

**University of the Western Cape**



**Is Land Reform Working? A Critical Evaluation of the Bergland  
Development Trust (BDT) Land Reform Project in Porterville, Western Cape**

**A mini-thesis submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the  
degree of Master in Development Studies**



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## DECLARATION

I declare that *Is Land Reform Working? A Critical Evaluation of the Bergland Development Trust (BDT) Land Reform Project in Porterville, Western Cape, South Africa* is my own work, that it has not been submitted before for any degree or examination in any other university, and that all the sources I have used or quoted have been indicated and acknowledged as complete references.

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## ABSTRACT

Land reform is currently high on the agenda of the current government. This is because many people believe that land reform is a valuable tool in addressing the land question and combating poverty in South Africa. It is also evident that government and experts on land reform are clear that in order to enhance land reform in the country, the land must be used to improve the livelihoods of those who need it the most. It is also pivotal that land reform is successful in order to ensure food security. It is important to evaluate these types of land reform models in order to gain valuable insights and lessons that can enhance successful land reform projects in the country that can also serve as a manual for farmers and governments.

Although much research focuses on the failure of land reform projects, this research focuses on a successful land redistribution programme that improved the livelihoods of rural people. More specifically, this research critically evaluated the Bergland Development Trust (BDT) land reform project in the Porterville region in the Western Cape province of South Africa. The BDT land reform project is a joint venture between the workers of the Berghoff Farm and their employer, the farmer who also served as a valuable mentor to them. My research found that BDT land reform project improved the livelihoods of the beneficiaries of the project. The BDT beneficiaries earn a sustainable income which, in turn, helps them to buy clothes, vehicles, and enrol their children at the local former 'Model C' school. Furthermore, active participation in the project has enhanced the self-image and bargaining power of the beneficiaries which, in turn, extended their livelihoods base.

This study is guided by the sustainable livelihoods approach to development. This study critically analysed the factors contributing to their successes and also explored the lessons it holds for other land reform projects. A qualitative research design was employed in order to obtain the necessary data for the research. The data was collected by means of semi-structured interviews and questionnaires with the management of the Bergland Development Trust land reform project. After a critical assessment of the BDT land reform project, the recommendations will be forwarded to the Local Government and other projects that will benefit from the experiences of the BDT land reform project.

## KEYWORDS

Bergland Development Trust  
Empowerment  
Equity Schemes  
Land Redistribution  
Land Reform  
Rural Development  
Sustainable Livelihoods  
Porterville, Western Cape



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## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ANC	African National Congress
BDT	Bergland Development Trust
BM	Bergriver Municipality
CASP	Comprehensive Agricultural Support Programme
CM	Cederberg Municipality
CPA	Communal Property Association
CRDP	Comprehensive Rural Development Programme
DAC	District Assessment Committee
DFID	Department for International Development
DM	Drakenstein Municipality
DoA	Department of Agriculture
DLA	Department of Land Affairs
DRDLR	Department of Rural Development and Land Reform
DSC	District Screening Committee
FSS	Farmer Settlement Support
GDPR	Gross Domestic Product per Region
HSRC	Human Sciences Research Council
LBPL	Lower-Bound Poverty Line
LRAD	Land Redistribution for Agricultural Development
MAFISA	Micro-Agricultural Finance Initiative of South Africa
NDA	National Development Agency
NDP	National Development Plan
NPO	None-Profit Organisation
NPC	National Planning Commission
PD <sub>o</sub> A	Provincial Departments of Agriculture
PLAS	Pro-active Land Acquisition Strategy
PGAC	Provincial Grant Approval Committee
PPAC	Provincial Projects Approval Committee
RADP	Recapitalization and Development Programme
RSA	Republic of South Africa
SLA	Sustainable Livelihoods Approach
SLF	Sustainable Livelihoods Framework
SLAG	Settlement/Land Acquisition Grant
SPLAG	Settlement and Production Land Acquisition Grant
SPP	Surplus People Project
SBM	Saldanha Bay Municipality
SM	Swarland Municipality
WCDM	West Coast District Municipality
WC	Western Cape
WM	Witzenberg Municipality

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# CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDY

## 1.1 *Overview and Rationale of the Study*

The South African Government adopted a gradual stand on land reform with its inclusion of constitutional protections on private property rights. This very act had a limiting impact on the right of property in the country (Kahn, 2007:5). Section 25 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa (RSA, 1996:12) provides the framework for the implementation of land reform and states that, “The state must take reasonable legislative and other measures within its available resources to foster conditions which enable citizens to gain access to land on an equitable basis” (DLA, 2005:4). This very statement was echoed by the White Paper on Land Reform which confirms the notion that the main aim of the land reform process was to empower the poor with residential and productive land in order to enhance their livelihoods (DLA, 1997a:12).

What was also evident of the land reform process was the fact that there was no direct link between land reform and poverty alleviation or even a focus on the economic value of the land reform process. There was a mere focus on returning the land to their previous owners (Lahiff, 2002:8). However, land reform is an important mechanism to alleviate poverty, improve livelihoods of the people, and further economic growth in the country (James, 2001:1; Smith, 2004:468).

The literature is flooded with information about the failure of land reform projects (Moseley, 2006:5; Erasmus, 2013; Hall, 2009:1; Tregurtha and Vink; 2008:50). The failure of the land reform programme has enhanced poverty in an already poverty stricken country but also threatens food security in the country (Kloppers and Pienaar, 2014:678). However, there are also land reform projects that are successful, but are not given as much attention in the media or even in agricultural circles. Furthermore, this can also enhance the view that there is a zero existence of successful land reform projects in the country. This fact is also emphasised by two examples of fairly successful land reform projects, like the Ceres farmers’ land reform project and the Joseph Hendricks of Grabouw land reform project in the Western Cape region (Erasmus, 2015; Claassen, 2015). These two projects showed that land reform can be executed successfully in South Africa. It is thus important to research examples of successful land reform project to better understand the factors that gave rise to their success.

### 1.1.1 Rationale of the Study

Food security is one of the most important priorities of the South African government. Many agricultural analysts regard South Africa as self-sufficient concerning food production at large. Furthermore, the region where the case study was conducted is generally viewed as one of the biggest wheat production areas in the country. The favourable weather conditions in the area contribute to its success concerning food production. However, the poverty rate in the West Coast region is 30.4% which is also one of the regions that experience high rates of poverty (WCDM, 2011-2015:31).

According to the Western Cape Government (2013:24), “The poverty rate in the Bergriver Municipality is 33.8% which is higher than the district norm of 30.4% and is also the second highest in the district”. The poverty rate is defined by “the percentage of people living in households with an income less than the poverty income” (WC Government, 2013:24). Currently, the poverty rate is more than that of the entire West Coast District Municipality which is 30.4%. Furthermore, statistics showed that the Bergriver Municipality has the third largest number of indigent households in the district (WC Government, 2011:24,26). Given the aforementioned statistics concerning the high levels of poverty experienced in the Bergriver area, it raises the question why a country that is self-sufficient in agricultural production still faces such high levels of poverty and inequality that is an exporter of agricultural products.

This research argues that land reform can contribute to addressing the high levels of poverty in the area under investigation. Research showed that many land reform projects of this nature have a high failure rate. It is surprising that more than 20 years into the new dispensation in our country, the failure rate of land reform projects increased rather than decreased. However, there are land reform projects that are successful, but do not receive sufficient attention in the media and the literature. This study aims to investigate and document an example of a successful land reform project and evaluate to what extent it alleviates poverty in Porterville in the Western Cape province.

## **1.2 Background and Contextualization of the Case Study Area**

South Africa has a dual agricultural sector with a strong commercial farming sector and a predominantly small-scale subsistence agricultural sector. The total gross farming income in agriculture increased from R122 550 in 2010 to R131 541 in 2011 (Stats SA, 2011a). What is also evident is that the number of workers in the agricultural sector decreased by 5.1% in 2011 (Stats SA, 2011a). Furthermore, the country is self-sufficient in terms of food production (Department: Government Communications, 2009:47).

It is estimated that approximately 57% of individuals in South Africa are poor with the Western Cape Province having the lowest poverty rate (HSRC, 2004:1). However, the government’s National Development Plan (NDP) follows the Lower-Bound Poverty Line (LBPL) in order to determine the poverty rate in the country. A definition of the LBPL suggests that, it “includes non-food items, but requires that individuals sacrifice food in order to obtain these”. According to the LBPL, 32.3% or 16.3 million of the population find themselves below the poverty line (Stats SA, 2011c:14). Gopaul (2006:10) noted that the South African rural population is among the most impoverished people in the world. In the West Coast District Municipality 30.4% of the population lives below the poverty line (WC Government, 2013:24).

### **1.2.1 Overview of the Western Cape**

The Western Cape Province is situated on the southernmost tip of the African continent. It is estimated that a total of 5 822 734 million people live in the Western Cape Province on 129370 km<sup>2</sup> of land (Stats SA, 2011b:14; Government Communications, 2009:8). Agriculture is very

important to the Western Cape economy and is also the leading export sector in the province. The 2002 agricultural census revealed that there were 7185 commercial farms in South Africa. The total households engaging in agricultural activities are 1634 000. The statistics also revealed that the households of ‘Coloured’ people engage mostly in agriculture in this Province (Moseley, 2006:5; Stats SA, 2011a:12).

Despite the high number of people, especially from the ‘Coloured’ community, engaging in agriculture, many workers are mostly restricted to being labourers. Furthermore, many of them have a narrow knowledge of farming activities (Moseley, 2006:5). Many farm workers are also faced with poor basic services and a lack of proper sanitation and clean drinking water. Many employers change their workers’ employment contracts unilaterally and prevent workers from joining a trade union organisation (Kleinbooi, 2013:8).

**Figure 1:** Map of South Africa which gives a sound indication of the various provinces of the country including the Western Cape Province.



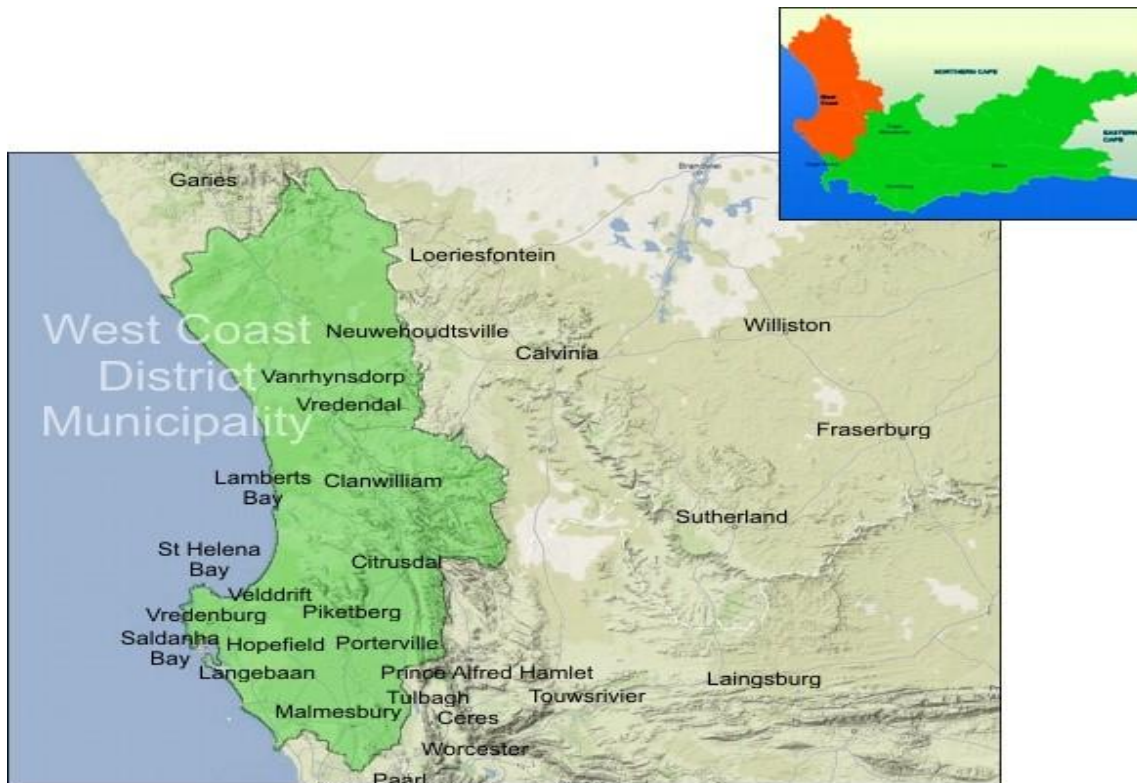
### 1.2.2 Overview of the West Coast District Municipality

The West Coast District Municipality (WCDM) is situated north of the City of Cape Town located between the Atlantic Ocean and the Cederberg mountain ranges (see Figures 1 and 2). The WCDM consists of five municipalities: Swartland, Bergrivier, Matzikama, Cederberg and Saldanha (WC Government, 2013:1). The main economic sectors include agriculture, fishing, manufacturing, tourism and mining (WCDM, 2012:2). The West Coast District had a Gross

Domestic Product per Region (GDPR) growth of 3.3% in 2011, after a setback due to the world economic melt down in 2008/2009, before dipping just below 3% in 2012 (Bergriver Municipality, 2014:86).

The percentage of people living in poverty in the West Coast District Municipality stood at 30.2%, and the literacy rate of this region stands at 87.2 % which is higher than the country average of 80.9% (WC Government, 2014b:4,8). The West Coast Municipality recorded the second lowest unemployment rate (14.6%) across the Western Cape Province. This means that from a total workforce of 16 5321 people, 141 117 people are employed and 24 204 people are unemployed. In addition, the Bergriver Municipality recorded the lowest unemployment rate of 6.8% across the entire Western Cape Districts and can be translated in 23 761 employed people and 1732 unemployed people out of a total workforce of 25 493 people. (WC Government, 2013:42,43). As a result of a lack of proper livelihoods strategies, many households rely on wage incomes to make a living (Jacobs and Makaudze, 2009:2).

**Figure 2: Map of the West Coast District Municipality, Western Cape, South Africa.**



Source: Western Cape Government

### 1.2.3 Overview of the Bergriver Municipal Area

The Bergriver Municipality (BM) is one of 5 Local Municipalities that comprise the West Coast District Municipality, and covers an area of 4264 km<sup>2</sup> in size, with nine settlements and three major towns like Porterville, Piketberg and Velddrif (see figure 2 above) (Bergriver Municipality, 2011:4). It is bordered to the north by the Cederberg Municipality (CM), to the west by the Saldanha Bay Municipality (SBM), to the south by the Swartland Municipality (SM) and to the east by the Drakenstein (DM) and Witzenberg Municipalities (WM). The area is also blessed with two rivers, the Olifantsriver and Bergriver which run through the area (Bergriver Municipality, 2011:9).

The total population of the Bergriver Municipal area is 61897 people and translates to a population growth of 2.8% per annum. There are 8748 households in the Bergriver Municipal area of which 2208 households are poor (indigent). This shows an increase in the number of poor households from the previous year. “The poverty rate of the Bergriver Municipality is 33.8% which is higher than the district norm of 30% and the second highest in the district”. (WC Government, 2013:24; Bergriver Municipality, 2014:86).

The unemployment rate in agriculture decreased from 8.7% in 2001 to 6.8% in 2011 (Bergriver Municipality, 2014:91). Although there was a decrease in employment, agriculture is still important to the economy of the Bergriver Municipality. However, for workers in the area, this is a big concern because it threatened the job creation in the area. The Bergriver Municipal area contributed 11.9% of the Gross Domestic Product per Region (GDPR) or R67.5 million of the estimated R5.6 billion of the district in 2004 (Bergriver Municipality, 2011:9).

### 1.2.4 Overview of Porterville

Porterville is a small town located in the Bergriver Municipal area, about 150 km from Cape Town. It has a population of about 7 000 people, with a large proportion living on the surrounding farms. Porterville is known for its large exports of grapes, flowers and wines to the European market. There are also farmers who keep livestock such as sheep and cattle, while wheat is the most important grain cultivated there (Vink et al, 1998). Although Porterville is primarily dependent on the agricultural sector, the town lacks a strong manufacturing sector that can add value to agricultural products and thus boost local economic development. Agriculture contributes 33.3% to the economy of the Bergriver Municipality (Bergriver Municipality, 2013:17). Primary agricultural activity thus plays an important part in the economic, social and political development of the town. The Cape West Coast 2010 brochure notes that “the West Coast Swartland is known for its wheat as the oldest wheat growing area in South Africa” (West Coast Tourism, 2010:72). Climate conditions entail dry hot summers (powerful thermals), followed by severe winters (snow on mountains and strong winds from the Atlantic Coast), which make it ideal for paragliding enthusiasts to flock to the town and for wheat and fruit production (West Coast Tourism, 2013:71).

### **1.2.5 The Bergland Development Trust (BDT)**

The Bergland Development Trust (BDT) farms on a piece of land which is situated at the top of the Winterhoek Mountain region in the Porterville district. This mountainous region is very fertile and its cold winters and mild summers make it ideal for the cultivation of fruit and flowers. The main aim of the BDT land reform project is to generate a profit and raise the income of the local farm workers and their families. The secondary purpose is to provide the local people with arable agricultural land in order to empower them economically and socially. The BDT project commenced with 73 members of which 41 were women and 32 men. Furthermore, there are 27 people who are younger than 30 years old. Other members consist of 2 disabled persons and 4 retired persons. Currently the total number of beneficiaries has been reduced to 56 people due to various reasons, such as moving to other farms, retirement and the passing away of one of the beneficiaries.

The project originates from the purchase of 75 hectares of land from the Berghoff Farm that is owned by a white farmer to establish a fynbos farm. The money for the purchase of the land was secured via Land Redistribution for Agricultural Development (LRAD) funds. The BDT and the white owner of Berghoff Farm established a company named Berghoff Fynbos, which rented land from the BDT. This agreement was based on the equal sharing of profit between BDT and Berghoff Fynbos. Most of the beneficiaries are still living and working on the Berghoff Farm. The establishment of this project (Berghoff Fynbos) was not seen as a substitute for their current income, but rather an additional source of income that will enhance their living conditions. Furthermore, the ultimate aim is to develop Berghoff Farm as a separate entity from BDT in order to equip the current beneficiaries to own the land that still belongs to Berghoff Fynbos.

