase agricultural trade by 10-15% for the target groups	<b>beneficiaries</b>
	<b>War on Poverty (2008)</b>	a) Household level based interventions (wards) b) Unfunded programme c) Based on a "referral" system to provide better services to household	<b>Women and youth as priority beneficiaries</b>
1.	<b>Agriculture Youth Development Initiative for South Africa, 1998</b>	a) The aim was to "facilitate the development of programmes that will capture the interest and commitment of South African youth, particularly young Black people, to agriculture and agriculture-related opportunities that exist in the sector". b) To develop support structures and incentive opportunities for its target where possible. The purpose of this initiative was more than just creating interest in pursuing agriculture as a career. c) It was also about encouraging everyone who has an interest to embark on agriculture-related activities,	<b>Entirely focused on youth</b>

**Table E Emerging Agricultural Policies and link to youth engagement**

<b>KAP/Intervention</b>	<b>Agricultur e-related</b>	<b>Youth Link</b>	<b>Fisheries- related</b>
<b>EMERGING POLICIES</b> Green Papers on Rural Development and on Land Reform and Agrarian Transformation gazetted by May 2011. The Green Papers are a collective document of new policy, legislation and institutional reform proposals on rural development and land reform. White Papers on Rural Development and on Land Reform and Agrarian Transformation approved by Cabinet by May 2012. The White Papers are a collective document of new policy, legislation and institutional reform proposals on rural development and land reform. Policy on land access and ownership by foreign nationals (2011) To provide conditions			

whereby non-South Africans can own or have use rights on sensitive South African land and landed assets.			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Policy on the proposed Rural Development Agency (2011)</li> </ul> <p>To propose the establishment of an appropriate institution with the resources and authority to drive and coordinate an integrated programme of rural development, land reform and agrarian change.</p>		<i>No link as yet</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Policy on the establishment of a Land Management Commission (2011/12)</li> </ul> <p>To develop policy on a Land Management Commission to support the implementation of the three-tier land tenure system through the following functions: advisory, coordination, regulatory, auditing and as a point of reference.</p>		<i>No link as yet</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Policy on land valuation and the establishment of a Valuer-General (2011/12)</li> </ul> <p>To propose the establishment of a valuation body that would standardise land valuations in the country</p>		<i>No link as yet</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Policy on Land Tax (2013/2014)</li> </ul>		<i>No link as yet</i>	
IPAP 2 SECTOR: AGRO-PROCESSING			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development of soya bean strategy and action plan</li> </ul>		No direct link	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development of a marine aquaculture zones</li> </ul>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establishment of aquaculture hatcheries</li> </ul>			

• Development of the organic food sector		No direct link	
• Development of a food processing strategy and action plan		Yet to be developed	
• Implementation of a water efficiency programme for the sugar sector		No direct link	
• Development of a small-scale milling industry		No direct link	
• Enhancement of competitiveness in the fruit and vegetable canning industry		No direct link	
• Promotion of exports of beneficiated Rooibos and Honeybush products		No direct link	
IPAP 2 SECTOR: FORESTRY, TIMBER, PAPER AND PULP, AND FURNITURE			
• Integrated approach to fast-tracking issuing of water licences			
• Skills transfer and technology upgrading for small-scale saw millers			
• Charcoal manufacturing enterprises			

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Biomass sub-sector development for SMMEs</li> </ul>			
IPAP 2 SECTOR: BIOFUELS			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Accelerated development in the biofuels sector</li> </ul>		No direct link	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Green Papers on Rural Development and on Land Reform and Agrarian Transformation gazetted by May 2011</li> </ul>		No	



## 7.4. A New Youth Development Trajectory

### • Integrated Youth Development Approach

In 2008 the National Youth Development Agency, an institution established according to an Act of Parliament (54 of 2008) was formed with a mandate of, among others, develop an integrated Youth Development Strategy, a paradigm shift from un-coordinated approach of the past 16 years of democratic dispensation. The Agency, an institution formed out of a merger of the National Youth Commission and Umsobomvu Youth Fund has a **broad mandate** of eventually ensuring that spheres of government and **sectors** of society prioritise youth development, agricultural sector and its value chain included. The Agency's mandate is informed by the NYDA Act of 2008 and the National Youth Policy 2009-2014 (NYP). The National Youth Policy espouses six thematic areas, namely; *Economic Participation, Education and Skills Development, Youth Work, Health and Wellbeing, Social Cohesion and National Youth Service*.

The Agency has since adopted an Integrated Youth Development Strategy (IYDS) 2011-2016 (June 2011) which provides a framework on how these thematic issues are to be addressed by all stakeholders within and outside government. This historical task was also undertaken in consideration and alignment with international binding standards and key pre-1994 pieces of legislation, policies and initiatives already in place to address youth development (please refer to 2011-2016 Final Draft IYDS Strategy).

The IYDS therefore provides implementation framework and guide stakeholders to a seamless mainstreamed and integrated Youth Development in the country. It further detail how various sectors in the society will respond to Youth Development in terms of **tangible programs, outputs and outcomes** that can be objectively monitored and measured.

