

ANNUAL REPORT

2017/2018



We develop the South African Agricultural Industry.
Ons ontwikkel die Suid-Afrikaanse Landbou Industrie.



AGRI SECURITAS TRUST FUND



Japie Grobler

The Agri Securitas Trust Fund board functions under chairmanship of Japie Grobler, with Kobus Visser as functionary.

Introduction

The Agri Securitas Trust Fund strives for a safer rural environment by supporting local security projects. Related projects are aimed at prevention as well as post-incident care.

The Trust Fund aims to make financial assistance available to farming communities to improve their safety.

An important aspect when considering the funding of projects is the cooperation that exists between the local community and the South African Police Service (SAPS). All projects that are supported must operate within

the legal framework and abide by the institutional modus operandi. Since the Trust Fund does not have executive capacity, it executes its mandate via other organisations such as farming associations.

Inception of the Trust Fund

The Trust Fund was established by Agri SA after the Rural Safety Summit held on 10 October 1998.

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Trust deed

The Trust Deed makes provision for a Board of Trustees, which may consist of no more than 12 members. As a general guideline for appointing trustees, the current professional status of candidates is taken into account.

During the report year Johannes Möller resigned as trustee. At the last meeting of the year, the Board decided to give consideration to filling the vacancies. Various individuals were identified and approached to enquire whether they would be interested in serving as trustees. The appointment of the new trustees will receive further attention during the new year.

The Board has amended the trust deed to make provision

for renewal and an adjusted modus operandi. The trust deed was approved unanimously and signed by the trustees and will be submitted to the Master of the High Court for approval.

Financial reporting

The Trust Fund received an unqualified audit report from its auditors.

The Board is responsible for the content and integrity of the financial statements. The Audit Committee under chairmanship of Dr Chris Wentzel was assured that the Trust Fund could continue operating as a going concern. The Board, which is responsible for the approval of the statements, thanked the Audit Committee. After expiry of the current term, the Audit Committee was reconstituted for a period of two years. It consists of Kiewiet Ferreira (chair), Johannes Möller and Hans van der Merwe.

PROJECTS FUNDED BY THE TRUST FUND

Since its inception, the Trust Fund has been involved in various projects, including the following: camera systems, the provision of radio communication systems, erection of booms, provision of rural safety equipment, funding of research on motives behind farm attacks, support for security desks operated by provincial organisations, the purchase of drones and trauma counselling.

During the report period the Trust Fund also provided financial support to the following projects:

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Reformanda Counselling Services:

Services have been actively involved in providing counselling services to farming communities countrywide. Individual counselling sessions also take place after workshops.

The Trust Fund has been thanked numerous times for the financial support it provides for this initiative, which had been launched to help the farming community to deal with trauma. The success of the trauma workshops lies in the fact that farming communities who do not have access to support services in their area can now make use of Reformanda's assistance to come to terms with their emotional problems.

Agri SA's Rural Safety Centre of Excellence: The centre's policy actions are aimed at improving the security position of the people concerned and to promote the safety of farming communities. This ideal can only be realised if circumstances, including the security environment, are conducive to the creation of a profitable and safe agricultural sector. Agri SA's Rural Safety Centre of Excellence focusses on a policy environment within which rural safety can be promoted. The Trust Fund makes a financial contribution towards the activities of the centre.

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Agri SA's Transformation Communication Project:

Agri SA has a responsibility to broaden its inputs in respect of transformation. This is essential, not only from a political, economic and social perspective, but also because Agri SA's affiliates – especially commodity organisations – have a significant number of black farmers in their memberships bases. The Board received elucidation from Agri SA regarding the work done with the Transformation Hub, as well as the successes achieved with farmer development and mentorship programmes of commodity organisations. The work also relates closely to the need for the Board to showcase the work done by commercial agriculture to promote rural safety.

In order to follow a more focussed approach to the project and to publicise the work of the Transformation Hub, Agri SA decided to appoint a communication manager for this purpose with the financial support of the Trust Fund.

The Trust Fund's contributions towards transformation communication will therefore enable Agri SA, via the communication manager, to further publicise the good work done by commercial agriculture in terms of transformation.

PROVINCIAL PROJECTS SUPPORTED

During the past year the following projects were supported financially on request:

KWAZULU-NATAL

In this province the following projects were supported financially:

- **Underberg Farmers' Association, camera system:** To address the crime problem, including farm attacks, theft of infrastructure and stock theft, the farmers' association installed a camera network to monitor the area.
- **Boston Farmers' Association, camera system:** Stock theft is a serious problem, as are general theft and housebreaking. The camera system will be used to monitor suspicious-looking vehicles and serve as deterrent.

FREE STATE

In this province the following projects were supported financially:

- **Bothaville District Agricultural Union, purchase of a drone:** Crime is escalating generally within the area,

specifically stock theft and cable, solar panels, diesel and vehicle theft. A drone was purchased, which is equipped with infrared cameras and will be used in rural protection operations to help combat crime.