The project was financed by ABSA Bank that provided the necessary capital to gain access to LRAD funds. This financial support together with the support of Berghoff Fynbos (providing training and financial support), paved the way for the successful management of the BDT. The organisational structure of BDT is as follows: A Board of Trustees runs the affairs of the project. This Board of Trustees consists of members from the Berghoff and Mountain Dew farms, an auditor and the owner of the Berghoff Farm. The Board of Trustees has a very strong management component which has been key ensuring the success of the project. Furthermore, it also provides the necessary mentorship that is so pivotal in the management of a project of this nature.

The project is running with a very conservative budget which makes it easier to survive in such a harsh economic climate. The 50% shareholding from Berghoff Fynbos in the project provides the necessary protection against vulnerable economic times. The BDT project is known for its flower exports to the European markets and supplies to the local flower market. The BDT secured export contracts with Colors Flowers, an export company, and De Mooij Import BV Company that buys the flowers from the project. These contracts are in particular significant to the sustainability of the project. Other supporters of this particular project are the Department of Agriculture, Department of Environment, and Cape Nature Conservation that assists them with soil development and plant care (BDT Document, undated).



This project is of particular importance to this research because recent studies showed that a number of projects of this nature are currently experiencing a lot of constraints. However, the BDT project is a successful project with a strong support system which includes a mentorship programme led by the owner of the Berghoff Fynbos Farm. It is important to look at the factors contributing to their ostensible success, which will be done in the data analysis chapter.

### ***1.3 Problem statement, Research questions, Aim and Objectives of the study***

#### **1.3.1 Problem Statement**

The agricultural sector in the Bergriver Municipal area has experienced a steady decline in its labour force between 2000 and 2011 due to the slow contracting of people in the agricultural sector. A loss of almost 11,277 jobs were recorded during this period (Bergriver Municipality, 2014:91; 2015:85; W C Government, 2014a:13). Although there was a decrease in employment, agriculture is still a major contributor to the economy of the Bergriver Municipality. The Bergriver area contributed 11.9% to the Gross Domestic Product of the region (Bergriver Municipality, 2011:9). Moreover, the total number of people employed in the agriculture, forestry, and fisheries sector in the Bergriver Municipal area amounts to 2,624 people.

The West Coast District Municipality, where the town of Porterville is situated, is well known for its production of wheat and grapes for the export markets. Other agricultural produce that complemented these afore-mentioned commodities by extending the harvest season in the area are oranges and flowers. The fine weather conditions (extreme cold weather during winter months and extreme hot weather during summer months) add to the successful production of these commodities.

This study wants to make a case that land reform can play an important role in combating poverty in Porterville and in our country (Sarris, 2001:1; World Bank, 2008:25). However, it is evident that after 20 years of democracy it appears that many land reform projects have failed and that a few were able to succeed. There are landreform projects that are successful but they are never mentioned in the media or documented by analysts. It is important to highlight these successful land reform projects, so that they can be documented and serve as examples of how projects of such a nature could be successful. This study therefore investigated an example of a successful land reform, specifically the Bergland Development Trust (BDT) land reform project in the Porterville region in the Western Cape province of South Africa.

#### **1.3.2 Aims and Objectives**

In the context of what has been discussed above, this research aims to analyse the successful Bergland Development Trust which is situated in the Swartland region of the West Coast District in the Western Cape Province (see Figure 2). This afore-mentioned region experiences high levels of poverty, which hamper the social and economic development of the people of the region. This particular land reform project is situated in the same area where other land reform

projects failed in their endeavors. This study explores the following aspects concerning the Bergland Development Trust:

- The livelihood resources for the Bergland Development Trust.
- The livelihoods strategies utilised by members of the Bergland Development Trust.
- The successful outcomes of the Bergland Development Trust.
- The institutional processes ensuring employment of strategies and achievement of outcomes, and
- The challenges facing the Bergland Development Trust.

### **1.3.3 Research Question**

This research investigates the following question:

What are the factors that explain the success of the Bergland Development Trust land reform project?

## ***1.4 Chapter Outline***

The content of the thesis is outlined in the following chapters:

***Chapter 1*** introduces the research to the readers. This will provide the rationale, the statement of the problem, the aims and objectives, the research question, and then concludes with the chapter outline.

***Chapter 2*** provides the literature review on land reform in South Africa post-1994 which entails the policies for rural development, the historical context of land reform, the current situation on land reform in South Africa and ends with a summary of the chapter.

***Chapter 3*** outlines the theoretical framework utilised in this study, namely, the Sustainable Livelihoods Approach (SLA). It touches on the weaknesses and strengths, application of the SLA, and the recent debate that underpins the Sustainable Livelihoods Approach.

***Chapter 4*** focuses on the research design and methodology that was employed in conducting the research. It outlines the methods of data collection, data analysis and the ethical requirements for conducting the research.

***Chapter 5*** entails the presentation and analysis of data, discussion of the findings and concludes with a summary of the chapter.

***Chapter 6*** provides a summary of the thesis by highlighting the main study findings and provides some recommendations based on the research.

## CHAPTER 2: THE LITERATURE REVIEW

### 2.1 Introduction

Land reform is pivotal in unlocking the potential for creating employment, growing the agricultural sector and thereby boosting the economy, and addressing poverty and securing stability in South Africa. South Africa's Land Reform Programme consists of three important pillars, namely: *Land Restitution* entails the legal process aiming to compensate those people who lost their land after 1913; *Land Redistribution* forms the key thrust of land reform and was intended to de-racialise the entire agricultural sector and establish a large number of small-scale farmers and commercial farmers in the country and the third pillar, *Land Tenure Reform* aims to secure and enhance the tenure rights of those who lost land as a result of discriminatory laws and practices of the past. (Kleinbooi, 2010: 43; ANC, 1994:20; DLA, 1997a:9; Lahiff, 2014:587; Lyne, undated:3,4; Republic of South Africa, 1996:12).

Land reform in South Africa, as in other countries, is an immensely contentious issue. This emotive and contentious issue of land reform has its roots in the long history of colonial dispossession, supported by racially discriminatory legislation (Letsoalo, 1987; Van Zyl et al, 1996:44; Hall, 2009:1; Smith, 2004:466; ANC, 1994:19). The current government of South Africa has sought to remedy the injustices of the past concerning access to land.

The South African government identified 12 important outcomes to focus on and to speed up rural development and thereby to improve the lives of people in the rural areas of the country. It is evident that outcome 7 of the strategic document refers to the land reform programme of the country and proposed "improved rural services to support sustainable livelihoods" (DRDLR, 2011). This particular strategic goal entails the speeding up of poverty alleviation, facilitating infrastructure development, addressing social inequalities, introducing sound measures to combat and manage disasters in rural areas and promoting of land reform by 2014. This ambitious programme was to be driven through the Comprehensive Rural Development Programme (CRDP) (DRDLR, 2011). This ambitious aim of transforming the rural areas of the country was later revealed in the National Development Plan (NDP), which commits the government to build 'capable state' that will eradicate poverty and create 11 million, including 1 million rural jobs, by 2030 (NPC, 2011).

In order to support a workable and pragmatic land reform programme, the current government of the Republic of South Africa embarked on 5 principles to guide them in this important endeavour. The 5 guiding principles put forward by the government to speed up the process of land reform in the country entail the following: A quick transfer of agricultural land to black owners without distorting business confidence in the agribusiness sector; initiation of sustainable production on transferred land through learnership, mentoring and training; the establishment of an institution that will prevent opportunism, corruption and speculation within land markets; the involvement of commercial farmers with the transfer of skills and training opportunities to the new black land reform beneficiaries and the reconciliation of land transfer targets within the fiscal and economic realities of the country in order to ensure successful land redistribution (Department of the Presidency, 2011:206).

This research will focus on the redistribution pillar of the land reform programme. As the policies for rural development form an important part of the overall transformation of the rural areas of the country, this research will touch on the main policies underlying the land reform programme. The poverty alleviation strategies will also be discussed in this research, followed by the historical context, the situation on land reform in the country and a look into share-equity schemes as a way of empowering the poor with land and income.

## **2.2 The Historical Context of Land Reform**

The post-apartheid government was left with the enormous task of addressing the injustices of the past, emanated by the policies of the apartheid government. Moreover, the post-apartheid government's first challenge was to address the unequal distribution of land in South Africa (Kloppers and Pienaar, 2014:678). Muller (1987:492,493) and Rungasamy (2011:12) argue that the policy of residential apartheid started in 1652 with the arrival of the Dutch settlers in South Africa, when Jan van Riebeeck planted an avenue of trees to keep the 'Hottentotte' and the Europeans apart from each other and this particular territorial segregation was taken further and implemented by Dr. H. Verwoerd, the primary architect of the Apartheid system in South Africa.

The Natives Land Act of 1913 was the first policy that formalised extreme restrictions on black property owners in South Africa and confined the black people to reserves where they used to live on a small portion of land (Ntsebeza, undated:2; Walker, 2002:7). Lahiff (2002:1) and Kahn (2007:2) noted that blacks owned 7% of the land as reserves where they lived in harsh conditions. Moreover, 82 million hectares of land was owned by 60 000 white farmers. The main aims of the Natives Land Act of 1913 were, firstly, to provide white people with more agricultural land; secondly, to impoverish the already marginalised black masses and thirdly, to enforce the policy of territorial segregation in the country.

This particular territorial segregation policy was furthered by the Native Trust and Land Act 18 of 1936 which entailed the establishment and management of the South African Native Trust, a state entity which was mainly concerned with the administering of trust land and the well-being of the Natives in South Africa. Under The Native Trust and Land Act 18 of 1936 the black people of the country lost their right to buy land in the reserves which, in turn, created a system of tenancy. The Group Areas Act 41 of 1950 sets the scene for the proclamation of a specific area for a specific race group which prohibited that particular race group to own land or to even visit that area of the specific race group (Kloppers and Pienaar, 2014:684; Rugege, 2004:1,2; Muller, 1987:494). The Group Areas Act 36 of 1966 "Consolidate[d] the law related to the establishment of group areas and to regulate the control of the acquisition of immovable property and the occupation of land and premises" (Kloppers and Pienaar, 2014:685).

The impact of the territorial segregation laws on the country forced the black people of South Africa to work in the mines and as domestic workers in the cities. In addition, these events led to the creation of informal settlements harbouring those people looking for employment in the cities and in turn led to illiteracy and a high infant mortality rate. The dispossession of land changed

the political economy and restructured the agricultural landscape of the country. It is also estimated that millions of black people were forced to leave their land and homes and in addition, deprived them of economic, social and political development in their country of birth (Kahn, 2007:3; Boudreaux, 2010:15; Greenberg, 2003:42). Rungasamy (2011:18) argues that the unequal land redistribution in South Africa led to the distribution of unequal resources which in turn provoked more inequality and poverty.

According to the White Paper on land reform close to 3.5 million black people were forced from their native land between 1960 and 1980 (DLA, 1997a:34). However, it was therefore not strange that the land reform was one of the pivotal questions to be discussed in the negotiation leading up to the new dispensation. This state of affairs called for the implementation of new legislation that could eventually address the afore-mentioned state of events (Dlamini, 2006:12). Gibson (2009:138) noted that the apartheid government already started a process of land reform in 1991 with the inception of the Abolition of Racially Based Land Measures Act 108 of 1991 which paved the way for further legislation that will enhance constructive land reform in the country.

In the post-apartheid South Africa, the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa spoke to the process of land reform by stating that Section 25 of the Constitution, Act 108 of 1996 had to redress the historical process of land inequality by mandating “the state to take reasonable legislative and other measures, within its available resources, to foster conditions which enable citizens to gain access to land on an equitable basis” (RSA, 1996:11,12). The section that follows will discuss the various land reform policies that emerged after the end of apartheid.

### **2.3 Rural Development Policies**

Poverty and inequality in rural areas of South Africa remains major challenges facing the current government. These challenges can be linked to a long and persistent history of dispossession by the apartheid government. In addition, the current agricultural sector is dominated by large-scale commercial farmers who prevent new black small-scale farmers from entering the agricultural sector. Land reform is essential in promoting equity, justice, poverty reduction, economic upliftment and tenure security in the rural South Africa. Banerjee (1999:16) emphasises the fact that the rural poor are generally among the poorest in the world and empowering the rural poor with land will give them equity and alleviate their poverty. In addition, it will support the rural poor to set up small businesses, have education and access to appropriate health services. The belief that land reform can turn around this state of events, forced the current government to embark on a series of policies to address poverty and inequality in rural communities and to fast track land redistribution and land restitution (Kleinbooi, 2010:42; Twala and Selesho, 2013:1; Aliber et al, 2010:10). Due to the fact that land redistribution is the focus of this research, it is important for this research to look into the land redistribution programmes and policies of the ANC government since 1994.

#### **2.3.1 Settlement/Land Acquisition Grant (SLAG)**

The Settlement/Land Acquisition Grant (SLAG) Programme was the first redistribution programme of the democratic government aiming to support families in gaining access to land

(small-scale farming, municipal commonage and farmworkers' equity schemes). This programme was implemented between 1995 and ended in the year 2000 (Kepe and Hall, 2016:29) The main objectives of this redistribution programme were centered around poor people and poverty alleviation (Wegerif, 2004:11; Lahiff, 2007:1580). The SLAG entails the allocation of a grant of R15 000 (roughly US\$1,250 at the current exchange rate) to households with a monthly salary of less than R1500 (roughly US\$125 a month). This grant of R15 000 was later increased to an amount of R16 000 per household in 1998 (Lahiff, 2007:1580). Beneficiaries taking part in this land redistribution programme were encouraged to combine their grants and to buy a farm and register it as a community land trust or a Communal Property Association (CPA).

However, several weaknesses were revealed within the SLAG Grant. Firstly, the grants allocated were too small to cover the cost of meaningful farming, the size of the group was often too large, and many CPAs were filled with conflict, and many participants did not play any meaningful role in the project. Furthermore, due to this small grant of R16000, people involved in this SLAG project were not able to buy agricultural inputs for their land and were also not creditworthy to obtain valuable equipment to farm or plough their new land. Secondly, the government was very slow in starting with the project due to their lack of involving participants themselves, lack of post-transfer support to projects, and poor coordination between the Provincial Departments of Land Affairs (PDLA) and the Provincial Departments of Agriculture (PDoA). Thirdly, many of the SLAG projects did not appear to be economically viable and did not survive. Fourthly, the reliance on market forces also contributed to the failing of the SLAG programme. These weaknesses of SLAG resulted in the Department of Land Affairs (DLA) admitting that the programme was a failure and it therefore withdrew the programme by 1999 (Wegerif, 2004:11; Wächter, 2010:70; Antwi and Nxumalo, 2014:1,2; Boudreaux, 2010:16; Lahiff, 2001:5).

### **2.3.2 Land Redistribution for Agricultural Development (LRAD)**

After the withdrawal of SLAG in 1999, the DLA replaced it with the Land Redistribution for Agricultural Development (LRAD) programme in 2000 which was eventually ended in the year 2010 (Kepe and Hall, 2016:29). The LRAD grant can be accessed by way of a sliding scale from R20 000 to R100 000, and the size of the allocation is determined by the beneficiaries' own contribution in the form of a loan or livestock or agricultural machinery. In addition, with a minimum own contribution of R5 000, an applicant can apply for an amount of R20 000 and a maximum of R400 000 in the case of the applicant's own contribution of R100 000. The amount of R5 000 can be offered as 'sweat equity' which means that the applicant can perform some work on the project to compensate for the amount on offer (HSRC, 2003:4). The grant was also adjusted in the 2008/9 financial year on a sliding scale to R111 520 for those applicants on the lower end and R430 857 for those on the upper end. Where land prices were low, the groups were also restricted to approximately 15 people (De Satgé, 2014:2,3). The objectives of the LRAD programme are as follows:

- Contribute to the distribution of 30% of South Africa's agricultural land over 15 years,
- Improving nutrition and income of the rural poor, who want to farm at any scale,
- Stimulate economic growth through agriculture,

- Empower beneficiaries to improve their economic and social well-being,
- Enable those presently accessing the agricultural land in communal areas to make better use of their land,
- De-congest overcrowded former homelands areas and
- Expand opportunities for women and young people who live in rural areas (Nxumalo and Antwi, 2013:1; HSRC, 2003:4).

The LRAD programme bought private and state-owned land at a market prices and affected by economic (land speculation, changes in land use, etc.) and political (landowners segmented according to racial lines) influences. Land acquired by LRAD beneficiaries can also be financed by the state-owned Land Bank. However, the implementation of the LRAD programme contains a difficult planning process which starts with the submission of the applications and ends with the transfer of the title deeds of the property. The duration of the completion of the transfer of the title deeds of the land, varies from three to eighteen months, and the Provincial Grant Approval Committee (PGAC) must first scrutinize the application before implementation. The implementation process of the LRAD programme entails two phases, namely, transfer of land which is the task of the national DLA, and post-transfer support which is the task of the provincial departments of agriculture (PDoAs) (Jacobs et al, 2003:14,17).

In order to access the LRAD grants the application must include the following features: provisional sale agreement with sellers, business plan pertaining to the utilising of the land, business plan containing the project proposal, provisional agreement of sale of property, land valuer confirmations that the land price is according to the market, list of beneficiaries and legitimacy of their contributions and the Provincial Agricultural Officer's confirmation that the land is suitable for agricultural purposes. In addition, this Agricultural Officer must also confirm that the seller is in possession of the legal title deeds of the land. When the application of the beneficiaries is completed, it is then forwarded to the District Assessment Committees (DACs) or the District Screening Committees (DSCs) who give the recommendations to the Provincial Projects Approval Committee (PPAC) (Jacobs et al 2003:17,18; DLA, 2001:7).

The coordination of post-transfer support in areas like agricultural extension infrastructure support and training, to the various LRAD programmes will be organised by the various provincial departments through the Farmer Settlement Support (FSS) units. The FSS unit is financed by the provincial governments while the National Development Agency (NDA) funding is allocated for training. The LRAD programme also favours extension services executed by the private sector. Other forms of training to the LRAD projects come from agricultural colleges like Cedara in KwaZulu-Natal and Elsenburg in the Western Cape. Moreover, the Land Bank also offered a rebate on interest rates to potential commercial farmers, in turn for mentoring and managing of LRAD beneficiaries. In addition, other institutions that provide finance earmarked for LRAD projects are ABSA Bank, Standard Bank, Ithala Bank and Khula Enterprises (Jacobs et al, 2003:20,22).