## 7.5. Key Drivers of Agriculture and Youth Policies

Table F: depicts key drivers of agriculture and youth policies:

Organisation	Status	Policy Focus
Department of Agriculture (DAFF)	Public Institution	Agrarian Reform, Support & Development
Department of Land Affairs (DRDLR)	Public Institution	Land Reform, Support & Development
Department of Water Affairs (DWAF)	Public Institution	Regulation and Provision of Water
National Youth Development Agency (NYDA)	Public youth dev. agency	Integrated youth development across all sectors, support, monitoring & evaluation
Department of Trade and Industry (DTI)	Public Institution	Economic Transformation, Support Measures and Compliance
Agricultural Research Council (ARC)	Public Agency	Provision of Scientific and Technological products to agricultural sector
Academic Institutions (Higher Learning)	Public Institutions	Training and Development
Agri-Business Chamber	Organized Private Commercial Farmers	Agribusiness Environment (locally & internationally) and Economic Growth

CSIR	Public Agency	Centre for Science and Industrial Research
AgriSA	Private Commercial Farmers	Market Development(locally & internationally) and Economic Growth
Commercial Agricultural Youth Chamber (CAYC)	Civil Society	Lobby and Advocacy on Social Entrepreneurship and Sustainable Development
South African Youth Council	Civil Society	Lobby and Advocacy on youth development
National African Farmers Union (NAFU)	Civil Society	Economic Transformation
Land Bank	State Agency	Financial Support, Economic Transformation
Commodity Organisation such as National Emergent Red Meat Producers Organisation (NERPO)	Commercial Farmers	Lobby and Advocacy, enabling agribusiness environment
State Owned Enterprises such as Industrial Development Corporation	<b>State Owned Enterprises</b>	Industrial development policies
Labour	<b>Trade Unions</b>	Workers Rights
The Community	<b>NGOs</b>	Community interests
Department of Education	<b>Public</b>	Provision of agricultural skills relevant to the market

## 7.6. Incentives in place to attract youth in particular educated youth

There are no focused incentives for encouraging youth engagement and empowerment in the agricultural sector. Neither the Broad Based Black Economic Empowerment (BBBEE) policy has provision.

### New Measures

- Employment Subsidy

South Africa has adopted a R5-billion youth employment subsidy, which compensates employers for taking on young employees, from 1 April 2012,

- Jobs Fund

The Jobs Fund was initiated on the 10th February, 2011. A three year budget of R9 billion Rand was set aside, to achieve the following stated objectives:

- To co-finance projects by public, private and non-governmental organisations that will significantly contribute to job creation. This involves the use of public money to catalyse innovation and investment on behalf of a range of economic stakeholders in activities which contribute directly to enhanced employment creation in South Africa.

- To address the challenge of unemployment, South Africa requires high rates of sustained economic growth.
- The Jobs Fund does not intend to tackle these long-term, structural causes of low growth and unemployment on its own. Numerous government initiatives are already tasked with parts of that challenge. Nor does the Jobs Fund aim to replicate or substitute these initiatives; rather it presents an opportunity to complement these efforts with **limited and short-term funding interventions**.
- These funding interventions will seek to overcome some of the **barriers to job creation** that have been identified. Some of these relate to demand for labour, some to the supply of labour and some to the broader institutional environment.
- The Jobs Fund has been designed specifically to overcome these barriers by providing public funding through four “funding windows” i.e. Enterprise Development; Infrastructure Investment; Support for Work Seekers and Institutional Capacity Building.

It is clear that this fund can also be harnessed towards creating employment opportunities in the agricultural sector and its value chains by anyone who has got capacity to propose and implement specific job-creating projects. It is a huge opportunity for Public Private Partnerships.

### **7.7. Achievements and failures of past efforts to engage young people in agriculture**

In terms of overall achievements, land reform in South Africa has consistently fallen far behind the targets set by the state, and behind popular expectations. In 1994 virtually all commercial farmland in the country was controlled by the white minority and the incoming government set a target for the entire land reform programme (redistribution, tenure reform and restitution) of redistributing 30% of white-owned agricultural land within a five-year period (African National Congress 1994; Williams 1996). The target date was subsequently extended to twenty years (i.e. to 2014), and again to 2018 as less than 6% has been transferred so far. At the current rates of land transfer, even this target is most unlikely to be met. Government has tended to attribute this slow progress to resistance from landowners and the high prices being demanded for land<sup>16</sup>, but independent studies point to a wider range of factors, including complex application procedures and bureaucratic inefficiency (Hall 2004).

Relevant to this review is the mistake government did of ignoring meaningful mainstreaming of youth development in the sector. To be precise, three prominent initiatives to attract youth into the agricultural value chain have been introduced since 1994. They are: the **Agriculture Youth Development Initiative for South Africa (1998)**, **Youth in Agriculture and Rural Development (YARD 2008)** and **Department of Land Affairs Youth Empowerment Strategy of 2008 respectively**. Among these initiatives, none is institutionalized and operational. The Ministry of Agriculture is yet to introduce youth development strategy that is aligned to all current policies it is pursuing.

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<sup>16</sup> Report by Director General of DLA to parliamentary portfolio committee on agriculture and land affairs, quoted in *Farmers Weekly*, 4 November 2005.