- **Free State Agriculture Security Desk:** A security desk was established to gather critical security information, to determine crime trends, to monitor the implementation of the Rural Protection Strategy and to promote the personal safety of members.
- **Trompsburg Farmers' Association, camera system:** The area has already experienced farm attacks, while stock theft occurs regularly. The camera system is being installed to create a data network with the help of cameras, which will then be linked to a control room to track suspicious-looking vehicles.

EASTERN CAPE

In this province the following project received financial support:

- **Albany Bathurst League District Agricultural Union, camera system:** An analysis of crime patterns in the area, which involve mostly stock theft, pocking and housebreaking, has indicated that vehicles are used in the execution of crimes. The camera system will be monitored by a control room, while relevant information on

criminal activities obtained from the system will be shared with the police.

NORTH WEST

In this province the following projects received financial support:

- **Tosca Farmers' Association, camera and radio system:** The most general crimes in the area are housebreaking, stock theft and rhino poaching. Given an increase in traffic flow to and from Botswana, the equipment will be used to monitor access routes in the area.
- **Agri Soetdoring, purchase of rural protection equipment:** The area has been subject to unrest during which fields and homesteads were burnt. Theft of fencing material and livestock also occurs. With this equipment, the effectiveness of the community's security initiatives, as well as communication and response times, can be improved.

NORTHERN CAPE

In this province the following projects received financial support:

- **Van Zylsrus Farmers' Association, camera system:** The priority crimes that occur in the area are stock theft, illegal hunting, assault and smuggling. The installation of a camera system at strategic points should contribute towards safeguarding and protecting the area.

- **Richmond Farmers' Association, erection of relay:** By implementing a radio communication system an attempt is made to promote emergency communication in the area. A relay was erected to enhance the effectiveness thereof.

GAUTENG

In this province the following project received financial support:

- **Cullinan Farmers' Union, purchase of a drone:** General crimes in the area include farm attacks, housebreaking and theft of borehole equipment and vehicles. The area consists of dense bushveld. The drone will make it easier to track down criminals.

LIMPOPO

In this province the following project received financial support:

- **Potgietersrus District Agricultural Union, night vision equipment:** Crime has escalated dramatically due to an increase in unemployment and the influx of illegal immigrants. The night vision equipment will be used in crime prevention operations.

WESTERN CAPE

In this province the following projects received financial support:

- **Hex Table Grape Producers' Association, cameras and rural protection equipment:** Crime in the areas includes housebreaking, murder, theft of agricultural products as well as borehole equipment. The equipment will be used to curb crime such as product theft and to monitor access routes.
- **Koue Bokkeveld Agricultural Association, camera system:** Problems are experienced with suspicious-looking vehicles from the Ceres area, as well as smugglers who illegally sell alcohol and drugs. The camera system will be used in conjunction with the police to monitor the movement of vehicles.
- **Agri Malmesbury, installation of relayers:** Stock and scrap metal theft is becoming a serious problem. Problems are also experienced with shebeens and drugs in the area. To improve the effectiveness of the communication system, relayers are being installed to improve emergency communication.

Prestige sports evening

OFM and the respective sponsors (Afgri, Senwes and NWK) of the Prestige sports evening decided not to present the function in the next report year. The sponsors and OFM decided instead to

pay their sponsorship of the function directly to the Trust. The presentation of the cheque coincided with Agri SA's congress in October 2017.

Agricultural Journalist of the Year

The focus of the competition is on journalistic work that deals specifically with commercial farmers' support for the development of black emerging farmers. The competition is presented by Agricultural Writers SA and supported by the Agri Securitas Trust Fund. As in the past, Santam Agriculture served as sponsor of the competition.

The competition was held for the eighth time and Nan Smith, a freelance journalist was named the winner. The competition, which has been held since 2010, has produced the following winners:

- 2017: Nan Smith (Freelance journalist)
- 2016: Charl van Rooyen (Landbouweekblad)
- 2015: Nan Smith (Farmer's Weekly)
- 2014: Denene Erasmus (Farmer's Weekly)
- 2013: Martie Willemse (No-Line Productions)
- 2012: Denene Erasmus (Farmer's Weekly)
- 2011: Lindi van Rooyen (Farmer's Weekly)
- 2010: Lisa Bohlmann (Dairy Mail)

Fundraising events

The following fundraising initiatives were launched over the past year:

A successful golf day, with Senwes and NWK as main sponsors, was held in October 2017 in Parys. A surplus of approximately R160 000 was recorded.

During Agri SA's 2017 congress, Monsanto donated maize seed valued at R1 million to the Trust Fund. Negotiations with an agricultural company are currently underway to take over the seed.

Santam Agriculture donated R250 000 to the Fund.

Motor cycle enthusiasts Bikers against Farm Attacks of Gauteng arranged a rally in September 2017 at the Hartbeespoort Dam holiday resort, where an amount of R60 000 was raised to protect the farming community against farm attacks.

The Trust Fund's partners

Sanlam, Alisom, Nissan SA, Sonfin and CrisisOnCall are partners of the Trust Fund. They make financial contributions to the Fund on a continuous basis to enable the Trust to continue playing a proactive role on rural safety. The chair of the Fund and fellow trustees have great appreciation for the empathy shown by these companies and their continued involvement in the safety of the farming community.