Some of the differences between the initial SLAG programme and the LRAD programme are that the LRAD programme adheres to the suggestion of the World Bank for a more market friendly approach. In addition, the LRAD programme makes room for all adult members of a

household to apply for the grant which helped to reduce the size of the group. The marginalised people were targeted, namely, women, farmworkers, the youth and disabled persons. The Provincial and District's Municipalities are tasked with the approval and implementation of the LRAD programme, accelerating land base projects at local levels. All beneficiaries were expected to make an own contribution when applying for an LRAD grant. A significant feature of the LRAD programme is that it is much bigger in size than that of the SLAG programme. Moreover, the LRAD grant is not available for settlement of beneficiaries on their land (Hall, 2004:217; Wegerif, 2004:11; Ntsholo, 2009:16; HSRC, 2003:5; Bannister, 2004:1).

The Land Redistribution for Agricultural Development (LRAD) has been critiqued for a number of reasons. First, while the Settlement/Land Acquisition Grant (SLAG) had a pro-poor bias, LRAD was established with the intention of creating a class of Black commercial farmers that would create jobs and thereby help to alleviate poverty. Second, in making 'own contributions' a requirement for accessing LRAD grants, the government basically favours better resourced Black farmers and marginalises the 'poorest of the rural poor' who lack assets and income. Third, middle class LRAD 'clients' had more social capital and hence could access more resources from government. Fourth, LRAD, like SLAG, was still rooted in the willing buyer, willing seller logic. And finally, the move from SLAG to LRAD represented a shift from "a language of rights to one of productivity and economic efficiency" (Cousins and Hall, 2011:14; Wegerif, 2004; Lahiff, 2007; Karriem, 2005; Karriem and Hoskins, 2016).

Furthermore, the LRAD programme experiences a lack of access to capital, much needed markets, mentorship, financial management skills, and poor infrastructure. Some of the beneficiaries did not fully utilise their land which resulted in the dwindling of production levels concerning agriculture in the country (Antwi and Nxumalo, 2014:6; Boudreaux, 2010:16; Nxumalo and Antwi, 2013:162; Tshuma, 2012:1972).

The national performance of the LRAD programme includes the following features: a total of 51% of the LRAD projects had failed (29% failed and 22% declining) and an estimated 49% of the projects were successful (21% of the projects were successful and 28% were in the balance). It is also registered that 71% of the LRAD projects are still in progress, which includes the 21% successful projects and 28% of the projects that are in the balance. An estimated 49% of the total projects made some progress in terms of agricultural development and the livelihoods of the beneficiaries and it is also reported that 51% failed to make tangible progress. Moreover, the production and on-farm employment, showed a significant increase in 49% of the LRAD projects. In addition, only the Eastern Cape, Western Cape and Free State Provinces recorded above national average performance, while the rest of the nine provinces of the country recorded below national average performance (PSC, 2011:20,21). The introduction of LRAD meant that more land was redistributed, but the number of land reform beneficiaries were much reduced as the beneficiary selection process favoured a smaller number of those with assets and income.

### **2.3.3 Pro-active Land Acquisition Strategy (PLAS)**

Due to the slow progress of land reform under SLAG and LRAD, the government introduced the Pro-active Land Acquisition Strategy (PLAS) in 2006 to speed up land delivery. This particular



programme was implemented in 2006 and is still an ongoing programme of the DAFF (Kepe and Hall, 2016:29). PLAS signaled a break with the SLAG and LRAD land acquisition process which compelled land reform beneficiaries to identify land, approach the land owner, and then secure funding from the government. Under PLAS, the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform (DRDLR) now directly buys land private and state owned properties and after a selection process, the land is leased to the appropriate beneficiaries for a period of 3 to 5 years. If the beneficiaries show success in farming then the land may be transferred to them on a permanent basis, subject to the availability of funding (Wächter, 2010:76; DLA, 2006:4,5,8; De Satgé, 2014:4). Nxumalo and Antwi (2013:162) also point out that PLAS aims to support local government to develop area based planning and improve coordination among the institutions responsible for land reform.

The introduction of PLAS has been positive in that it has released land reform beneficiaries, especially the poor, from the SLAG/LRAD requirement of identifying and securing land. However, the short 3 to 5 year leasehold arrangements may not be sufficient to demonstrate success, especially in a context where the state has a poor record of providing agricultural credit and extension support to new (and old) land reform beneficiaries. Moreover, concerns have been raised as to the quality of land that has been acquired via PLAS (Lahiff and Li, 2012).

### **2.3.4 Settlement and Production Land Acquisition Grant (SPLAG)**

After 2000, the initial name of the Settlement/Land Acquisition (SLAG) Grant programme was changed to the Settlement and Production Land Acquisition Grant (SPLAG) programme. SPLAG caters for the settlement of people working and living on rural land for agricultural production purposes in rural and urban areas. This particular grant secures rural dwellers, farm workers and farm dwellers with a better living (securing their livelihoods) and working conditions and ensures that they also benefit from the grants that government is extending to them. Moreover, the grant entails an amount of R16 000 to beneficiaries with an income of less than R1500 per month, and who qualify for the programme. This benefit is also prescribed by legislation and is intended for the establishment of agri-villages and rural farm settlements situated on individual farming plots. The grant could also be used in combination with the Land Redistribution for Agricultural Development grant (DRDLR, 2009b:21; De Satgé, 2014:3; Lahiff and Li, 2012:8). Section 25(6) of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa of 1996 (Act 106 of 1996) gives legal effect to the SPLAG programme when it states that “A person or community whose tenure of land is legally insecure as a result of past racially discriminatory laws or practices is entitled to the extent provided by an Act of Parliament, either to tenure which is legally secure or comparable redress” (DRDLR, 2011).

### **2.3.5 Integrated Sustainable Rural Development Strategy (ISRDS)**

This programme involve the agricultural Development by the provision of appropriate integrated agricultural support services for poor people in the rural area and emerging farmers. This include women, young people and the disabled. It also involve the three spheres of government like National, Provincial and Local Government. The programme initially started in 2001 and should be ended in 2010 (DAFF, 2004:3; Kole, 2004:23).

### **2.3.6 Commonage Programme**

This particular programme started in 1997 and lasted until the year 2000. The term 'commonage' often refers to land that belongs to the local municipality. The commonage land was usually bought with grants from the government and in some cases bought initially from the church. The main aim with the buying of this type of land was to support the poor people of a particular town where the commonage land was officially situated. This commonage land entitles people to apply for grazing rights or people in need can also utilise the land to make a living. In this sense it differs from ordinary municipal land. Municipal commonage differs from communally owned land which is normally kept in trust by the government, and is used and managed by the tribal authority of that particular town (DLA, 1997a:1,53; Anderson and Pienaar, 2003:2,5).

It was evident that before 1994, white commercial farmers tended to use the commonage land for their grazing and it was actually after 1994 that black people had the opportunity to use the land for grazing and other purposes. Moreover, municipal commonage land serves as a pivotal tool for securing food and at the same time, generates income for the local residents of the town. This commonage land empowers the residents of the particular town to keep livestock, namely cows, sheep and pigs, slaughter them, and sell them to the local residents or even transport the livestock to nearby abattoirs (Atkinson, 2013:29, 30; Aliber, 2011:47).

Municipal commonage has several advantages in that it serves as a valuable tool to enhance constructive land reform. The local municipality is already the governing body of the commonage land or a Commonage Committee who manages the land on behalf of the local municipality, the poor stay near the commonage land and the commonage land serves as an income generation for the local residents or poor people. The commonage land is normally utilised free of charge and is managed by a range of title deeds that prevents the sale of the commonage land and keeps it available for public use only (DLA, 1997b:1; Anderson and Pienaar, 2003:1,2; Lebert, 2004:13).

According to Mayson (2003), municipalities play a pivotal role in the enhancement of small-scale farmers' development through the buying of additional land aimed at small-scale farmers' development. Furthermore, the capacity of municipal officials is very limited and many municipalities also have a low tax base to operate from (Mayson, 2003:21). Currently municipalities are rather paying attention to other priorities like land for urban settlement development than making available commonage land for small-scale farming purposes (Hall, 2009:72).

### **2.3.7 Recapitalization and Development Programme (RADP)**

The Recapitalization and Development Programme (RADP), was implemented in 2009 in response to the failure of many land reform projects due to a lack of proper post-settlement support. These failures included, too many beneficiaries on land, lack of recognition of legal entities, lack of pre- and post-settlement support, support measures still executed along the line of commercial farmers, and a lack of sufficient administration (Anseeuw and Mathebula, 2008:9;

CDE, 2008). In an effort to address the challenges of land reform, the government, via the RADP programme, set itself a rather broad range of objectives which sought to: increase agricultural production, guarantee food security, graduate emerging farmers to commercial farmers, create job opportunities within the agricultural sector, ensure that all land reform farms are 100% productive, to rekindle the class of black fledgling commercial farmers which was destroyed by the 1913 Natives Act Land Act, and to significantly reduce the rural-urban population flow (DRDLR, 2013a:7; Mabuza, 2016:20).

What is significant about the RADP is that it is closely linked to the National Development Plan (NDP) objectives in Chapter 6 of the National Development Plan document which also showed a clear intention of the current government to accelerate the empowerment of the rural poor (DRDLR, 2013a:7; NPC, 2011:225). Business Enterprises (2013:1) point out that an estimated 1807 farms have been set aside for recapitalization purposes up to 2014. Currently 1351 farms have been recapitalized and an estimated 7400 jobs have been created since the start of the RADP. In addition, the government investment in the RADP programme was R2.14 billion and the recapitalized farms accumulated R126 million in 2012. These investments include support to emerging farmers, with infrastructure development, machinery, entrepreneurial skills, production inputs, market access and integrating emerging farmers into the value chain (DRDLR, 2013b).

### **2.3.8 Ilima/letsema Programme**

This particular programme was implemented in 2008 and it is still an ongoing programme of DAFF. Ilima/Letsema programme entails the increase of food production as a measure to reduce poverty. This particular programme involves the revitalisation of irrigation systems, the creation of gardens at home and at schools. In addition, this programme make also provision for the purchasing of land and plant inputs as well as mechanisation in order to combat poverty in communities. Only smallholder farmers, land and agrarian reform beneficiaries, farmworkers, youth, women are entitling to take part in the programme. In addition, participants in the programme must be a South African Citizen, must be part of the disadvantage group, must be 18 years old, must provide proof of tenure and must have access to services (water and electricity) (DAFF, Undated; Daff, 2017:5; Mabuza, 2016:17).

### **2.3.9 Comprehensive Agricultural Support Programme (CASP)**

The Comprehensive Agricultural Support Programme support smallholder farmers, land and agrarian reform beneficiaries, farmworkers, youth, and women by extending the provision of agricultural support services through the promotion and facilitation of agricultural development. The programme was introduced in 2004 by the then DoA and is still a mechanism for assisting small-scale farmers in the country. CASP also support BOT with funding for the erecting of a packaging store. This particular services entails the provision of infrastructure, production inputs, training, skills development, capacity building, marketing, business development, information and knowledge management, technical services and financial services (DAFF, Undated; DAFF, 2004:1; DAFF, 2017:5; HSRC, 2013:91,92; Mabuza, 2016:16).

### **2.3.10 Micro Agricultural Financial Institutions of South Africa (Mafisa Loans)**

Micro Agricultural Financial Institutions of South Africa (Mafisa Loans) entails the support of the financial needs of smallholder farmers and small agribusinesses. The programme was implemented in 2005 and it is still in progress. This scheme provide short to medium term production loans, encourage savings and help with capacity building for member based financial institutions. Support smallholder farmers and small agribusinesses with the purchasing of production inputs (fertilizers, seed, etc) and small implements (knapsack, wheelbarrow, etc). Those people who wants to apply must be in the possession of a South African Identity document, 21 years and older, household income must not exceed R20 000 and can apply as individual or group (DAFF, 2010:2; Mabuza, 2016:16).

### **2.3.11 Share Equity Schemes**

Since its inception in 1996 by the private sector, share-equity schemes entail that privately owned farms are restructured as a company and that the initial owner of the farm and the farmworkers then become business partners or shareholders (Knight et al, 2003:1). The programme was halted in 2009 and was reopen during the 2010/2011 financial year. This particular programme is still functioning, specific in the Western Cape Province. Share-equity schemes were initially introduced to enhance land redistribution and wealth in agriculture in South Africa (Erasmus, 2010; Gray et al, 2004:377; Lyne and Roth, 2004:1). In addition, Lahiff et al (2012:7) also argue that strategic partnerships are a pivotal tool in changing the racially segmented agricultural landscape of the country. Furthermore, it is being viewed as a joint venture or form of collaboration with an experienced commercial entity and with a new group of small farmers with less experience in that particular field and with less buying power. This particular joint venture is also a way of transferring skills, developing career paths, and buying opportunities for these small enterprises. It is a business model that is competitive, with different ownerships and economic inclusion. This particular business model is implemented on a vast scale across the Western Cape province of South Africa and is claimed to have a 90% success rate (DA Policy on Land Reform, 2013:14).

There have been a number of different types of joint venture agricultural projects in South Africa over the years. Mayson (2003:3) describes five of these types of joint ventures:

1. Contract or out-grower schemes, which entails an agreement between the beneficiaries of the land reform project and the processors or marketing company on the sole basis that the farmer provide the goods of which the quantity and standards are determined by the processors or marketing company. Moreover, this arrangement also implies that the processors or marketing company support the production and purchasing of the goods produced by the farmer. These types of agreements exist mainly in the sugar and forest plantations in KwaZulu-Natal (Mayson, 2003:3,4).
2. Share-equity schemes involve the process whereby farmworkers use their land reform grants to buy shares in the company they are normally employed in. Grants are normally invested in the commercial farm they are usually employed in, in return for

dividends or shares. This particular joint venture is evident in the high value agricultural entities such as the wine and fruit sectors in the Western Cape province of South Africa.

3. Share-cropping is an arrangement between the land owner and tenant to present the payment of rent to the landlord in the form of products, rather than money. This was a common practice of black people in an effort to retain the land and being involved in agricultural activities before and after the Natives Land Act 27 of 1913 prevented share cropping (Mayson 2003:21; Bundy, 1988).
4. Municipal Commonage involves land belonging to the local municipality and reserved for local people to access the land for productive purposes. Small-scale farmers can use this Municipal Commonage land for grazing and cultivation purposes. Furthermore the Department of Land Affairs (DLA) encourages local municipalities to include land reform initiatives in their Integrated Development Plans in order to foster constructive land reform in the rural areas of South Africa (Mayson, 2003:17).
5. Company Supported Schemes derived from the commitment of private entities and Non-Profit Organisations (NPO's) like churches and development agencies to further the aims of social enhancement of communities. Moreover, these agreements uplift the living standards of local people, boost the commitment of workers, enhance the image of companies that care for the well-being of communities rather than only making a profit or even as part of their beliefs and making available their valuable resources to the community (Mayson, 2003:25).

In this study, we focus on the share-equity schemes that were launched by the government as a component of the land redistribution programme. De Lange et al (2004:7) who investigated a number of share-equity schemes, noted some key characteristics of successful share-equity schemes: it is a cost-effective way of entering or establishing a high risk business than outright purchasing of such an enterprise, it also serves as a good opportunity for in-service training for prospective small-scale farmers who want to become commercial farmers, share-equity schemes also enhance trust amongst the beneficiaries and the original owner of the enterprise, it also presents a difference in management approach which normally differs from the conventional style of managing a business, there is a strong feeling of ownership amongst the beneficiaries of such an enterprise, it also entails some benefits for the beneficiaries in the short term, share-equity scheme projects normally have a high level success rate and, the main objective of share-equity schemes is to create wealth for the equity scheme partners.

Share-equity schemes have, however, also been criticised on a number of grounds. For example, the Surplus People Project (SPP), a land rights NGO based in Cape Town, has raised a number of concerns regarding the share-equity schemes operating in particular in the Western Cape province. These concerns include shareholder membership during inception of project, participants' expectations, the power relations between shareholders and the owner of the farm,

skills empowerment, worker relations, the position of workers who are not participants in the scheme, gender challenges, position of tenure security and issues surrounding entrance and ending of membership of a share-equity scheme project (Fast, 1999). However, Knight and Lyne (2004:13) in their study of eight share-equity schemes argued that many of the concerns raised in the SPP report had been successfully addressed, except for tenure security of beneficiaries, the variation in skills development and wage allocation for men and women. Hall et al, (2001:6) also argue that many of the workers participating in these share-equity schemes do not own the land and are only shareholders in the entity and that power relations remain the same in a sense that workers had no participation in the enterprise. In addition, Hall et al (2001:7) further postulate that some of these share-equity schemes are not initiated by farm workers but rather by white farmers experiencing economic difficulties and are looking for a financial bailout.

Mayson (2003:14,15,16) in his study on the De Kamp Boerdery near Citrusdal in the Western Cape, states that although share-equity schemes are an attractive way of empowering the rural poor, workers' contributions to these schemes are generally hampered by their poor education and that women are generally excluded from share-equity schemes because they are seasonal workers while their male counterparts are full-time employees. He further states that share-equity schemes fail to transfer valuable skills to workers due to limited time for in-house training by the owner of the original farm. Karaan (2003:3,8) confirms that equity schemes from a constitutional viewpoint suffers from incompleteness in a sense that this institution is troubled by a lack of proper markets which is so pivotal in ensuring its successful operation. In addition, the slow pace of transferring the specific land and allocation of grants as well as the failure of the Provincial Department of Agriculture to manage the contract between the original owner of the farm and the farmer, has contributed to the poor performance of share-equity schemes (Lahiff et al, 2012:61).

Hall et al (2001:6) identify some of the objectives of share-equity scheme: they should help workers to gain long-term benefits through earning salaries; farm workers can become shareholders in the particular company, through share-equity schemes; it should promote strategic partnerships which create wealth for original farmer and farm workers; farm workers use government grants to buy shares in farms where they are employed as workers and workers and employers should operate on the same managerial level, because both are shareholders of the company.

The share-equity scheme is also supported by the South African government through the White Paper on land reform. Private sector initiatives in land reform are partnerships/agreements between recipients of the Settlement/Land Acquisition Grant (SLAG)/LRAD and owners of private businesses, which broadens the base of land ownership, offer security of tenure and raise the income of the grantees. The Department of Land Affairs (DLA) together with organised agriculture believes that successful partnerships should be actively developed and supports initiatives which have the potential to widen the scope and efficiency of the land reform process and promote the sharing of risks and responsibilities (DLA, 1997a:71).