Against this backdrop, the **Department of Agriculture acknowledged lack of targeted programmes to involve and empower youth in the land and Agrarian Reform during the launch of the Agriculture and Rural Development (YARD) in 2008. The Department's Director General said:** "when we started with our land reform programme in 1994, we did not have specific programmes targeted at youth empowerment and this has resulted in few youth being beneficiaries of Land and Agrarian Reform.<sup>17</sup> Indeed, we are not happy with the progress we have made towards empowering the youth in relation to the agrarian reform programme".

This is a clear testimony that youth mainstreaming and development in the South Africa agricultural sector is yet to be formalised. In the meantime, government is battling with its slow pace of land reform that has been attributed to a number of factors (SAHRC 2004), including:

- Staff and financial constraints within government ministries responsible for land redistribution;
- Complex and long processes involved in sale of land;
- Lack of willing sellers at fair market price, or rather failure of "willing seller, willing buyer" policy of land redistribution;
- Scarcity of arable land within the possession of the State;
- Insufficient opportunity for civil society organization (CSO) and community participation,
- government lassitude, and
- inadequate farmer support services
- lack of field staff to inform rural citizens of rights and procedures to enable them to benefit.

### **The Consequences of Failure**

The apparent failure of land and agrarian reform to meet the expectations of South Africans, especially the rural black citizens undermines the long-term stability of South Africa. Conflicting and uncoordinated mandates, policies, and processes of different levels of government and ministries are a cause for confusion and conflict over land. Lack of targeted government support regarding enterprise development in rural areas is exacerbating existing land related conflicts and further disenfranchising poor rural black communities. For most of them, nothing had really changed since 1994.

There have been increasing reports of land invasions in the press and in one squatter community of displaced farm-tenants outside Greytown, people said they are ready to march and take the land back of which they were dispossessed. Youth political formations such as the radical ruling party ANC Youth League are becoming increasingly impatient with slow pace of transformation of agricultural sector.<sup>18</sup> While youth and community based organisations may be trying to develop a culture of social mobilization and movements around the land issue in South Africa, the physical isolation and separation of rural black communities from one another remain significant constraints. This, combined with general lack of meaningful commitment by the Department to involve and youth in policy formulation and governance issues, undermines the development of constructive citizen engagement in the land reform process. If the

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<sup>17</sup> Annexure C gives you a sense of few youth beneficiaries from the Land and Agrarian Reform compiled by the CAYC in 2008.

<sup>18</sup> ANC Youth League National Conference of June 2011 is calling for expropriation of land without compensation under certain circumstances.

government cannot adequately deliver upon its promises of land and agrarian reform, while simultaneously closing opportunities for youth to participate constructively, the likelihood of violent conflict will increase. The clearest signs came from the brief meetings with farmer-tenants. Their frustrations, isolation, and sense of betrayal were strong as was their sentiment that they were ready to take more drastic action. During the 2008 youth summit, participants were adamant that, in the future, if backlash should happen, the blame would rest solely with government and the private sector.

Only lessons learnt from poor planning and fewer achievements were recorded. It would appear that rural policy in South Africa to date has been largely unfocused, and ineffective:

- It is not the product of contemporary, thoughtful, and informed public debate i.e. youth not engaged at all.
- It is a product of top-to-bottom approach which is unable to inspire potential beneficiaries, rural youth in particular;
- It consists of isolated elements of sectoral policy created without regard to inter-sectoral effects, primarily focusing on short term priorities.
- It is often urban policy that is poorly modified to fit nonurban settings
- It has been created with little or no thought for its implications for rural communities.
- It is also based on the erroneous assumption that there are public institutions that serve the unique needs of rural areas.
- It has so far not presented a long term vision of what rural areas should look like.

In as far as the information we have reviewed is concern, there is general lack of best practices regarding youth involvement in the South African agriculture.

#### **7.8. Key Institutions, Mechanisms and Tools for engagement of youth in processes**

Key Institutions	Policy Focus Area	Specific Tool (s) of youth Engagement Strategies/ Programmes linking youth	Strength	Weaknesses
<b>INTERNATIONAL LEVEL</b>				
UN's Millennium Development Goals (MDG)	To halve poverty by 2015	UN World Programme of Action for Youth (UN WPAY)	Solid governance multilateral structure, and Mandatory Obligations, Organized Support System, Innovative Youth Generation,	Unfair trading regulations leading Barriers; poor planning, politics, lack of PPPs;& accountability,
African Youth Charter	Youth participation in "Poverty Eradication and Socio-economic Integration	NEPAD, CAADP, African Youth Parliament	On-going Democratization and liberalization, and Mandatory Obligations, Innovative Youth Generation,	Lack of resources; poor planning, politics, lack of PPPs; & accountability,
Southern African Development Agency (SADC)	Intra-regional Economic integration	N/A	Ongoing SA massive infrastructural projects linking the regional economy (Capacity World Cup 2010)	<b>Lack of resources; poor planning, politics, lack of PPPs; &amp; accountability,</b>
<b>NATIONAL LEVEL</b>				
Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fishery	Creation of inclusive, united and prosperous agricultural sector, Food Security,	Youth in Agriculture and Rural Development (YARD), Youth Directorate	Ability to mobilize youth, National Integrated Youth Development Paradigm Shift, Mandatory Obligations, resourced national revenues	Lack of Capacity (leadership & management), Politics, accountability, PPs & focused support in the system. & accountabilityi.e. institutionalization, strategy;
Department of Land Affairs (DRDLR)	Land Reform, Support & Development	Youth Empowerment Strategy	Legislation and Environment, political	Lack of capacity, focus, institutionalization, operationalisation &

		of 2008	will (developmental state), integrated youth dev strategy	accountability
Academic/Research/Training Institutions	Skills Development	<p>Agri-Seta (sector education and training authority)</p> <p>Agricultural Colleges</p> <p>Universities &amp; Research Institutions</p> <p>Pre-Tertiary Education</p>	<p>Highly advanced agri-business skills,</p> <p>Mostly located in rural and semi-rural areas 11 Agricultural Colleges with an enrolment capacity of 1 500 learners</p> <p>Solid Capacity i.e. A total of 6 Universities of Technology &amp; 8 Universities that offer agri-programmes (with a combined enrolment capacity of 9 000 students in the agricultural learning fields)</p> <p>Approximately 150 secondary schools offering agricultural subjects and a further 30 specialized Agricultural Schools.</p>	<p>Lack of focus, adequate funding; it only focuses on Land &amp; Agrarian Reform beneficiaries, not marketed</p> <p>Poorly resourced &amp; not marketed</p> <p>Still resemble past spatial planning, Lack of career guidance and marketing of agricultural</p> <p>Still resemble past spatial planning &amp; does not serve the majority as they are unpopular, Lack of career guidance and marketing of agricultural</p>
National Youth Development Agency (NYDA)	Integrated Youth Development Approach	Integrated Youth Development Strategy of 2011,	Adequate modalities on inter-departmental coordination& planning,	Lack of adequate support i.e. entrepreneurship, financial, hand-holding mentorship,

			Outcome-based, monitoring, evaluation & review mechanisms	
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## 8. Challenges and Opportunities for Youth Development in Agriculture

We have managed to illustrate political, economic, social and technological factors that impact negatively on ***integrated youth developmental approach*** (please see **Annexure E**) in the agricultural value chain and this has led us to understand better the challenges, opportunities, strength and weaknesses.

Where there are challenges, there are opportunities as well, and where there are weaknesses, strengths can also be traced. Accordingly, the conducted SWOT analysis will help you grasp various socio-economic factors at play and further allow one to plan further while militating against known risks. In Annexure B, you get a snapshot of all these factors in a manner that help you appreciate the increasing demand and advantages to *invest* in the future, in the youth, particularly rurally-based youth, by ensuring that they are actively engaged and supported to play a meaningful role in the mainstream agricultural economy.

YOUTH STRENGTH	WEAKNESSES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demographics (age &amp; gender)</li> <li>• The latent energy, capacity and ability to produce</li> <li>• Ability to learn, produce new ideas and bring required innovation</li> <li>• Youth are the main market for food consumption and knowledge of their own eating peculiarities</li> <li>• Significant impact on public opinion, policy and action</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of information &amp; research</li> <li>• Lack of capital i.e. production equipment very expensive</li> <li>• Lack of reproductive infrastructure such as roads, electricity, water, marketing facilities</li> <li>• Lack of required skills/training &amp; mentorship</li> <li>• Lack of marketing experience.</li> <li>• labour intensiveness discourages youth-under utilization of technology like ICTs</li> </ul>



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Untapped potential</li> <li>• Traditional knowledge System</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Product quality, volumes and supply reliability</li> <li>• Youth not properly organised &amp; mobilised.</li> <li>• Lack of culture of entrepreneurship (attitudes &amp; behaviour)</li> <li>• Informal players, lack of Accreditations, qualifications, certifications</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>OPPORTUNITIES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Global Population growth creates more commodity demands;</li> <li>• Political stability &amp; will to create enabling environment</li> <li>• Exciting careers in agriculture</li> <li>• <a href="http://www.nda.agric.za/doaDev/sideMenu/links/Digest8.htm">http://www.nda.agric.za/doaDev/sideMenu/links/Digest8.htm</a></li> <li>• Increased Public Spending on Agriculture,</li> <li>• Transformation advantage e.g. AgriBEE Charter – major BEE deals, Skills Development, Industrialization,</li> <li>• FAO, ILO, CAADP, African Youth Charter, BRICS, Integrated Youth Development Strategy (IYDS 2011),</li> <li>• CAADP Multi-donor Funds</li> <li>• International Donor Community focusing more on Agriculture e.g. G8 La Quilla and 2012 Camp David’s Declarations</li> <li>• A niche market exist to link rural agriculture to mainstream agri-business value chains</li> <li>• Product Development (innovation)</li> <li>• On-going national and regional infrastructural programmes will</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>THREATS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of coordinated efforts to involve youth in the policy formulation &amp; planning</li> <li>• Lack of incentives and opportunities;</li> <li>• Limited budget &amp; support from government</li> <li>• Deviant Behavior (Crime and violence, drugs abuse)</li> <li>• Better opportunities outside of the agricultural sector</li> <li>• Cumbersome &amp; costly compliance with high standards set in the agri-business i.e. ISO, HACCP; HALAAL &amp; KOSCHER</li> <li>• Possible civil unrest due to rising cost of living;</li> <li>• Lack of consistent structured support system for small scale farmers;</li> <li>• Trade Barriers</li> <li>• Risky sexual behavior and their negative consequences(STD’s, HIV-AIDS, teenage pregnancies)</li> <li>• Teenage pregnancies</li> <li>• Lack of motivation and the feelings of despair</li> <li>• Poverty and Unemployment</li> <li>• Lack of education, mentorship and motivation</li> <li>• he negative image of agricultural pursuits</li> </ul>