In a follow up document explaining the worker share-equity scheme the Department of Land Affairs Land Policy Committee embarks on two scenarios, whereby a share-equity scheme

should operate: firstly, the farmer and farmworkers enter into an agreement to form a company in which the farmworkers own shares or even purchase a new farm and secondly, the company is owned by the farmer and the farmer and workers form a joint venture in order to start a new business in the same company or on the same farm (e.g. a dairy farm) (DLA, 1997c).

In 2009 the government placed a moratorium on farm-equity schemes based on a government commissioned study (which was never released) that showed of “88 farm equity scheme projects implemented between 1996 and 2008, only nine declared dividends” (cited by Cousins, 2017:141). The policy was, however, resumed in 2011 by Minister of Rural Development and Land Reform, Gugile Nkwinti, who stated that share equity schemes are good when they are well managed (Erasmus, 2010). This particular model has many advantages, like helping farmers to sell their land through the share-owner schemes and enables farm workers to buy a certain percentage of the farm with money from national government (James, 2012:1). Share-equity schemes can enhance the view of the National Development Plan which postulates that close to a million jobs can be created in the agricultural sector by 2030 (Van Rooyen, 2012; DOP, 2013:2). The share-equity scheme will be further discussed in the data analysis chapter.

## 2.4 Chapter Summary

Land reform in South Africa is concerned with redressing social justice, inequality and imbalances derived from a bitter history of apartheid. Moreover, land reform is also capable of developing the rural people and in addition, alleviating extreme poverty in the rural areas of South Africa. If properly harnessed and executed, land reform in the country can lead to meeting the requirement of the National Development Plan goals of creating close to a million jobs in the agricultural sector and in addition, building a strong and stable rural community. It is thus pivotal that all the important stakeholders (commercial farmers, small-scale farmers, government and community) come to the party as a united front to discuss and find lasting solutions for the current problems facing land reform in the country. It is also evident that the bulk of scholars working in the agricultural field mostly focus on the land reform projects that are unsuccessful, with no reference to those land reform projects that are normally successful. This led to many believing that land reform in the country is a failure and that government is wasting a lot of money and resources on these particular unsuccessful land reform projects. Surprisingly there is a bulk of literature suggesting the existence of many successful land reform projects in South Africa. The following chapter will touch on the main characteristics and principles underlining the sustainable livelihood approach.

## CHAPTER 3: THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

### *3.1 Introduction*

The main aim of the land reform programme in South Africa is to improve the lives of people, specifically those living in the rural areas of the country. The land reform programme is designed to enhance the lives of the people and to combat poverty amongst the rural people of South Africa. In a research project of this nature the question to be raised is which type of approach is needed in exploring the impact on the livelihoods of the beneficiaries of such a land reform programme.

The challenge to measure the outcome of such an analysis can be overcome through active community participation. Moreover, by involving the community to plan their own destiny it is possible to reach an outcome that is not only perceived positively by the particular community, but that will also enhance their daily lives. Kotzé and Swanepoel (1983:2) also emphasize that local people have the right and responsibility to set their own development objectives and decisions. When initiating projects, it is important to note that the community is the real stakeholder who dictates the designing of the objectives of such a project (Swanepoel and De Beer, 2006:45).

People are more committed to a specific development project when there are aspects in that project that bind them together. Development efforts that include cultural aspects appeal to people's place and identity and also encourage constructive participation in that particular community (Brennan et al, 2005:1; Bloemers et al, 2010:457; UNRISD, 1996:2). Kotzé and Swanepoel (1983:6) concur with them when referring to a community that combine their development efforts by means of a self-identified need.

The sustainable livelihoods approach considers participation as pivotal in reaching the desired development outcomes and also supplies us with an excellent framework that can easily analyse the extent of the livelihoods of poor people. One of the core principles of the land reform programme in South Africa is to improve the lives of the poor in the rural areas. In order to analyse the influence of the land reform programme on the livelihoods of beneficiaries, the question arises: which framework is best suited for executing the analyses? The SLA proves to be the most suitable framework to make such analyses. This chapter will allude to the sustainable livelihoods approach in order to explain the approach and its major principles. Furthermore, this research will also touch on the current academic debate surrounding the approach, elaborate on the criticism against the approach and conclude the chapter by looking at the application of the approach on the Bergland Development Trust (BDT) land reform project in Porterville.

### *3.2 The Sustainable Livelihoods Approach*

The definition of sustainable Livelihoods approach (SLA) put forward by the Institute of Development Studies (IDS) is used by various scholars (e.g. Knutsson, 2006:90; Scoones, 1998:4; Cahn, 2006:18 and Solesbury, 2003:5). The sustainable livelihoods approach (SLA) which is propagated by Chambers and Conway entails the following:



*... capabilities, assets (stores, resources, claims and access) and activities required for a means of living: a livelihood is sustainable which can cope with and recover from stress and shocks, maintain or enhance its capabilities and assets, and provide sustainable livelihood opportunities for the next generation and which contributes net benefits to other livelihoods at the local and global levels in the long and short term (Chambers and Conway, 1991:6).*

Chambers and Conway's definition of the SLA has been widely adopted with minor differences, by many scholars in this particular field of study. For example, according to Ian Scoones:

*A livelihood comprises the capabilities, assets (including both material and social resources) and activities required for a means of living. A livelihood is sustainable when it can cope with and recover from stresses and shocks, maintain or enhance its capabilities and assets, while not undermining the natural resource base (Scoones, 1998:4).*

The main aim of the SLA is to provide a better understanding of what poor people's livelihoods entail, touch on the dimensions that govern them (e.g. the establishment of sound policies and institutional setting) and which will enhance the livelihoods of the poor. More specifically, it focuses on the strengths of the poor which in turn creates opportunities which will improve their livelihoods (Farrington et al, 1999; DFID, 2000; Solesbury, 2003; Kébé and Muir, undated).

Allison and Horemans (2006) emphasised the following core principles of the sustainable livelihood approach: The approach is viewed as people centered in the sense that it learns more about people themselves and is more specific about their social and economic practices. It is also inclusive in its operation because it is applying management and development options that is not bias, but incorporates every problem or people no matter the type of problem. The approach strives to improve implementation of ventures through improved execution of governmental policies. There is also a participation in the management of partnerships where people are empowered to take part in the management of the project.

The poor become the main stakeholder and having the opportunity to act swiftly when the vulnerability of the project is evident. Using the strengths of the poor, Allison and Horemans (2006:758) state that there is a need to build on the existing strengths of people by using their existing capabilities to solve the challenges in their communities and they view sustainability in a holistic manner so that economic, institutional, social and environmental dimensions are integrated in the Sustainable Livelihood Approach.

Krantz (2001:10,11) also discovered three aspects which explain the link between the sustainable livelihoods approach and poverty reduction. Firstly, although economic growth is key to poverty reduction, there is no automatic link between economic growth and reducing poverty as it depends on the poor to use existing economic opportunities to their advantage. Secondly, the understanding that poverty entails low income, bad health, and other aspects like illiteracy, lack of basic services, vulnerably and a sense of powerlessness. In addition, the discovery of the

different dimensions of poverty led to the realization that improvements in one specific dimension have a positive influence on other dimensions. Thirdly, due to the fact that the poor understand their situation and needs the best, they should be part of the designing of policies and projects intended to improve their lives.

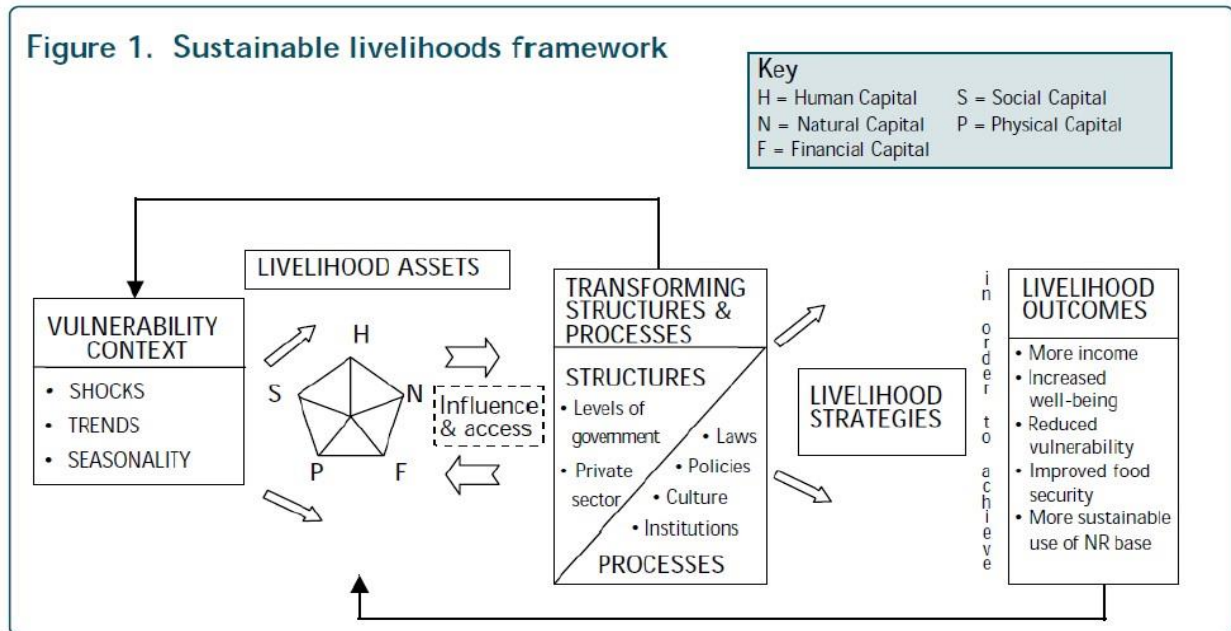
The sustainable livelihoods approach focuses on the way people make a living. It also refers to the way people approach risk, handle stresses and adapt to immediate fluctuations in their livelihoods. Moreover, the SLA understands the livelihoods of the rural poor by focusing on the major factors that influence the poor people's livelihoods and the links between them. The SLA is concerned with various ways in which people in different contexts make a living and draw on resources (e.g. property, time, skills) to realise that living (Cahn, 2006:16). Murray (2001:6) noted that the SLA recognises different influences, actors, and institutions in achieving outcomes.

One of the important functions of the sustainable livelihoods approach is to plan new projects and analyse the impact of existing projects on the livelihoods of a particular community. The core principles and broader framework are pivotal to the operation of the sustainable livelihoods approach. Moreover, these particular principles and framework are adaptable to any situation that may occur, and are also the driving force in combating poverty in communities. The sustainable livelihoods approach supports project participants to familiarise themselves with the various dimensions of poverty in communities.

### ***3.3 Main Elements of the Sustainable Livelihoods Approach***

Within the broader sustainable livelihoods framework (SLF) five key elements can be distinguished, namely: context, livelihoods resources, livelihoods strategies, outcomes and institutional processes (Scoones 1998:3). For a better understanding of these important elements of the sustainable livelihoods framework (SLF) and also the interrelationship of the different elements see Figure 3 below.

**Figure 3:** Sustainable Livelihoods Framework (SLF)



**Figure 1.** From DFID, 2000 p. 1 section 2.

Within the SLA, the question arises which analysis of the sustainable livelihoods approach will determine the combating of poverty in a particular community. Farrington et al (1999) put the framework into context:

*The assumption is that people pursue a range of livelihoods outcomes (health, income reduced vulnerability, etc.) by drawing on a range of assets to pursue a variety of activities. The activities they adopt and the way they reinvest in asset-building are driven in part by their own preferences and priorities. However, they are also influenced by the types of vulnerability including shocks (such as drought), overall trends (in, for instance, resource stocks) and seasonal variations. Options are also determined by the structures (such as the roles of government or of the private sector) and processes (such as institutional, policy and cultural factors) which people face. (Farrington et al, 1999:3).*

The elements of the sustainable livelihood approach will be discussed in order to provide insight into each element and their impact on and relationship with the livelihoods.

### 3.3.1 Vulnerability Context

The livelihood of people and their access to and control over these resources can be influenced by factors beyond their control. These factors are not normally viewed negatively; it can also have a positive impact on the livelihoods of the particular community. The vulnerability context refers to the external environment in which people experience and live their daily lives. This external environment also includes the impact on the lives and assets of the people in the particular community. The external environment entails trends in population growth (births,

deaths and people moving in and out of a particular community), shocks (for, e.g. diseases, earthquakes, economic growth and economic meltdowns) and seasonality (e.g. fluctuations in employment opportunities due to variations in seasons). Moreover, people have inadequate capabilities and capacities to attend effectively to these harmfully external environment challenges (Cahn, 2006; DFID, 1999:3,4; Kollmair and Gamper, 2002). Many communities in rural areas are pursuing their livelihoods in a context of vulnerability. This particular context includes shocks such as natural disasters, conflicts, health problems and seasonal constraints (Chileshe, 2005:73). The Bergland Development Trust (BDT) is also operating in an area where seasonal constraints are part of the daily lives of the people of Porterville. For the first six months of the year, many people of the town of Porterville are employed on grape farms, while for the second half of the year many are unemployed. The wheat farms also experience fluctuations in prices and a low rainfall during the winter months.

### 3.3.2 Livelihoods Resources

Access to resources or assets is pivotal to people to pursue a specific livelihood in their particular households. It is important to explore and analyse the resources that will be utilised by the community, which include tangible and intangible resources. These resources are also referred to as ‘capitals’ depending on the context in which they are being used. Capitals are normally the vehicle to provide the resources in order to create livelihoods. The sustainable livelihoods framework distinguishes five types of capitals for pursuing livelihoods.

**Natural capital** entails natural resources coming from land, water, wildlife, etc. and services (nutrient cycling, erosion protection) which are important for obtaining a livelihood. There is also a close relationship between natural capital and the vulnerability context, because the shocks destroy the natural capital. **Social capital** refers to networks (vertical: patron/client) and individuals which result in an increase in people’s trust, working relations and expand access to wider institutions. In addition, **Human capital** involve people who possesses certain skills and knowledge and other aspects like access to labour and good health which are essential to create a livelihood in their particular households.

**Physical capital** refers to the infrastructure (transport, shelter, etc.) and production equipment that are pivotal to people constructing a livelihood. People normally need a house to stay in and transport to take them to the place where the labour is supposed to be performed in order to pursue a livelihood. **Financial capital** entails the financial resources like savings at commercial banks, utilising credit or pensions which are available to people and that provide people with a variety of livelihoods options. Financial capital can increase consumption and production.

Other forms of capitals that have been identified include **Political capital** that points to the elements that are already visible in policies, institutions and processes, and are viewed as capital assets in the same way as human capital, natural capital, financial capital, and physical capital. Political capital gives people access to structures of power (e.g. policies and institutions, and processes).

**Information capital** refers to capital which is normally used in the lobbying for legislation that enhances people's livelihoods. When people are familiar with certain legislation they can easily compete for a livelihood (Ahmed et al, 2011:811; Kollmair and Gamper, 2002: 6,7; Kebé and Muir, undated: 8; Krantz, 2001:9; Baumann, 2000:20; Odero, undated: 9).

Finally, **Cultural capital** is also part of the SLA and exists in three forms, namely the Embodied State, the Objectified State and the Institutionalized State. The Embodied State implies that the properties of Cultural Capital can be linked to the body and presupposed a certain incorporation. Furthermore, the Embodied State points to the labour (cost, time) which must be personally invested by the person himself. The Objectified State entails the notion that cultural capital had various properties which are solely understood within relationships with cultural capital in its incorporation form. In this case cultural capital exists in material objects and media (writings, paintings, etc.). This implies that writings and paintings can be exchanged for money and in this case links it with economic capital. Institutionalized State refers to an institution that empowers students with degrees which in turn implies that that particular student owns the degree in a legal manner. This very same degree can be exchanged for money or persons receiving the degrees can even be compared with each other and can even be substituted by other people (Bourdieu, 1986:246,247,248).

Bebbington (1999:2034) noted that residence is associated with the maintenance of certain cultural practices that supports them and is meaningful to them. In addition, these cultural capitals make forms of action and resistance possible which is not possible in the case of the remaining capitals. Due to the fact that cultural practices empower it, it is therefore also a source of power.

Assets are important in building livelihoods. However, Bebbington (1999:2022) states that assets should not be viewed narrowly, but should rather be viewed through the multi-dimensional meanings and understandings that people ascribe to them:

*A person's assets such as land, are not merely means of which he or she makes a living: they also give meaning to that person's world. Assets are not simply resources that people use in building livelihoods: they are assets that give them the capability to be and to act. Assets should not be understood only as things that allow survival adaptation and poverty eradication: they are also the basis of agents' power to act and to reproduce, challenge or change the rules that govern the control of used and transformation of resources.*

It is evident from the SLA that people can have the ability to adopt different livelihood strategies in order to establish a livelihood. This research will further focus on what way these assets impact on the Bergland Development Trust (BDT).

### **3.3.3 Livelihoods strategies**

According to Chileshe (2005:76) livelihoods strategies are the manner in which people combine and use assets to meet their goals or to gain a decent living and moreover, to deal with stress.

Frankenberger (undated:152) states that livelihood strategies are also viewed as: "... (a) holistic diagnosis (that) attempts to identify the various strategies people use to make a living and how to cope with stress" Livelihood strategies refer to activities that families and individuals use in order to gain a living. These particular activities normally entail different activities or are dependent on a single activity. The key livelihood activity can also change and adapt to threats or with seasonal variations or when resources and opportunities become available, just like people change their objectives as their capabilities change over time. (Roche, 2007:11; DFID, 2000; Cahn, 2006:26).

The three main clusters of livelihood strategies include agricultural intensification/extensification (using natural resources for agriculture as a livelihood strategy either by intensifying resource use or bringing more land into use), livelihood diversification (people develop a wide income portfolio, temporarily or permanently) either to cope with adverse conditions or accumulation or reinvestment) and migration for income generation and also to generate remittances (Scoones, 1998:9). These livelihood strategies are used in conjunction with each other and complement each other in a certain sense (Hussein and Nelson, undated: 4). According to Allison and Horemans, (2006) the consumption choices of human beings could also be viewed as strategies which include the sale of particular assets of people during times of crises (Allison and Horemans, 2006:759).