reduce the cost of doing business while opening new opportunities

- High product demand (need to get more entrepreneurs)
- More and strong Cooperatives/partnerships needed
- Regional Economic integration e.g. Major maize supply to countries such as Lesotho
- Technological development & innovation required to commercialize small-scale farming
- ICTs and agriculture – reduces the cost of doing business
- Need to train, connect small scale farmers to the complex value chain structure using modernised ICT tools such as Web 2.0

## 9. Conclusion

Having successfully reviewed relevant official literatures to the study theme, and fairly understand South Africa's land and agrarian policy regime and the current youth situation in the sector, it is no doubt that South African government is legislatively obliged and willing to mainstream youth development in all sectors, tremendous policy and implementation gaps exist to mainstream youth development in the agricultural value chain with an improved focus and dedicated support system. In order to do so, it will be important to continue to draw guidance from UN's Declarations on the Youth Socio-Economic Rights, Right to Food, war against Hunger, deprivation, and underdevelopment. As we do so, we should equally draw inspiration, confidence and guidance from our own AU-NEPAD-CAADP Modalities, South African progressive Constitution (which entrenches socio-economic rights), enabling youth legislative environment (NYDA – IYDS) to harness, harmonise and embark on a deliberate *integrated youth mainstreaming and developmental approach* that could be replicated regionally.

It is evident with the illustrated review results that youth Mainstreaming and Development remains an emerging and growing sector for strategic planning and Public Private Partnership Investment for many cotemporary organisations in the developing nations. The need to engage youth in the production, transformation and integration of global, regional and national agriculture-knowledge system is even more urgent with the ensuing global economic crisis, massive uprisings popularly referred to as "Arab spring", growing population, sky-rocketing global commodity prices, as demand for ethanol and bio-fuels has driven up commodity prices and fertilizer prices to historical highs. Climate change will also continue pose huge challenges of drought, floods and food shortages. In South African context the unresolved promise of "freedom" and liberty in the light of racially divisive past, poverty, growing levels of inequalities (geographic, gender, race and of late class) makes a case for mainstreaming youth development in the agricultural sector not only a socio-economic issue, but also a security issue with potential to destabilize our admirable democratic environment in a near future.

There is, therefore a **compelling need** to dispel a self-defeating notion that young people are just not interested into agriculture and its massive opportunities and refuse to be tempted into settling for deliberate omission to take action in order to turn the situation around as required by both international and national legal frameworks. The report had sought to demonstrate the extent to which South African youth are involved into the sector, identifying policy and implementation gaps while providing reliable policy guiding tool for possible actions required to improve the situation. Despite good policy framework, South African youth are still facing numerous constraints which the constitution and related policies provides a general framework within which the can be tackled.

We therefore contend that it is only through continued realization that youth are the future, have distinct aspirations, rights and responsibilities coupled with an enabling environment that we will be able to lure youth's interests into the agricultural value chains. In order to overcome these disparities, the various strategies and policies, in particular **the Outcomes Approach should be strengthened by adopting a rights-based approach**. This means that the setting of targets and the identification of the concrete measures to be adopted should be the result of meaningful public participation; that the authorities responsible for implementation should be held accountable for results; that the indicators allowing the measure progress should be based on the normative components of the right to food, including nondiscrimination. Most importantly, **to ensure accountability, independent monitoring is required of the Government plans**, which could be entrusted to the South African Human Rights Commission. Additionally, ring fencing of resources is required to ensure sustainable funding of these

plans. Until these different conditions are met, the various strategies adopted by the Government may remain ineffective, since there will be no sanction associated with a failure to deliver.

## 10. ANNEXURE A - Recommendations

Having gone through the Review Report, it is now common cause that both the international and national policy framework promotes policy harmonisation and integrated development approach in mainstreaming youth development across agricultural value chain. Noteworthy in this regard is the African Youth Charter, the SA National Youth Development Agency (NYDA)'s Integrated Youth Development Strategy of 2011 (IYDS), and CAADP which promotes focused and dedicated sectoral support to youth in order to uplift and compliment efforts taken by aspiring and existing young farmers, entrepreneurs, professionals and practitioners across food value chains.

Positive signs of a growing, inclusive and sustainable agricultural sector should be characterized by the following building blocks:

- *Continuous Access to updated Information about opportunities in the agricultural value chain e.g. through such programmes as AgriKids, etc.*
- *Thriving Entrepreneurship Culture with some form of human face (social entrepreneurship);*
- *Continuous Growth and Access to ICT tools*
- *Thriving youth owned and managed farms/enterprises;*
- *Quality Education relevant to dynamic market demands;*
- *Massive infrastructural development, particularly in the rural and semi-rural areas*

### 1. Policy - Creating an Enabling Environment

The Review makes a case that the current state of agriculture, particularly in rural areas does not inspire youth to venture into farming and agri-business in general. The state through youth themselves, agriculture; rural development and land affairs ministries as well as other related ministries and departments such as education, economic development, trade and industry, water, finance, planning, environment and tourism should see to it that well-tailored policies, strategies and programmes that talk to special needs of youth are in place.