It is important for humanitarian and development agencies to further the promotion of diversity of choice and flexibility in gaining and maintaining a livelihood. It is pivotal for a livelihoods asset to be highly diversified in order to be resilient to shocks, trends and seasonality circumstances, within the vulnerability sphere (ATHA, undated). People normally combine their choices in order to pursue various livelihoods strategies over time. Competition between people plays an important part in pursuing a livelihood. They are always in competition with each other over food, jobs, good prices or markets. It is thus pivotal to enhance people's ability to make use of these existing opportunities. However there are people who have no access to these opportunities due to the immense competitive environment. It is thus important to create safety nets in order to provide a shelter for the people that have no access to existing opportunities (DFID, 2000).

This SLA explains the livelihood strategies in a clear and simple way and emphasises its inclusion in this type of research. It is therefore also important to investigate the type of livelihood strategy or combination of livelihoods strategies that the Bergland Development Trust (BDT) land reform project is pursuing in their farming and in what way it is influencing their operations in either a positive or negative way.

### **3.3.4 Outcomes**

Livelihoods outcomes refer to the achievements of the goals of livelihood strategies (Kolmair, and Gamper, 2002:9). Outcomes help to explain the outputs of the variety of factors within a livelihood and also the motives of stakeholders and their ultimate priorities. A brief description of the various livelihoods outcomes explains their interaction with one another within the livelihoods outcomes section of the framework:

Increased income refers to people's quest to attain improved livelihoods, people are always on the look out to increase their net income and, in doing so, also increase their overall income in order to gain a decent living. This particular income can be derived from on-farm linkages and off-farm linkages and also by means of wage labour system or subsistence farming. In addition, increased well-being points to material goods that are always a lucrative attraction to many people. Their well-being is influenced by a variety of factors like self-esteem, physical security of household members, sense of control and inclusion, health status, access to services, political enfranchisement, and maintenance of their cultural heritage (DFID, 2000).

Reduced vulnerability entails the fact that poor people's livelihood opportunities are to a certain extent vulnerable and unstable. When their livelihood basis are enhanced or increased to a level where it becomes a more stable environment for them to live a good life, their vulnerability is also reduced. Moreover, improved food security refer to a very important dimension of reducing the vulnerability of poor people. The reason why it is located as a separate livelihood outcome in the generic framework is to emphasise the value food and assisting governments and donor organisations whose focus are on food stability. Finally, more sustainable use of the natural resources base emphasised the importance to protect the natural resource base in order to keep, nurture and save it for future generations to come. It is always seen within the broader livelihood framework as a long-term investment.

People used livelihood assets in different combinations in order to pursue specific outcomes. In this way the SLA is a good example of an approach that fosters different outcomes with different strategies. This research will also look at the different assets with specific reference to which combinations of assets follow what combination of assets and if the desirable outcomes are reached or not (DFID, 2000; Cahn, 2006:26; Scoones, 1998:6).

### 3.3.5 Institutional Processes

Structures are the component of the framework that implements policy and legislation that influence a livelihood. Furthermore, structures deliver services, purchase, trade and carry out a variety of functions that affect a livelihood. On the other hand processes dictate the way in which structures and individuals operate and work together. What is also evident is that these processes overlap, are in conflict and are complex in nature. The core principles of processes entails policies, agreement and markets (DFID, 2000).

Salvestrin (2006:35) noted that policies, institutions and processes are key elements that form and transform livelihoods. Scoones (1998) also emphasise that: "*institutions are the social cement which link stakeholders to access capital of different kinds to the means of exercising power and so define the gateways through which they pass on the route to positive or negative (livelihood) adaptation*" (Scoones, 1998:12).

These structures and processes can enhance or prevent livelihood development of households, groups and the wider community. If a particular government of the day introduced good policies it will create employment and in turn access to assets, which will lead to better living conditions

for households, groups and the wider community (Ahmed et al, 2011:812). The SLA may be applied widely and may involve individual households, household clusters, extended kin groupings, villages, regions or even nations, with sustainable livelihood outcomes assessed at the different levels (Scoones, 1998:5). The value of certain assets is influenced by the policies and laws that surround them and the way in which they can be used (land and water are examples of this). The ability of one asset to be converted to another is also influenced by structures such as institutions and markets, and processes such as legal restrictions (Cahn, 2006:22; Chileshe, 2005:74). Bingen (2000) divided institutions into the following sections: Familial (cultural) institutions deriving from descent or kin based relationship and practices; Communal (community) grounded on trust and reciprocity; Social institutions, grounded on societal interest; Collective institutions, where relationships and practices are defined as contractual in nature; Policy/governance institutions grounded on juridical conditions and stipulations, policies, legislation and regulations (Bingen, 2000:123,124).

These categories of institutions influence people throughout their lives, and across space. It is pivotal to understand the importance of changes in familial relations and practice over time. Categories of institutions contain formal and informal relationships and practices (Bingen, 2000:123,124). This research looks at how institutional processes mediate the exploration of livelihoods or the change in livelihoods. Furthermore, it investigates how institutional power and politics are preventing the development of a livelihood system in the operation of the (BDT).

### ***3.4 Weaknesses of the SLA***

When applying the sustainable livelihoods approach to poverty alleviation, it raises a number of concerns. Krantz (2001) raises a few weaknesses of the SLA which entails the poor as subject pivotal prerequisite for targeting of interventions are absent, the powers of social structures within communities that influence access to livelihoods are invisible to strangers, does not pay much attention to gender issues, in particular, developments around women are left behind, the Ministry and donors can influence the planning process, so that the process can become biased in a sense and finally, restricting data collection to what is pivotal, and to partners institutions that curtails the necessary capacity (Krantz, 2001:26).

Other scholars also raise a few weaknesses of the SLA: A major concern when presenting a livelihood framework in a logical and simple way, is that it immediately opens the door for a loss in content and meaning, in particular when factors like culture and tradition play in (Cahn 2006:44). Ashley and Carney (1999:12) point out that it is risky and hard to persuade other sectors to buy in on this approach that it needs other tools for planning project activities and it gives little help with the prioritising of activities.

Scoones (2009:181,182) emphasised the recurring criticism about the sustainable livelihoods approach is that it ignores politics and power. He listed four main failures of the sustainable livelihoods approach. Firstly, he raised the failure of proper engagement with the process of economic globalisation where the attention on the economic aspects was not enough to make a sustainable impact on the livelihoods. Secondly, there is a lack of sufficient engagement with power and politics, resulting in a lack of linking government issues with livelihoods which



ultimately can have an immense impact on development. Thirdly, he points out the failure to deal with ever-changing climate conditions. Fourthly, it is evident that the sustainable livelihoods approach is more concerned with the present and under emphasises the future, and therefore fails to give sufficient attention to the long-term shifts in rural economies and the ever-changing agrarian environment. It is thus evident from the above-mentioned failures of the sustainable livelihoods approach that it should be more concerned with what the future holds and also to give sufficient attention to the impact of globalisation.

Murray (2001) noted the following weaknesses of the Sustainable Livelihoods Approach which entails features like mass redundancy; rapid inflation and extreme civil conflicts appeared to be much more important than what is actually being catered for. In addition, there exists also a lack of sufficient acknowledgement with regards to the inequality of power and conflicts of interest within a specific community or even between certain communities. Other weaknesses of the sustainable livelihoods approach entails the active involvement of donor agencies which can jeopardized the enhancement of livelihoods of one group over another group and finally, the notion that the word 'sustainable' provoke many unresolved questions like the type of criteria to follow and is it a long term or short term project (Murray, 2001:7).

Development agencies and donor agencies need to understand that livelihoods construction and adaptation are an immensely difficult process that needs to consider institutional process and organisational structures which generally keep the different factors together.

### ***3.5 Strengths of the Sustainable Livelihoods Approach***

Ashley and Carney (1999:49) noted the following strengths of the SLA which entails the valuation of the institutional assessment and provides options for possible project implementation. The focus is on people, not on resources and the needs of the poor can also being directly attend to and policies can be influenced. It also appeared that rural, urban linkages and migration are high on the agenda and in addition, there is a good relationship between the different perspectives and a clear planning of the information gathered previously. It also highlighted the various capitals enshrined by the framework are easily being used by other people and organisations.

According to Cahn (2006:36) the development and well-being of people is pivotal to this approach. The framework views poverty in a particular community in the way the poor relates to it, by exploring the livelihoods outcomes (tangible: food, money or intangible: increase choices, improve status) of the poor. Moreover, it focuses on the underlying causes of poverty by identifying the different factors at the various levels that hampered poor people's access to their immediate livelihoods. The SLA is also concerned with the way in which people shape their own livelihoods in response to a certain vulnerability context. The SLA is also a useful approach which is extremely involved with both the problem and scope in enhancing sustainable development at community level. The SLA is also suitable for evaluating the socio-economic impact of poverty alleviation programmes (Krantz, 2001:22).

The SLA intends to give a multi-dimensional analysis of a community and its household units, resulting in the application of resources where these are needed. This approach urges people to

take responsibility for the planning of their own economic and social development and their own future. One of the main principles of the SLA is that it values partnerships. The SLA can be viewed as a tool which measures the strengths and opportunities of a particular community through a process, steered by the very own community. The SLA relies on the knowledge and expertise of the community to define their existing assets pool and to capitalise on these existing strengths and capabilities of the community. The SLA involves the discovery of the vulnerability factors which result in creating appropriate mechanisms which in turn, provide protection for the community against possible shocks and threats.

An analysis of the vulnerability context is pivotal because it lays the platform for the sustainability of the community and the initiation of appropriate strategies combating these vulnerability factors, resulting in positive outcomes.

The SLA can be used as a tool and therefore can be implemented in different ways, which in turn leads to positive outcomes in a community (Franks et al, 2004:1). The SLA is generally used for influencing policies at institutional level and assists with the implementation of projects in communities. It is also used as a tool for analysing and identifying development goals and in the application of a livelihood within a particular community. The SLA is also pivotal in the evaluation and mentoring of a particular community project.

### ***3.6 Applying the Sustainable Livelihoods Approach***

The sustainable livelihoods approach attempts to broaden the understanding of poverty and to improve the daily lives of poor people. It is the understanding of how a combination of livelihoods activities, assets and entitlements can provide the platform for productive and sustainable livelihoods acceleration. The main aim of the sustainable livelihoods framework is while pursuing the development goal, to give valuable insight into the vulnerability context, assets, activities, structures and processes of a particular community (Franks, et al, 2004:1).

The framework encourages the debate about a variety of factors influencing a livelihood, the combination of the different factors and the pivotal role they play within a particular community. The sustainable livelihoods framework draws on the insights of all the role-players within a particular setting and is mainly concerned with the assets people access, to provide a livelihood. Due to the differentiation of the livelihoods, the framework does not rely on a specific definition of poverty or sustainable livelihoods.

One of the main objectives of the sustainable livelihoods framework is to structure the different units that improve or hamper livelihood acceleration. The framework also intends to indicate how the different factors operating within the sustainable livelihoods framework relate to each other or interact with each other. The sustainable livelihoods framework also decides which poverty reduction strategy should be best to improve the livelihoods of the poor in a sustainable manner. The development agenda of a particular community must be driven by a clear focus on the needs of the people. It should be concentrated on the influences of culture, politics and powers and how it affects the perception of livelihoods. It is pivotal that the poverty-stricken people of a particular community unveil their own livelihoods, because they themselves know what is important for them. Community developers and donors who provide funding for

community development projects should remember that the people of a particular community are planning their own destiny, and do not allow others to force their development agenda on them. It is pivotal that the poor need to participate in the discovery of their livelihoods resources (Kotzé and Swanepoel, 1983:43).

The sustainable livelihoods framework is viewed as an immense people-centred framework which is extremely concerned with improving the daily lives of the poor (Ahmed, et al, 2011:811; Murray, 2001:6; DFID, 2000). The inputs of the poor themselves and their ultimate participation in their own future planning take centre stage in this particular framework. When people are allowed to draw their own plan of the future, there is obviously a better understanding of the priorities, values and cultural aspects of that particular community. The inclusion of the poor in the development process provides information about the social norms, power and politics that affect access to assets and which livelihoods strategy to pursue (Baumann, 2000:38,39). The poor themselves need to alter their livelihoods in such a way that they sustain a living, because they are in the best position to know what is best for them.

Participatory methods intend to empower people of the community to create their own future to make a living. When local people are included in the planning of their own destiny, they tend to assist in gathering and analysing valuable information, deciding which action and implementation is appropriate to sustain a livelihood. This particular exercise empowers the poor of the community with valuable insights for planning future endeavours themselves without the help of the outsiders (Scoones, 2009:183,184; Farrington, et al, 1999:2; Brett, 1996:5,6; Swanepoel and De Beer, 2006:45,46).

### ***3.7 The Recent Debate on the Sustainable Livelihoods Approach***

The Sustainable Livelihoods Approach entails the notion that there is complexity in the manner people create a living and that development approaches need to put people first and stimulate continuous learning in communities. Moreover, the SLA should build on the capitals, vulnerability context and coping strategies and seek to link it with the framework at large (Patnaik and Prasad, 2014:355). This massive shift from macroeconomic development to the development of the poor was mainly initiated by Robert Chambers when stressing the notion that the poor needs to express their own realities (Chambers, 2004:8).

One of the main features of the framework is that it is immensely flexible and is therefore open to the influences of other factors operating within the framework and the different development approaches. This highly distinctive feature of the SLA led to various development organisations embracing the framework as a valuable tool for enhancing the development of the poor. According to Patnaik and Prasad, (2014:355) the Department for International Development (DFID) was one of the leading development organisations that promote the SLA as a valuable tool to alleviate poverty in poverty-stricken communities across the world. Kollmair and Gamper (2002:9) also value the flexibility of the framework as an important strength which can be easily adapted to any diverse circumstances or settings. Murray, (2001) also listed a few additional strengths of the SLA that added immense value to its usefulness as a framework that puts the poor first.

Murray listed the following strengths of the SLA which seeks to understand changing combinations of modes of livelihoods in a dynamic and historical context, and explicitly advocates a creative tension between different levels of analysis. It also acknowledges the need to transcend the boundaries between conventionally discrete sectors and furthermore, implicitly recognises the necessity to investigate the relationship between different activities that constitute household livelihoods which in turn requires attention both to intra-household to extra-household social relations (Murray, 2001:7).

### ***3.8 Chapter Summary***

The SLA is viewed as a holistic approach that can be utilised for a number of development approaches and can be applied at policy level and project level. The SLA entails the process whereby the circumstances of the poor are evaluated and monitored in their own natural settings. The core objective and strength of the framework is intended to give the poor a voice to speak and to attend to their disadvantaged situation (restoring human dignity and poverty alleviation).

Evident from the SLA is that it is not a structured set of rules, governing the framework, but rather depends on the factors operating within that context. The SLA entails the 5 important aspects underlying the framework (e.g. vulnerability context, livelihoods assets, transforming structures/processes, livelihood strategies and livelihood outcomes). Other important aspects influencing the framework are power and politics, silence and culture. Development agencies and donor agencies should take these issues into consideration when starting and financing community projects.

This study aims to provide answers to the following questions: How does the above information translate to practice in terms of the case study area? What livelihood resources and strategies are currently being used by the Bergland Development Trust (BDT) to reach their outcomes successfully? What were the institutional processes that mediated the ability to carry out the identified strategies and achieve successful outcomes? How do the livelihood resources and strategies impact on the performance of the Bergland Development Trust? What were the challenges the Bergland Development Trust had to overcome to reach their desired outcomes?

## **CHAPTER 4: RESEARCH DESIGN AND METHODOLOGY**

### ***4.1 Introduction***

This section will cover the research design and methodology and in addition, give an account of the type of research sample, profile of population and particular method employed for data collection and analysis of study. This chapter will conclude with the ethical considerations for this research and reliability and validity of the research methods employed.

### ***4.2 Research Design***

The application of scientific research is intended to get to the bottom of a particular problem in order “to construct a rich and meaningful picture of a complex, multifaceted situation” (Leedy and Ormrod, 2005:133). Babbie and Mouton (2001:74) noted that “a research design is a plan or blueprint of how you intend conducting the research”. It is an approach to get the best and most valid results for the issue being investigated. The research design can be seen as a framework that seeks to ensure that the research questions are answered and the aim of the research is achieved. To this end, Singh (2006:77) states that the research design basically comprises of the objectives, the sampling techniques, as well as the research strategy for collecting and analysing the data and reporting the findings.

### ***4.3 Research Methodology***

Research methodology is defined as an organized means for solving a research problem and deals with how the research should be carried out from the point of identifying the problem to its conclusion (Rajaseker et al, 2006:2; Singh, 2006). The social sciences have historically been dominated by distinct quantitative and qualitative research approaches, however, in recent decades mixed methods research has been accepted as a more widely used approach to conduct research (Creswell, 2003). Mixed methods arose as a means through which to draw on distinct strengths of both qualitative and quantitative research so as to facilitate a broader understanding of a research problem. This study utilised a mixed method approach, although it needs to state up front that the quantitative component of this study used very basic descriptive statistics.

Qualitative research methodology enables the researcher to collect data in a narrative rather than a numeric format, thus understanding an issue from the stand point of research participants and thereby gain deeper insights into the issue/s being studied (Babbie and Mouton, 2007). This approach permits the researcher to interact with participants in their natural setting and understand research issues in terms of the meaning that people ascribe to them. The qualitative researcher collects data for the purpose of developing themes from the data (Creswell, 2003). Qualitative research generates rich descriptions of participant's feelings and opinions and experiences on the issues being researched (Neuman, 2003). The qualitative data collected in this research was invaluable in examining what the participants of the Bergland Development Trust thought of the benefits of the land reform process, especially as it related to the farmworker-farm owner share-equity scheme, as well as what impact it has on their livelihoods.

By contrast, quantitative research entails the gathering of numeric data that can be quantified and tested. Rather than asking why and how, quantitative research is more concerned with finding out how many, how much and to what extent via a process of quantification (Rahman, 2017:105). Quantitative research generates quantifiable data which can be presented in the form of graphs and tables. Finally, unlike qualitative research, quantitative data can be generalised and takes less time since statistical software such as SPSS and STATA can be used to analyse the data.

#### ***4.4 Case Study Method***

This research makes use of a case study approach. Case study research highlights the “detailed contextual analysis of a limited number of events or conditions and their relationship” (Soy, 1997:1). A case study approach can show the distinctiveness and commonalities in the experiences of research participants such as those in a land reform project such as the BDT project. A case study provides a holistic picture and detailed insight of a social phenomenon rather than numerical analysis of data, (Babbie, 2010) which allows the researcher to gain a broader picture of research participants experiences, attitudes and behaviour on particular issues and/or events. However, case study research also reveals a major weakness when studying a single case as it is difficult to generalise it to other situations; in addition, one of its criticisms is that it lacks robustness as a research tool (Leedy and Ormrod, 2005:135; Denzin and Lincoln, 2000:438; De Vos et al, 2005:272; Zainal, 2007:2). In spite of these shortcomings, the case study approach is widely used since it can offer insights that other approaches might not.

#### ***4.5 Sampling***

A sample refers to a sub-group of people from a larger population from which the researcher can obtain data (Babbie and Mouton, 2007). There are two types of sampling methods: probability and non-probability sampling. Probability or random sampling is used in quantitative research and provides every member of the population an equal chance of being selected. Non-probability sampling is used in qualitative research and uses particular criteria for selecting a sample which means that not everyone will have an equal chance of being selected (Kumar, 2011).

For the qualitative part of this study, purposive or judgemental sampling was used. In purposive sampling the researcher deliberately makes a judgement in selecting individuals based upon a set of criteria such as deep knowledge of a particular issue and has a willingness to participate in a study (Jupp, 2006). This research deliberately or purposefully selected particular members of the Bergland Development Trust (e.g. members of the Board of Trustees) or of the Department of Agriculture because they provided different types of information that was important to the study. More specifically, semi-structured interviews were conducted with four members of the Board of Trustees, and one representative of the Department of Agriculture. My random sampling in this case was 37 participants out of a total of 56 beneficiaries of the BDT project.

For the quantitative component of the research, questionnaires were randomly administered to 37 members of the Bergland Development Trust. The researcher then purposefully administered questionnaires to 4 members of the Board of Trustees, 3 members of the Management Group (including the original owner of the farm), and one official from the Department of Agriculture because they all had specific information that the ordinary members did not.

## 4.6 Data Collection

In order to ensure the data collected is valid and reliable, various methods of gathering data was used, like studying documentation, conducting semi-structured interviews (with a management group and an individual participant), administering questionnaires (with individual participants, board of trustees, and management), and another semi-structured interview with the representative of the Department of Agriculture.<sup>1</sup> This research was conducted during December 2015 and January 2016. This particular research coincides with Hox and Boeije (2005) and Cresswell (2003) who stated that social scientists use different strategies of data collection that normally suits the research question.

### 4.6.1 Document Study

Documentary evidence includes secondary documents such as speeches, media reports, diaries, newspapers, social surveys and magazines. Although this sort of documentary evidence is normally marginalised, this is very good evidence. The information provided by the Board of Trustees and Management Group contains the organogram of the management structure of the organisation, a brief overview of its origin and articles in magazines about the organisation (Kelly, 2011:55; Mogalakwe, 2006:221; Wesley, 2010:1; Wagner, 2004:221). The aforementioned documents also support the verification of the data collected during the interviews with the Board of Trustees, Management Group, and representative of the Department of Agriculture, and interviews and questionnaires with individual participants of the Bergland Development Trust.

### 4.6.2 Semi-structured Interviews

Babbie and Mouton (2001:289) describe an interview as an open conversation where the study participant has the chance to speak for him or herself. The personal view of the participant is experienced in a face-to-face relationship (Babbie and Mouton, 2001). Interviews can help to create a lot of information, like facts, feelings of people and also a glimpse of people's present and past behaviour (Leedy and Ormrod, 2005:146).

In order to make engagement between researcher and participant more convenient, the data collection was done through semi-structured interviews. This provided the participants in the case study area with a comfortable face-to-face conversation, and in turn, benefited the researcher who could dictate the flow of questions and duration of the interview at hand. Interviews were conducted with the Management Group and with the Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees consists of 4 people, of which the researcher interviewed 4 members. The

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<sup>1</sup> See Appendix D for the interview with the management group, Board of Trustees, and the interview with the representative of the Department of Agriculture. Also see Appendix D for the questionnaires for individual participants.

interviews with both the Board of Trustees and Management Group took place prior to the interviews and questionnaires with the other beneficiaries of the Bergland Development Trust. The researcher was also able to interview one male representative of the Department of Agriculture.

#### **4.6.3 Questionnaires**

Babbie and Mouton (2001:233) argue that a questionnaire is a set of questions asked by the researcher in order to gather data for analysis and interpretation of the captured information. This can be completed in two ways: a) where the researcher is present when asking the questions and b) where the researcher is absent when asking and answering the questions on a given list of questions. This research made use of questionnaire schedules which enabled the researcher to obtain valuable information about the overall situation of the Bergland Development Trust in Porterville. The questionnaires enable the researcher to engage with a large group of people very quickly and easily (Eaden et al, 1999:397).

The researcher administered questionnaires with the following people: 4 members of the Board of Trustees (2 male and 2 female); 3 members of the Management Group (2 male and 1 female), which included the original owner (male) of the farm, who is also a beneficiary of the project; 37 members (12 male and 25 female) of the Bergland Development Trust and one representative (male) of the Department of Agriculture (DoA). These people are important for the research process because they are key to gathering the important data necessary for conducting and completing the research paper. Recruitment for the individual questionnaire sessions was done via handouts with detailed information of the study objectives and participation requirements, which were distributed among potential respondents. Both the English and Afrikaans versions of the questionnaires were available to the respondents.<sup>2</sup>

#### **4.6.4 Focus Group Discussions (FGDs)**

The research was conducted while the beneficiaries were busy harvesting Protea flowers and 'Pin-cushion' flowers, one of the busiest times of the year for the business. At the start of the research it was difficult to secure time with the beneficiaries for the Focus Group Discussion, but with the support of management and members of the Board of Trustees, it was possible to conduct the study without any disruptions. Many of the beneficiaries discovered their business was valuable to them and were encouraged to open up and speak about their dreams for their project. Another benefit of the research was that they started to participate freely. This also coincides with the views of Gaižauskaitė (2012:21) and Bhattacharjee, (2012:78) that Focus Group discussion promotes different opinions, experiences and attitudes and opens up new ideas that they did not think of before and which should not be possible in the case of an individual interview.

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<sup>2</sup> See Appendices D (English) and E (Afrikaans) for the Interviews with Management (BDT), Board of Trustees (BDT) and Representative of the Department of Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF). Also, see Appendices F (English), G (Afrikaans) and H (English) for the questionnaires with individual participants.



Focus Groups encourage discussion and interaction between participants surrounding issues of common interest and moreover, they promote an understanding about the issues under discussion (Gaižauskaitė, 2012:21). This particular scenario was also evident during the Focus Group sessions with beneficiaries of the Bergland Development Trust, where themes were discovered in one group and later clarified in another group which in turn benefited the study. The researcher conducted the focus group in the storage room of the farm. Two Focus Groups were consulted, one with the Management Board (1 Female, P36, Lenique and two Male, P21, Koos and P16, Daniel) and the other with the Board of Trustees (two Female, P4, Janine and P35, Meralyn and two Male, P27, Darrell and P29, Saul ). This was done via a purposive sampling method.

#### **4.7 Data Analysis**

De Vos et al (2005:333) noted that “data analysis is also the process of bringing order, structure and meaning to the mass of collected data”. After previously collecting the data, the researcher starts analysing, summarising and organising the data in such a way that it gives meaning to the research question. This researcher used the qualitative data analysis method to analyse the data obtained from secondary sources and the interviews and questionnaire schedules with primary data sources. For the purpose of undertaking the data analysis, collected data was categorised into broad categories, which include the main factors impacting on the project, existing structures and facilities, the role of authorities, barriers that prevent the project from being successful and successful outcomes (Bhattacharjee, 2012:113).

In order to analyse the data thoroughly, a tape recorder was used to record the useful data and field notes were also employed. After the categorising of the collected data, the aim of the researcher was to arrive at a holistic understanding of the themes that dictate the research. Data presentation includes the use of text and tables (Leedy and Ormrod, 2005:143).

#### **4.8 Ethical Statement**

It is important for researchers to be cognisant of participants’ rights and well-being when conducting a study. Participants are adults who possess the necessary skills to assess for themselves whether or not they wish to participate in the study. Furthermore, participants were given the option to withdraw from the study at any time when they wished to do so. Obtaining the informed consent implies that all possible information on the goal of the research and the procedures that will be followed during the research, the possible advantages, disadvantages, and dangers to which participants may be exposed to, as well as the credibility of the researcher were communicated to the participants of the Bergland Development Trust (Strydom et al, 2002:65).

The participants were provided with accurate and complete information in the form of a consent form regarding the nature and objectives of the study which had enabled them to make voluntary decisions about participating in the study. The identities of the participants were not required whilst the research was in process. Participants were fully informed about their rights and they personally gave permission for audio recordings and photographs. In addition, consent was

provided by all the participants who took part in the research and their confidentiality was always ensured during the research.<sup>3</sup>

#### ***4.9 Role as Researcher***

The researcher of this study was constantly revisiting the credibility and liability of this research. This was done by thoroughly following the procedures (constantly reviewing interview and questionnaire documents, consent forms and information sheets) that were set out for conducting the study. In addition, the researcher was also on the lookout for the credibility and liability of documents consulted during the study. This coincides with Wagner (2004:7) and Wesley (2010:6) who also raise the question about trustworthiness and reliability when doing research. According to Wesley (2010:6), the researcher must be explicit in interpreting his collected data and also oblige of being verified by others.

During the research procedure the researcher was constantly aware of factors that could influence his mind and jeopardise his commitment to trustworthiness and liability which are so pivotal to the study. The researcher succeeded in concentrating and relying on the sole accounts of the participants of the Bergland Development Trust and documents received from the Management Group and Board of Trustees. The researcher was able to give a true and objective report on the experience of the participants of the Bergland Development Trust.

#### ***4.10 Chapter Summary***

This chapter discussed the design and methods employed in this particular study. In order to get a complete understanding of the experience and perceptions of the beneficiaries of the Bergland Development Trust and what their livelihoods entail, the qualitative research approach was used. The data collection was executed on the following grounds: documentary study, semi-structured interviews, questionnaires with the Board of Trustees, the Management Group (which included the owner of the farm who is also a beneficiary) and a representative of the Department of Agriculture. Lastly, the information collected was then transcribed, coded and unpacked in themes. The following chapter deals with the presentation of data and analysis of the collected data.

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<sup>3</sup>**Appendices B and A** respectively, give a full account of the consent form, the information sheet that was used to explain the research and provide details about the supervisor and the researcher of the study.

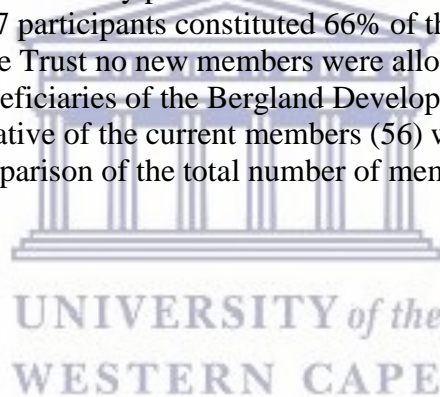
## CHAPTER 5: PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS OF DATA

### 5.1 Introduction

This chapter deals with the analysis and findings of the data that has been collected. “*Data analysis*”, according to De Vos et al. (2005:333), “*is the process of bringing order, structure and meaning to the mass of collected data*”. To this end, the data were organised into themes, concepts and commonalities which led to a constructive and holistic explanation and understanding of the data. When processing the data, the main aim was to explore the livelihood resources of the Bergland Development Trust, the livelihood strategies the Bergland Development Trust utilized, the successful outcomes of the Bergland Development Trust, institutional processes ensuring employment of strategies and achievement of outcomes and the challenges facing the Bergland Development Trust.

### 5.2 Representation of participants

The 37 participants (25 Female and 12 Male) who were interviewed form part of the total participants of 56 people that are currently part of the beneficiaries of the Bergland Development Trust Project. In addition, the 37 participants constituted 66% of the current members (56) of the Trust. Due to the structure of the Trust no new members were allowed to join the trust recently. However, the sample of the beneficiaries of the Bergland Development Trust who were interviewed are fairly representative of the current members (56) who joined the Trust in 2005. Table 1 below presents the comparison of the total number of members and the sample population who was studied.



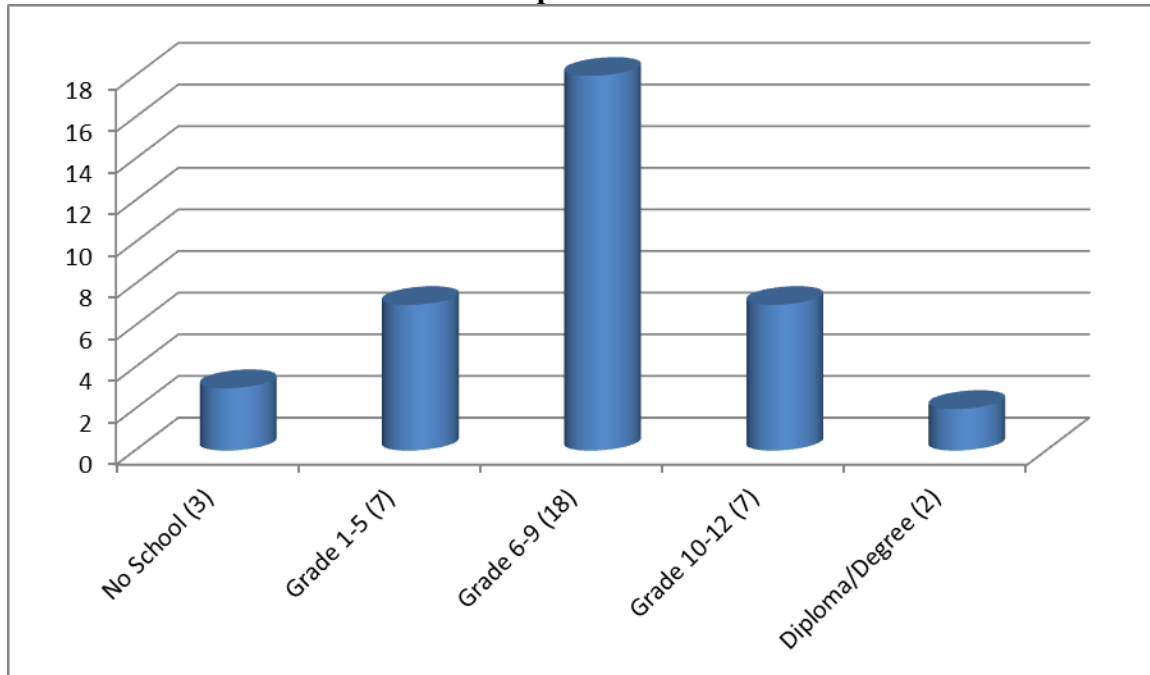
**Table 1: Population Sample**

Table 1						
Population Sample						
Total Members	Males	Females	Sample	Males	Female	Sample %
56 current members	21	35	37 members	12	25	66
No new members	0	0	0 New members	0	0	0
			Total 37 members	12	25	

The sample population indicated a large number of women (25), almost 68%, participating in the project in comparison with their male counterparts (12). Concerning the age representation, men varied between 33-76 years of age while women varied between 27-70 years of age. Furthermore the sample population also showed an overall representation of age variation between 27 and 76 years of age. The majority of the participants of the Bergland Development Trust (19) varied between the ages of 27 and 53.

The sample indicated that the majority of women (12) completed secondary school, while 6 men completed secondary school. As indicated in Figure 2 below, the majority of people are in the category from Grades 6 to 9 (18) or high school, followed by Grades 1-5 (7) or primary school and Grades 10-12 (7). Only three participants experienced no formal schooling, while two participants reported having a tertiary qualification. The overall educational level gives a fair representation of the educational level of the entire Bergland Development Trust.

**Table 2: Educational levels of sample**



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### 5.3 Data Collected

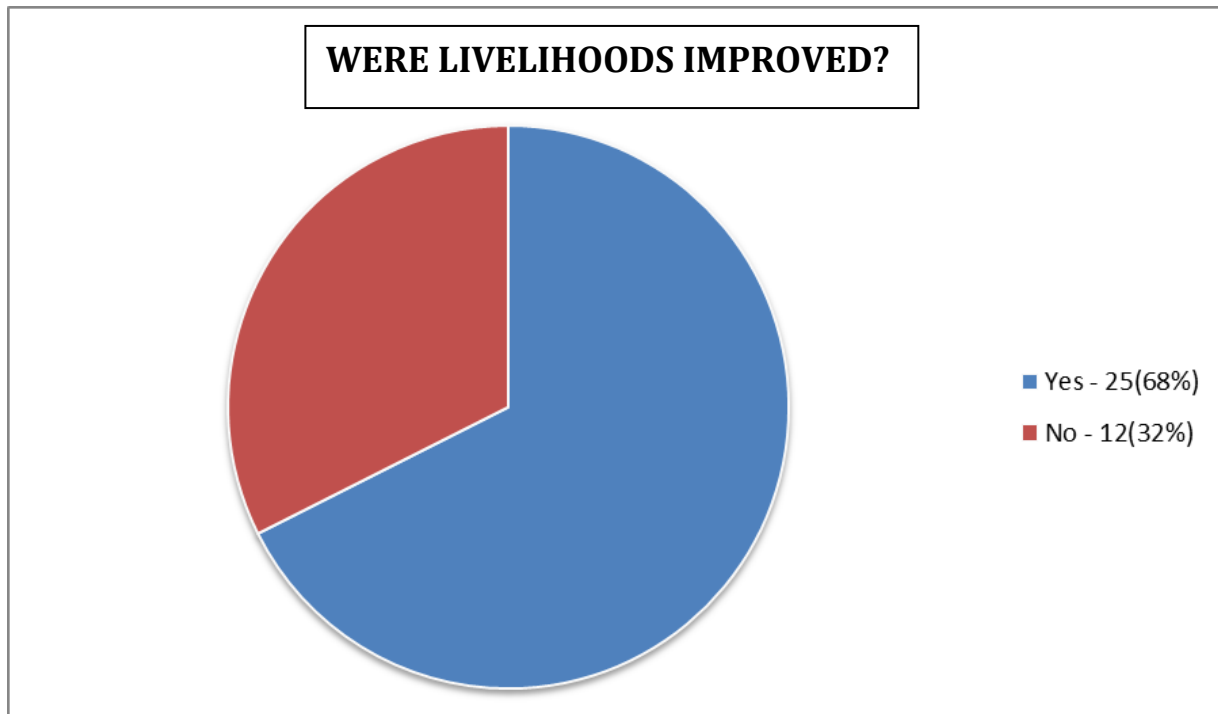
The data collected was divided into five categories:

- Improvements of livelihoods
- Strategies utilized
- Challenges
- Successful outcomes
- Lessons learnt

#### 5.3.1 Improvements of livelihoods

The majority of participants (25) of the Bergland Development Trust Project stated that the project had improved their daily lives (see Figure 3 below).