The Review shows that various youth initiatives lack consistent support, monitoring and evaluation components. Hence there is little data available on youth mainstreaming and programming across South African Value Chain.

**Recommendations** – What can be done to improve the situation?

- 1.1. Mainstream Youth Developmental Work in the agricultural value chain and enhance Youth representation and participation in decision making and implementation processes in line with African Youth Charter and its Programme of Action, CAADP, National Youth Policy and its Integrated Youth Development Strategy intergovernmental processes and decision making;
- 1.2. National Agricultural Ministry must seek a continuous in-depth understanding of youth aspirations and needs as well as factors that hinder/promote increased participation of youth in the agricultural value chain in order to ensure development strategies and programmes are as viable as possible;
- 1.3. Undertake multipronged advocacy to facilitate implementation and mainstreaming of AgriYouth work, Popularize and create awareness on various opportunities in the agricultural value chain through both traditional and modern ICT tools such as Posters, Magazines, radios, mobile phones, computers, formal and informal media channels etc.
- 1.4. Develop and adopt national Integrated AgriYouth Empowerment Strategic Plan aligned to policy framework provided for in the AYC, CAADP, National Youth Policy, National Agricultural Vision and Policy, Skills Development Policy and other related frameworks;
- 1.5. **In this regard** interdepartmental (integrated) collaboration and planning in partnership with NGOs, development partners and the private sector must be preferred as the most sustainable way to support and develop an Innovative Generation of farmers, entrepreneurs, and professionals capable of taking the sector forward from ageing farmer generation while responding to global and national policy priorities;
- 1.6. Promote and Support Advocacy work that is aimed at creating entrepreneurial awareness among youth about countless opportunities existing across the value chain;
- 1.7. Promote pro-poor rural and agricultural development by increasing investments in rural infrastructure and agricultural research and development (R&D);
- 1.8. Reorient social safety nets to create more employment in rural areas; help strengthen the human resource base through education, nutrition, and empowerment of youth; and build physical infrastructure;
- 1.9. Fund agriculture and agricultural research to the agreed levels, in order to achieve the NEPAD-CAADP projected growth rate of 6 per cent per annum by 2015.

## **2. Institutionalize Youth Development**

Having developed a youth strategy as recommended above, it goes without saying that for it to be implemented; you need human, financial, and technical resources to do so. Mainstreaming Youth Development will mean establishing youth units/division, crafting youth tailored services and products by government, private sector and all developmental agencies in line with IYDS 2011,

Youth empowerment and development programmes should therefore focus on the following recommended areas of intervention and public investment which must be implemented with evidence in a short-medium-long terms:

- a) **Research, Policy and Advocacy**
- b) **Education and Training – scarce agricultural skills such as agri-engineering**
- c) **Entrepreneurship across the value chain – Agri-Business**
- d) **Finance and Investment**
- e) **Leadership and Mentorship**

### **Recommendations**

- 2.1. Young people should not be discouraged to participate due to inefficiencies in the systems and frustrations caused by delays and lack of information/feedback from the Ministries. The aim should be to ensure that young people are retained and that they are able to see the benefits of participating in the agricultural sector. The State should consider this for young people who have no facilities/means to access youth related programmes especially those in the peri-urban and rural areas;
- 2.2. Internal Administrative Systems and Processes - Young people require flexibility and some speed/pace in service delivery. Thus to ensure that they maximise on the opportunities presented by the strategy, the State should continuously identify administrative processes that young people perceive as complex and cumbersome and identify proactive interventions of simplifying and improving them;
- 2.3. **Introduce an integrated and inclusive approach towards youth empowerment across the value chain i.e. review and *synchronize*** different form of programmes with common objectives and goals, strategy, management practices and systems into One-Stop-Shop that create awareness about opportunities and offer *youth friendly-incubator business develop support services* to both aspiring and existing young farmers, professionals, and entrepreneurs:
  - i) Provision of Basic Leadership and Management of an enterprise
  - ii) Enterprise development training particularly in value added activities such as food processing and packaging
  - iii) Entrepreneurship - supplement the efforts of Government extension system, make available supplementary sources of input supply and services to needy farmers and to provide gainful employment to agriculture graduates in new emerging areas in agricultural sector;
  - iv) The Incubator system should be envisaged to provide expert services and advice to farmers on cropping practices, technology dissemination, crop protection from pests and diseases, market trends and prices of various crops in the market and also clinical services for animal health etc. which would enhance productivity of crops/animals. The system should also provide input supply, farm equipments on hire and other farm services.

2.4. Education and Training - Prioritize application of frontier sciences such as bio-technology, pre and post harvest technologies, adequate and timely supply of quality inputs such as a seeds, fertilizers, plant protection chemicals, bio-pesticides, agricultural machinery, strengthening of research and extension linkages;

Direct bursaries and scholarships towards smart agriculture careers such as Veterinary Science, Horticulture, Sericulture, Fishery, Forestry, Dairy technology, Agricultural engineering, Agricultural Marketing, Food Science,

Exploit new opportunities to participate in the production and marketing of high-value livestock products, fruits and vegetables, and fishery

2.5. Upgrade the skills of extension personnel and improve the quality of services being rendered to the farming community in order to meet emerging challenges due to globalization and commercialization of agriculture;

2.6. Introduce and enhance the capacity of government to provide customised Incentives that encourage youth and investment companies to develop and expand the sector, creating targeted opportunities across the value chain, something similar to Job Fund 2011, but with specific focus in agriculture.

2.7. Apply ICT tools such as radios, posters, mobile phones, web 2.0, newsletters, television, notice boards, internet, Twitter, Facebook, Skype and so forth to communicate opportunities and mobilise youth to venture into agricultural related ventures;

2.8. Fostering Partnerships and Collaboration e.g. Public Private Partnerships;

2.9. Reviewing internal administrative systems and processes to talk and take care of identified special needs of youth;

2.10. Government, supported by the Private Sector must ensure improved and easier access to resources such as:

i) Land

ii) Training and capacity building

iii) Finance; Mentoring, Monitoring, evaluation and impact assessment;

iv) **Increased Research** on changing agricultural realities and creation of more inclusive and integrated food chains that responds to the changing demands of consumers, globalization and commercialization of agriculture;

2.11. Improved agricultural training at the primary and secondary school level; linking School Agricultural Curriculum to changing sectoral realities;

2.12. Government and private sector procurement agencies should remove barriers faced by young emerging farmers when tendering, such as the reduction or removal of tendering fees, lengthy procedures and the unbundling of procurement opportunities.

- 2.13. The public sector, private and community development-based financial service providers should look beyond the provision of a normal financial product requiring collaterals and help the youth to develop appropriate profile and plan that help them obtain the financial resources they require to own and manage their own business without unnecessary hassles.
- 2.14. Government and its supporting stakeholders should consider ways it can consolidate and strengthen existing institutions and scale-up and further resource the range and volume of financial services that target the youth who are venturing into agri-business and currently running their own business.
- 2.15. Government and its supporting stakeholders should form stronger partnerships with the private sector, including commercial banks, in order to improve the range and volume of financial services that support youth enterprise development within the agricultural sector.
- 2.16. Development finance institutions such as government agencies and state owned enterprises as well as international donor funds should broaden the scope of their target groups to explicitly include emerging young farmers and entrepreneurs
- 2.17. The Government should undertake a thorough literature review of Supported Youth owned and managed agri-related projects or agri-initiatives to determine the gap and create a database that shall capture the participation of emerging young farmers in a consistent and systematic manner.
- 2.18. Youth participation in procurement system should be monitored and financial and business development services should be packaged to build the capacity of emerging young farmers/entrepreneurs to successful bid for tenders.
- 2.19. Quotas for procurement should be established, not just for black-owned SMMEs, but also for emerging young farmers/entrepreneurs.

### **3. Policy Shift is necessary**

The efforts of the Government to improve the quality of the support given to farmers could benefit from **three important policy shifts**.

#### **Recommendations:**

##### **3.1. First Shift: From meeting needs to guaranteeing rights in agricultural support programmes**

First, there is a **need to adopt a more rights-based approach to the agricultural programmes in place**. This means favoring **the participation of the most vulnerable groups** in the design of such policies; focusing policies on **the needs of the most vulnerable groups**, in particular by **adopting youth**



**and a gender-sensitive approach** to all programmes; **defining the beneficiaries as rights-holders** that can claim certain services from the Government, which in turn incurs obligations towards them. This improves the responsiveness of the policies to the real needs of the beneficiaries, moving towards a more bottom-up approach to agricultural support as well as their ability to deliver results.

### **3.2. Second Shift: Making markets more hospitable to small-scale farmers**

- i) A second reorientation of agricultural support programmes would start with the recognition that South Africa is confronted with a strongly dualized agricultural sector, and that the current organization of markets has been inherited from the apartheid era. In contrast to the large white commercial farmers, the newly established black farmers are small-scale farmers, with a poor access to markets, a lack of marketing skills, and a weaker bargaining position in the food chains. We believe that the **food systems could and should be made to work better** for this group of farmers, which may serve as motivation to young people. This can be achieved by providing these farmers with adequate support through well-targeted agricultural policies. But it is also the market environment that can be improved, and the food chains reformed.
- ii) First, the **Competition Commission could be encouraged to contribute further to addressing the imbalances in the food chain**, not only by ensuring that the levels of concentration remain within acceptable limits, but also by protecting small food producers from the abuse of buyer power. It may be recalled in this regard that excessive buyer power can result, not only from excessive concentration at certain segments of the food chain and in certain markets, but also from the concrete obstacles that small farmers may face in reaching markets, when they are in remote areas with poor communication routes to the urban centres, and face buyers that are de facto in a quasi monopolistic position -- in effect, the gatekeepers through which farmers must pass in order to reach consumers.
- iii) Second, **incentives could be developed to encourage the large commercial farmers to support emerging farmers**, particularly those which are youth owned and managed, or dominated by youth – for instance by providing them with technical advice or by allowing them to benefit from their access to markets and relationships with buyers. The 2008 Transformation Charter for Agriculture partly fulfils this function, as it encouraged the establishment of a mentorship programme to accelerate the transferring of skills to new black entrants. But the AgriBEE seems to have had limited impacts in that respect.