**Table 3: Were livelihoods improved?**



The following improvements experienced by the beneficiaries of the Bergland Development Trust varies from owning a well-developed farm/property with good infrastructure and the opportunity of growing the farm (owning assets of R3.2 million, roughly US\$260,000), obtaining skills, providing a better future for their children in order to take over from them, receiving dividends from time to time, from which they bought school gear, paid tuition fees, bought furniture (fridge, television set, microwave, etc), received transport to work and are shareholders in Proteus Logistics (Pty) Ltd. Other farmers on the mountain could now see that the so-called ‘Coloured’ farmers can farm successfully, have a good mentor, be a farm manager and are also be part of a sustainable project (100% of participants indicating the sustainability of the project). This particular study showed that the improvements experienced by participants speak to all eight (8) types of capital embodied in the Sustainable Livelihoods Approach (SLA), capital they did not possess before inclusion in the Bergland Development Trust Project.

All the beneficiaries (56) of the BDT received title deeds to the land which proved that they are the owners of the Mountain Dew farm which give them access to water resources (dams); recycling and land care techniques that increased their livelihoods substantially (natural capital). One of the beneficiaries (Female, P5, Sharon) made the following remark: *“It change my lifestyle because, I am an owner of land (Mountain Dew Farm).*

Workers are transported from the local township in Porterville to the Mountain Dew farm and some of the beneficiaries stay in houses that are in a good condition. In addition, the Department of Agriculture provided them with a well-equipped facility for the packaging of the flowers during harvest time, which increase their production and helps them to export more flowers and deliver it

on time on the European market. This particular endeavour did not only increase their livelihoods, but also manage their provision of flowers to the export market in a quick and sustainable manner (physical capital). One of the participants, Chris (Participant 24), referring to the Packaging store stated that *“The Department of Agriculture with funding deriving from GASP, built a well-equipped packaging store for the farm”*. The dividends that the beneficiaries received support them in buying cloths and furniture for themselves and their children and furthermore the packaging equipment helped them to improve their livelihoods (financial capital). Another beneficiary, Werny (Participant 23), said the following: *“We were fortunate to buy us a motor car, stove and a washing machine”*.

This particular joint venture with Berghoff farm provided them with a wonderful opportunity to gain valuable experience from the commercial farmer sector and in addition, being linked to governmental policies (DoA- CASP) that will ultimately enhance the life style of the beneficiaries of the BDT and also the entire small-scale farming sector. This particular insight in afore-mention governmental policies helps them to secure overseas markets and a packaging facility which helps them to increase their livelihoods (political capital). One of the beneficiaries (Female, P37, Gemma) put it very clear when referring to the land reform policy of the current Government: *“I think the land reform policy is good because it assists me in accessing land”*.

The beneficiaries of the BDT possess various skills concerning the agricultural sector which they utilise to the benefit of the Mountain Dew Farm. Most of these skills were obtain through various courses in the agricultural sector, mostly presented by the Department of Agriculture. These particular skills support farming in general and also increase the livelihoods of the beneficiaries of the BDT (human capital). The remark by Ronelda (Participant 25), surrounding their management team, was as follows: *“We have a very good management team who manage the project very well”*. Through their participation in the BDT, the beneficiaries discovered their strength and value as a team and the fact they are the owners of the Mountain Dew Farm. Furthermore, had their access to export markets and commercial farming sector, through the expertise of their mentor a formidable impact on their personal development and livelihoods (social capital). Jan (Participant 13) reflects on how financial capital had spread to the wider institutions: *“The BDT had donated money to the local Primary School to sponsor an overseas trip and a projector for the school and also sand for the building of a church for the local community”*. As beneficiaries of the BDT they access to governmental policies which led to the financing of farming equipment by the Department of Agriculture through the Comprehensive Agricultural Support Programme (CASP) and in addition, obtain valuable knowledge about financial production management as well as export markets through the help of their Mentor. One of the beneficiaries, Darrell (Participant 27), made this comment on the value the mentor added to the project: *“The project is successful, we own property, have a mentor, and farm with a product that is familiar to the beneficiaries”*.

On many occasions some of the beneficiaries of the BDT worked without payment on the Mountain Dew Farm to show their pride of owning a farm and to enhance the aims of the farm. There was another beneficiary (Female, P31, Brenda) that made a remark on the support of the beneficiaries to the project: *“The beneficiaries also help on the Mountain Dew farm without compensation (sweat capital) as part of their commitment to the project”*.

Some of the participants' highlight some of the improvements in their livelihoods. For example, one member (Male, P26, Peter) speaks to how participation in BDT has improved his life relatively to those of his parents and himself, stating that *"I am really privileged to be part of the project, something, my parents did not experience during their lifetime and I either experienced prior to the Bergland Development Trust Project."* Another (Female, P4 , Janine ) spoke to how the farm could improve the family's life in an inter-generational sense: *"My gain from the project is that one day my children will also gain from the farm when they take over from me as beneficiary."* Finally, another land reform beneficiary (Female, P8, Shirley) shows how the income derived from the farm has been utilised to purchases assets for the household: *"With the dividends I was able to buy a television set, television cupboard, couch and other furniture."*

Figure 4 below, shows the well-equipped packing store on the farm which they received from the Department of Agriculture through GASP. This particular packaging facility improve their production, enhance their export capability and make their farming business more sustainable.

**Figure 4: Packaging store on Mountain Dew Farm**



**Source:** Researcher

While the majority of participants saw improvements in their lives after gaining land through the land redistribution programme, some participants indicated that they experienced no visible improvements. Some listed the absence of visible proof of improvements in their lives, some of them were uncertain about their exact answer, while others blame a lack of diversification in the farming process and a lack of knowledge about the management of the project. For example, one participant (Female, P19, Mieta) raise the issue around the lack of information and participation: *"We do not know what is going on in the project. No one is informing us about new developments concerning the farm."* Leonard (Participant 10) highlights his concern with the focus on producing monocultures and called for increasing agriculture diversity and thereby diversify their

income stream: *“They can also plant other commodities like potatoes and apples that can increase the current income of the farm”*.

This study noticed a relation between the original expectation of the participants and the lack of visible improvements in their lives. In addition, the lack of diversification in order to enhance the income of the farm can be ascribed to their lack of knowledge about the direction or vision of the farm. Due to the lack of proper communication about new developments on the side of the Board of Trustees and Management, the participants experienced a lack of knowledge about the overall management of the farm. Those beneficiaries who experienced an improvement in their lives based their assumption on the fact that they experienced the gains of the farm in a physical manner (ownership of land/property, possession of furniture items and ability to buy clothes for themselves and their children).

The overwhelming majority of the participants suggested that the main objectives of establishing the Mountain Dew Farm have been achieved. Prior to the project, participants were not owners of agricultural land, had no additional income, lacked valuable skills in the agricultural sector, were not part of growing the farm, had no assets in excess of R3.2 million, but currently they experience all the afore-mentioned. However, those participants (male and female) who experienced no improvements in their lives, wanted the farm to grow bigger, needed more diversification in the farming process in order to increase income, demanded stronger communication from the Board of Trustees and Management Group on the vision of the farm, and want to farm separately from Berghoff Farm. As regards the lack of information and participation in the running of the farm, Neville (Participant 9), stated that:

*At the starting of the project, meetings took place on a regular base, because there were so many things to discuss. But after a range of meetings the topics on the agenda got less, and at the end there were not much to discuss. I am not sure when the beneficiaries meet.*

In an interview with the the management committee, one member of the management committee members, Koos (Participant 21), acknowledged the lack of consultation and agreed that there was a need for more meetings with project members: *“However, we as the Management Group meets every day. Although it is not formal, we speak to one another on a regular base. I think we need to arrange more of the formal meetings”*. The participants agree that the original aim of establishing the Mountain Dew Farm had been achieved, but that the aim now was to empower the employees of Berghoff Farm with land in order to enhance their social and economic development. In this regard, Chris (Participant 24) said that *“It was the transfer of land from the so called white hands into the hands of black people. To put something in place for the beneficiaries, which should be an advantage to them all.”*

Furthermore, all the participants (100%) agreed that the project from its inception in 2005 is sustainable and successful and more developments are in the pipeline to increase the current production of flowers for the export market. However, they admitted that due to the scale of farming (15 hectares) Mountain Dew Farm will not make a reasonable profit to improve the lives of the beneficiaries, unless they expand the current hectares of land by buying more land from



the surrounding farms that become on sale, and permitting the improvements in the economic outlook of the world, to sell their product.

Mountain Dew Farm started from a bare piece of land with a few apple trees to become a farm with vast plantations of flowers, pipelines, chainsaws, cool storage, a modern package storage where the flowers were cut and packed, vehicles and tools and exporting flowers to Europe on an annual basis. In addition, the market value of the Mountain Dew Farm increased dramatically to R3.2 million and there was also an income of R700 000 (approximately US\$54,000) in the 2014 financial year. Moreover, the farm has also a 25% share in Proteus Logistics and a 20% share in Proteus Marketing which is an indication of the reasonable growth the farm experienced during its years of existence (Deon, owner, pers.communication). Most important of all the aforementioned facts, compared to other projects of its kind, is the fact that the participants of the Bergland Development Trust are the true owners of Mountain Dew Farm. This also implies that Mountain Dew is not an equity-share scheme, but rather a joint venture, between Berghoff Fynbos Farm and Bergland Development Trust, who farms commercially and where the participants are the actual owners of the farm. Some members of the project are of the view that they have transcended from small-scale to commercial farming, with one (Male, P21, Koos) saying: *“Don’t ask the following question to Leon: Are you a small-scale farmer? He will certainly go after you for posing this question to him. No, we are not small-scale farmers, we are commercial farmers”*. And another (Male, P16, Daniel) saying, *“We are not small-scale farmers, we are actually commercial farmers!”*

Although there are a few obstacles in the way of rapid expansion of Bergland Development Trust, signs are clear that Mountain Dew Farm can increase its production and depending on the world economic outlook, it can improve the lives of all the beneficiaries. The agricultural sector is exposed to a number of external shock, be it of a climatic or financial, among others, or price fluctuations, especially when selling on global markets. One member (Male, P21, Koos) reflects on the impact on the project during the 2008/2009 economic crisis:

*And then came the recession! Six years ago, we sold Pin-cushions for R5 each, but nowadays, you only get R3,50 each on the European market. This is half the original price for flowers in general. The cost to produce the flowers has increased. We continue to invest in the development of Mountain Dew Farm, because we believe in the success of the project.*

### **5.3.2 Strategies utilised**

The management structure that is employed within the farming process enhances the smooth running of the farm as a whole. The management structure entails an Executive Manager who is supported by a strong Management Group and the Board of Trustees. The Executive Manager provides them with technical support and is actually the leader of the group who provides vision to the whole team in running the farm. The Management Group together with the Executive Manager plans the day to day tasks of the farm and assists the beneficiaries in executing their day to day tasks. The Board of Trustees helps with the finances and engages with the beneficiaries in order to inform them about developments pertaining to the farm.

The study showed that most of the participants (90%) favoured the current joint venture with Berghoff Fynbos Farm because it offers them technical support (production savings, latest equipment, leadership skills, etc.) and general advice surrounding marketing of flowers which can increase production. In addition, the joint venture helps with expanding the production, exploring new markets, supplying water for irrigation and ensuring the sustainability and profitability of the Mountain Dew Farm. A participant (Male, P21, Koos) of the project stated that *“I think, yes, what was being planned has been executed. There are beneficiaries who are shareholders, the farm is in their name and the Protea flowers have been planted”*. While another participant (Male, P 24, Chris) concurred, *“Yes, the original plan with the farm is being executed. It is currently a very good project, in comparison with other projects of this nature.”*

The uniqueness of this particular joint venture is that the beneficiaries are the actual owners of the Mountain Dew Farm. It is thus not a share-equity scheme but rather a joint venture between the Bergland Development Trust and Berghoff Farming who are managing the land on a 50% basis. This emphasises the fact that the Bergland Development Trust is an empowerment and land reform project.

The Bergland Development Trust also employs a training strategy whereby beneficiaries learn valuable information about farming in general by the transfer of skills within the working place. One of the members of the Management Group has experience in this type of farming (fynbos farming) which he obtained over years and is currently transferring these particular skills to the other beneficiaries working on the farm. This particular transfer of skills proves to be successful, because people do not need to go to an institution to get formal training, but receive it as an internship and is therefore a good cost saving method. The Management member (Male, P21, Koos) says that:

*I did not study agriculture at the University of Stellenbosch. I learned farming through courses that I had done over the years, Courses like irrigation, application of chemicals, and repairing of implements and vehicles. Everything about farming I have learnt, I applied all the things I learnt about farming in the workplace (Mountain Dew Farm).*

*I started learning the business through my involvement in the management of the farm. Through my engagement with Nathan via the farming business I managed to transfer skills to him which he in turn applied to the farming business.*

Shares form a valuable tool in expanding the production and increasing income of the farming business. The Bergland Development Trust has a 25% share in Proteus Logistics and a 20% share in Proteus Marketing, which supports other endeavours that can grow the business. In order to minimise the input cost of the farm, they strategically make use of the implements and workshop of Berghoff Farming. This saved them from buying additional equipment, building a new workshop or using additional employment for Mountain Dew Farm, which also serves as a good example of excellent financial management from the side of the Management Group of the farm. They can now afford to use that particular money that they saved on something else on the farm.

Bergland Development Trust employs a strategy that they only farm with flowers on the farm. Their experience with farming during the years is that people adapt more easily to a situation that is familiar to them and that the same applies to flower growing where you need a specific quality to do the job at hand. The Management Group and beneficiaries are familiar with fynbos flower production and can easily adapt to difficult circumstances and improvise their farming methods. As one of the members (Male, P21, Koos) states, *“There is only one farming activity and that is Fynbos (includes all the cultivars for exports) and the market is for export”*. While another (Male, P16, Daniel) says, *“We are currently farming with Proteas and Pin-cushions and are planning to extend our production. The flowers are for the export market and are also for selling in South Africa”*.

In an effort to increase their production, they employed a strategy whereby the Protea flowers are covered with sachets to protect them from the winter snow and insects that can destroy the flowers. Figure 5 refers to a Protea flower plantation which is covered with sachets to protect the flower from the extreme weather conditions and from parasites and insects that wants to attack the flowers and destroy it. This white sachet makes the entire landscape very impressive during the winter months on the Winterhoek Mountain range.

**Figure 5: Protea Flower Plantation Covered with Sachets**



**Source:** Researcher

The Department of Agriculture (DoA) also supports the BDT farmers with technical knowledge, (equipment, cultivars) financing of additional land and providing moral support. Although the Bergland Development Trust Management Group do not often make use of their expertise, they still play a pivotal role in developing projects of this nature and are always willing to assist emerging- and commercial farmers in the area where they are operating. A participant, (Male, P24, Chris) in an interview, describes what support the department provided to the farm, *“The*

*Western Cape Department of Agriculture supplied them with a packaging storage, cool storage, irrigation system and also helps them to plant more flowers”.*

The Bergland Development Trust also employed a strategy whereby the waste generated during the flower production process was transformed into valuable compost. During the packaging of the flowers a special machine is used to cut off the leaves and stems of the initial flowers and dump it on a special place set out for transforming the leaves and stems into compost. This compost is then used in the flower plantations as an ingredient that helps the flowers grow quicker and better (see Figure 6 below).

**Figure 6: Composting site**



Source: Researcher

WESTERN CAPE

### **5.3.3 Challenges**

The study showed a number of challenges facing the Bergland Development Trust on its development path. These challenges range from the recession hampering the export of flowers to the European Markets to lack of involvement of people in the project, a lack of regular meetings with the Board of Trustees and only a few government Departments being involved with the project. Moreover, the total number of beneficiaries felt that they received too few dividends, formal training, lack of owning houses, people leaving the project, the lack of diversification of the farming process and the reconciliation of those who received training and those who never received training within one project. The majority of the participants view the diversification of the farming process as one of the most important challenges they face in order to extend the project and increase its income. Financial problems in European countries have slowed down the export of flowers which has a negative impact on their financial growth as a project. The overwhelming majority of participants noted the devastating effect of the challenges listed above on their project and resulted in the slowdown of the actual growth of the business.

To establish a project of this nature you always expect from participants to put sweat capital into their business in order to grow it more substantially. Most of the participants indicated that they do not work at the project and do not really see it as their own property. This is an indication that the beneficiaries of the project experience a lack of taking ownership of the Mountain Dew Farm. In this regard, one member (Male, P21, Koos) reflects on the ownership issue:

*“How much of the beneficiaries whose farm it is, walking on the farm and looks what happens on their farm. You can count them on your two fingers. I want the beneficiaries to take their children and tell them that that is our land. I did not notice their appreciation of owning a farm. Yes, there are a handful of people that are proud on what they have. To be honest to you, there is a lack of taking ownership of the Mountain Dew Farm, because it is all about ownership”.*

A strong Board of Trustees is normally pivotal to the development of the Bergland Development Trust. Furthermore, constant engagement with the beneficiaries enhances cooperation and a firm knowledge about the vision of the Management Group and the entire farm. However, the majority of the participants (19) indicated that they only met sometimes for engagement between the Board of Trustees and the beneficiaries. Only one participant mentioned that regular meetings had been held between the Board of Trustees and beneficiaries. Others (13) indicated that meetings between the Board of Trustees and beneficiaries were a scarce event. At the start of the project, management meetings were held every three months, but later reduced to such an extent that currently no formal meetings take place. Speaking to this issue, a member (Female, P32, Marietta) said, *“The last meeting was held a year ago, with the new chairperson. I am not sure if the meeting did take place. There was no meeting held with the beneficiaries”.*

The majority of participants indicated that only the Department of Agriculture (34, Men and Women) and the Department of Labour (19 Men and Women) are involved in the project. This is not only an indication of the Government’s lack of a comprehensive approach to support the development of emerging farmers, but also an indication of the absence of Local Government in this particular process. This in particular poses a huge challenge in the provision of important resources necessary to enhance the aims of emerging farmers in Porterville.