Incentives, including fiscal incentives, could be strengthening to further support this process. In this regard, government must consider **the establishment of a permanent forum to encourage chain wide learning of good practices** in order to move towards food chains that are more inclusive. One encouraging development in this regard is that, the South African Human Rights Commission expressed its intention to set up an advisory committee that could deepen the work launched through the Southern African Food Security Change Lab, linking the various actors of the chain in the search of innovative solutions that can improve the sustainability of

the food chains. This initiative could be further supported, and the further institutionalization of this dialogue could form part of a new framework law on the right to food.

- iv) Third, **sourcing policies could be reviewed in order to ensure that they improve the access to markets for the benefit of small-scale farmers** that involve youth in the overall leadership and management of the farm or farming value chain enterprise. The Preferential Procurement Policy Framework Act (No. 5 of 2000) already provides that public bodies may include among the specific goals of their procurement policies "contracting with persons, or categories of persons, historically disadvantaged by unfair discrimination on the basis of race, gender or disability" (s 2, d)). The Act could be further improved to allow for preferential treatment in favour of small-scale farmers working with youth, for instance for school-feeding or food relief programmes. Similarly, the private sector could be given incentives to source from local, small-scale farmers. This could be done gradually, with the proportion of sourcing from small-scale farmers rising over a number of years, in order to allow the sector to build up its capacity to meet demand.
- v) These various tools could be seen as part of a broader process of **rebuilding the local food markets**, which are generally more accessible to small-scale farmers than the larger export markets. Such local food markets could present a number of benefits beyond improving the incomes of the farmers supplying them. Farmers' markets developed in cities allow the urban consumers to have access to fresher, and potentially healthier and more nutritious foods, particularly as the staple foods are fortified. In rural areas, farmers' markets ensure access to affordable foods for the rural populations, who currently have to pay prices that are inflated by high transport costs, resulting in a situation where food is often more expensive in the rural areas than in urban centres.

### 3.3. Third Shift: The benefits of agro-ecological approaches

- i) Fourth, mainstreaming the principles of agro-ecology across the Department of Agriculture, (DAFF) policies and programmes can be particularly beneficial to small-scale farmers that have only a poor access to inputs and capital. **The agricultural extension services of the DAFF could be encouraged to identify agro-ecological practices and disseminate them.** Public support to agro-ecological practices such as agro-forestry, water-harvesting techniques, biological control, intercropping, and use of biological fertilizers, could be encouraged by (i) **direct grants or ecological payments**; and by (ii) **improving the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP)** to allow funding for the initial labour-intensive one-off investments in sustainable agriculture such as rainwater harvesting techniques and land contouring systems which prevent soil erosion.
- ii) **Local authorities must be encouraged to support decentralized participatory processes at local level**, involving local stakeholders in consultative planning and coordination initiatives through training and facilitation, probably at local or district municipality level. These processes should define priorities and set the stages for accountability of concerned stakeholders. At the operational level, in extension services for instance, **participatory farmer-to-farmer**

**methodologies** could be leveraged to identify and disseminate best agro-ecological practices, and empower small-scale black farmers.

Researchers and extension services could support these farmer-led processes, which could seek inspiration from well-known examples such as the Campesino-a-campesino movement in Latin America.

#### **4. The role of urban and peri-urban agriculture**

- i) Urban and peri-urban agriculture also has a potentially important role to play in the future to improve food security in urban areas and to provide a basic safety net to the urban populations. An original programme of the Zero Hunger Strategy is the Household Food Production Programme, better known as the “One Home, One Garden” programme.
- ii) Whereas the South African authorities must be encouraged to pursue their objective to improve household food production for food security purposes, they should, however, review the best ways to deliver this objective, as there are indications that collective solutions such as communal (rather than individual) gardens are more cost-effective and easier to support.

#### **5. REPORTING, MONITORING AND EVALUATION**

- Monitor and Assess AgriYouth Programmes for increased momentum & impact
- Integrated youth development policy and strategy in agriculture must be periodically appraised using Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation (PM&E) for activities conducted at the local level. PM&E is planned and managed by young people, project staff, managers, and involved stakeholders, often helped by a facilitator, whereas traditional M&E is the responsibility of senior managers or outside experts and essentially provides information. In PM&E, success is revealed by internally defined indicators, including qualitative judgments, whereas in traditional M&E, success is externally defined using mainly quantitative indicators. The central role of beneficiaries in PM&E includes the design and adaptation of the methodology, collection and analysis of the data, sharing the findings and linking them to action.

#### **6. Remarks**

This piece of work would be taken for further engagements with policy makers and youth constituency with the view of convening a national agricultural youth summit that will pave a way for a more detailed and aligned Youth Empowerment Strategic Plan with clear timeframes, illustrated areas of planning, roles and responsibilities and budgetary estimates.

A nation-wide AgriYouth Campaign 2030 to take up Recommendations of this Review Report is not only necessary, but a logical step towards successfully advocating, lobbying and ultimately mainstreaming youth development across agricultural value chain.