Since the inception of the project in 2007, the majority of participants (32, Male and female) reported of receiving dividends, only three times, which is a huge concern for them. The regular allocation of dividends in a project of this nature, not only serves as an encouragement to beneficiaries that their project is successful, but it also ensure them of an income that can enhance their livelihood. The fact that the majority of participants indicated that they used the money they received to buy food, furniture, cars, clothes and toys for their children and spent it on school fees, supports the notion that regular receipt of dividends from the project, although little, is precious to them. A member (Female, P35, Meralyn) says that she used the dividends in the following manner, *“I rather use the money to make my children’s life easier, instead of my own. I thus bought food and clothes for them”.* While another member (Male, P17, Selwin) said that he *“spent the money on my children’s school fees”.* One of the members (Male, P9, Neville)

have used the income to buy something substantial, *“I received three times dividends from the project and used it to buy myself a motorbike”*.

Another challenge facing the beneficiaries of the Bergland Development Trust is a lack of formal training in agriculture. It is a real challenge to work with people who received training as well as those who never received training within one group. It is difficult to reconcile the two groups in the project due to their difference in approach and understanding of proceedings concerning the entire running of the project. Most of the beneficiaries (31, Male and Female) reported that they did not receive any formal training in agriculture, which can put a damper on their performance as farmers.

The majority of beneficiaries indicated that they received no training in agriculture before or after inclusion in the project. This in particular supports the notion that the beneficiaries of the Bergland Development Trust did not receive any form of formal training in agriculture. Those who were able to receive training, received it in management and conflict resolution, which happened mainly before inclusion in the project. Here a member (Male, P21, Koos) reflects on the challenge of ensuring training to all members and of providing more specialised training:

*The biggest challenge facing our project are those people who received training and those who never received training, sitting as members on the same project. You have also diverse personalities and attitudes towards the project. It is difficult to reconcile the two worlds. Yes, there must be more training in courses like irrigation and how to work with fertilizers.*

The majority of beneficiaries (26, Male and Female) of the Bergland Development Trust noted that since their inclusion in the project no assets in the form of houses were secured. This is an indication that the majority of participants do not own houses and are currently living in houses owned by Berghoff Farming. Others who reported on gaining assets, varied from furniture to cars. However some of the beneficiaries (13, Male and Female) did speak out about their desire to own houses on the Mountain Dew farm, with one (Male, P10, Leonard) saying, *“I want them to build houses for the people so that they can live and stay on Mountain Dew”*.

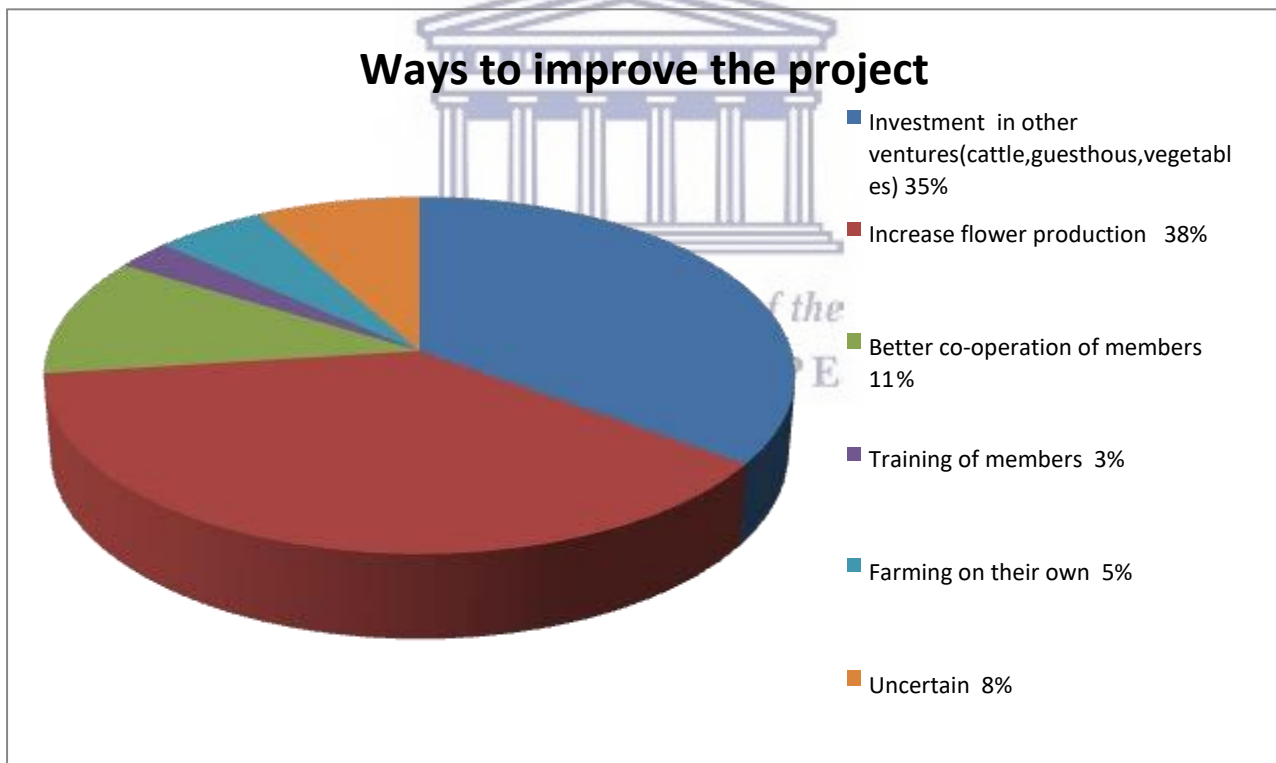
The number of beneficiaries leaving the project can also drain the organisation of valuable experience, which can hamper the development of the business. Since the inception of the Bergland Development Trust, the number of beneficiaries reduced from 74 to 56 beneficiaries. The reasons for leaving the project varied from resignation, being fired, losing interest in the project, tension, but the majority of participants (23, Male and Female) indicated ‘other commitments’ as one of the key reasons for leaving the project. One (Male, P24, Chris) said, *“Jude’s resignation was a huge challenge for the development of the business”*.

The majority of participants (25, Male and Female) viewed diversification of the Bergland Development Trust as pivotal to the economic development of the project due to its scale of operation. Many of the participants admitted that with the current scale of agricultural land in production it would be difficult for the business to make a reasonable profit in order to provide for all the needs of its beneficiaries. Those who supported the process of diversification proposed an extension of the current hectares of flowers and investments in other products like vegetables,

fruit, guest-houses and even a shop. One of the members (Male, P24, Chris) had this to say, “*The farm must extend its farming activities in order to increase its profit. The farm is only 75 hectares big and only 18 hectares of the entire farm is productive agricultural land*”. Another member (Male, P10, Leonard) had this to add, “*Besides farming with flowers, there must also be other farming activities, like potatoes, onions and tomatoes, in order to create employment for the entire year*”.

The majority of beneficiaries (14, Male and Female) indicated that in order to improve their project they should urgently look at the expansion of the Protea plantations (see Table 4 below). Others (13, Male and Female) believed the business should be more aligned to invest in other ventures like cattle, guest-houses and vegetables to increase their profits to the benefit of all the participants. The fact that the majority of beneficiaries felt that the project should embark on extending the current production of flowers due to their knowledge of the product and the markets they already captured, which makes it easy to produce and sell their products. Other proposed ways of improving the business varied from better cooperation among the members of the project, training and farming on their own as beneficiaries.

**Table 4: Ways to improve the project**



### 5.3.4 Successful Outcomes

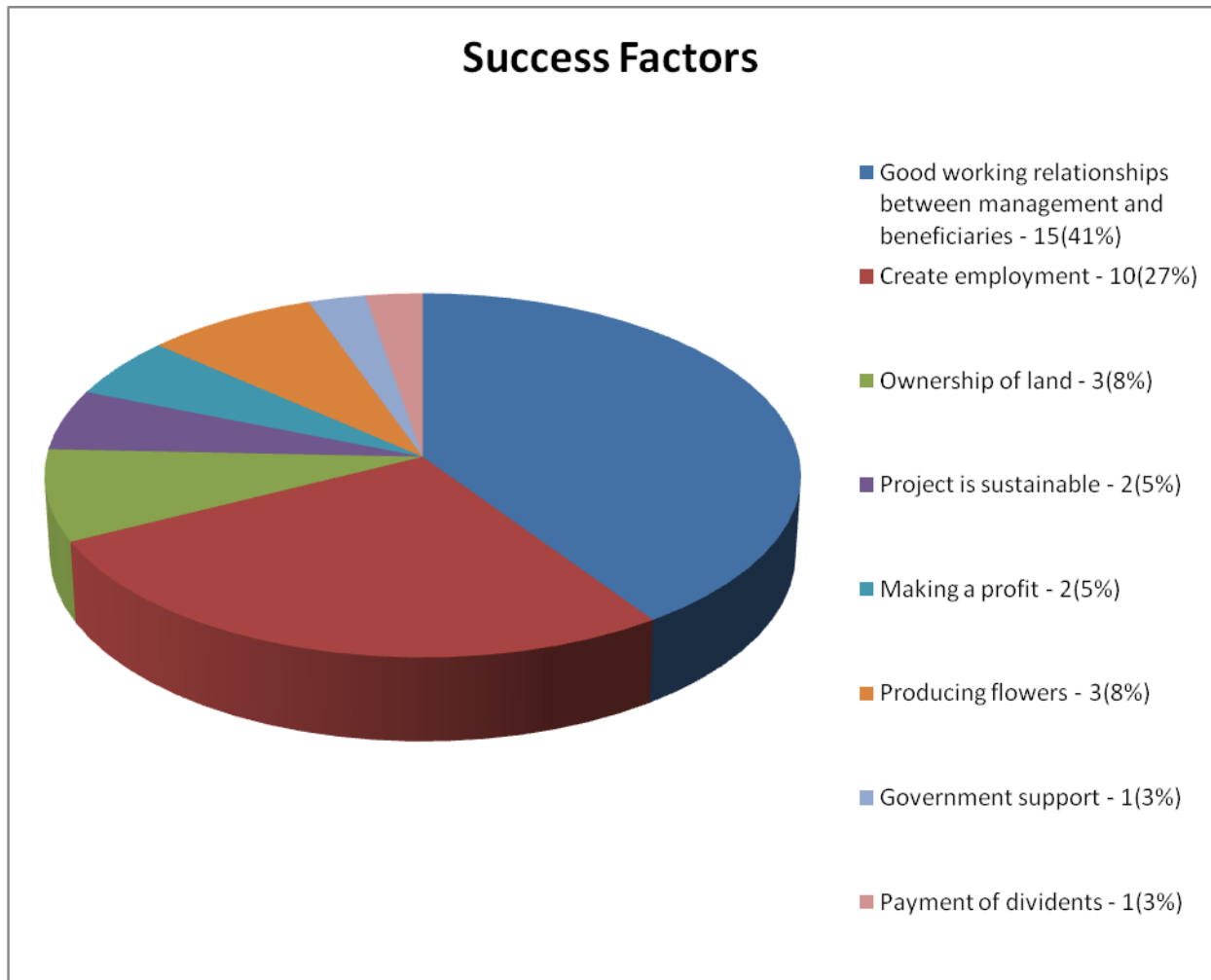
The overwhelming majority of participants refer to the Bergland Development Trust as a successful land reform and empowerment project because the initial aim (to transfer land and empower people economically) has been reached. In addition, beneficiaries also compared their success with other land reform projects in their vicinity or what they read in the magazines, like the *Farmers' Weekly*. Many of these aspects of comparison are largely based on relationships with management and mentors, farming commercially, type of farming activity, experience of markets, the condition of farm and ownership versus shareholding. According to members, the following factors contributed to their successful business:

- Being a joint venture with Berghoff Fynbos farm
- Excellent management en mentorship
- Establish Board of Trustees
- Title Deeds/ landownership
- Shareholding in other companies
- Well established markets
- Farming commercially
- Successful farming practices
- Employment creation

As indicated in Table 5 below, participants highlighted 8 key factors that add value to their success as members of the business. These include a good working relationship with the Management Group, mentoring of beneficiaries, the project creating employment, ownership of land, sustainability of project, making a profit, producing flowers for export markets, government support and the dividends payment. However, the majority of participants (15) indicated that the strongest factor contributing to their success is the good working relationship they enjoyed with management and the mentoring of beneficiaries. This is also an indication that they as beneficiaries value the joint venture with Berghoff Farming.



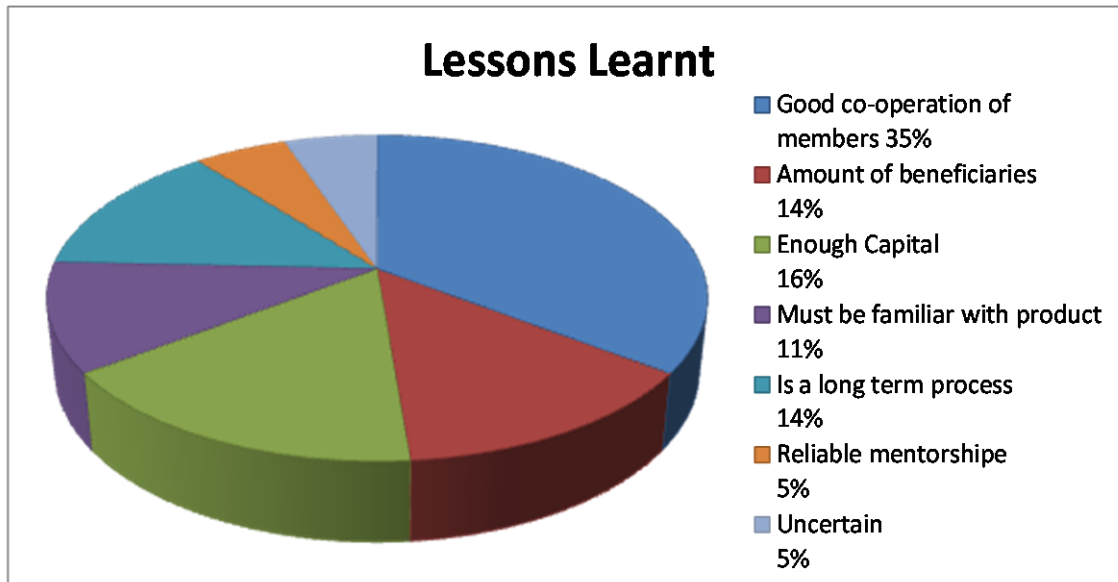
**Table 5:** Success factors



### 6.3.5 Lessons learnt

The Bergland Development Trust identified 6 key lessons (see Table 6 below) which could also be prevalent in the rest of the country. Most of the participants (13, Male and Female) viewed good cooperation between the members, the Management Group and the Board of Trustees as one of the most important issues to be addressed. Regular engagement between Management, the Board of Trustees and beneficiaries of a business is pivotal to the sustainable development of the particular project. This will ultimately address the flow of information to beneficiaries and help them in assisting in decision-making on important issues under discussion. Such intervention will certainly enhance a sense of ownership and progress of the business.

**Table 6:** Lessons learnt



Among the lessons to be learned, some of the participants said that:

*The beneficiaries must receive more support. The Management Group must share information about the latest progress of the development of the farm. More communication with the beneficiaries is important. Everybody is not involved with the project.*

In order to sustain a project of this nature financial support becomes imperative. Other participants (6 men and Women) (16%) viewed financial support to the project as pivotal to secure the success of the business. Financial support for the business means expanding the size of the land and increasing the production of land.

The number of beneficiaries gaining from a project determines the economic viability of such a project. A few participants (5 Men and Women) (13%) also indicated that the number of beneficiaries taking part in the project is too large and is hampering the progress of the project. The scale of farming and the number of beneficiaries contribute to poor dividend distribution amongst the beneficiaries, and ultimately poor livelihood provision for the beneficiaries of the particular project.

Starting a business like a farm such as Mountain Dew is always a long and difficult process before making a reasonable profit from it. Due to their knowledge of the products and farming in general, these beneficiaries are familiar with the fact that farming with flowers for the export market or even making a profit is a long-term process. Here one (Female, P31, Brenda) member says that, *“The process is a long-term process before the results are visible. You cannot expect to get quick rich. It takes time for the project to start and be successful.”*

A sound knowledge of the product normally helps to accelerate the establishment of the business. A few participants (4, Male and Female) also noted that their knowledge of the product made it easier for them to understand the development of the flower plantations and markets and in addition, became much more passionate about their duties on the farm.

In order to succeed new businesses are in dire need of excellent mentorship to guide them through difficult times in their development. Some participants (2, Male and Female) of the Bergland Development Trust also stressed the value of and continued need for mentorship in order to grow their business and keep it sustainable. Although there is a sort of mentorship on the farm, it is currently not formalised and needs to be formalised in order to grow the farm. Some members acknowledge the support of the mentor, saying that “*A mentor is important for guidance in a business*”. While another member (Male, P24, Chris) speaks to the role of the mentor:

*“The person (Jeremy) that manages the project, done extremely well. He shares information about farming and about the project to us. He even shares implement of Berghoff Farming with the Mountain Dew Farm and that is why the project is so successful”.*

## **5.4 Findings**

The majority of the participants (100%) viewed the Bergland Development Trust as a successful business. Participants based their experience of a successful business on the grounds that the initial aim of the project was to empower the people with land in order to improve their livelihoods and that this objective has been met. Although it is not always visible that the project improves their livelihoods, they are united in their view that the project empowers them with a valuable property of which its market value continues to increase. It was evident that during the interviews and focus groups none of the participants were able to state that the project was unsuccessful. This empowerment of the beneficiaries of the Bergland Development Trust coincides with the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform’s vision to encourage the private sector to support initiatives which can enhance landownership in the rural areas of the country (DLA, 1997a:71).

A major contributing factor to their success is the joint venture with Berghoff Fynbos Farm which helps Mountain Dew Farm to cover the overhead costs of running the particular farm. The Bergland Development Trust has no workshop of its own, but currently uses the workshop of Berghoff Fynbos Farm. In addition, Berghoff Fynbos Farm even shares the workforce and some of the implements used in the farming process with Mountain Dew Farm. The afore-mentioned differs from the statement by Edward Lahiff that the private sector is not willing to assist in the development of new land reform projects (Lahiff, 2007:17).

Another contributing factor to their success is the mentorship that is available to the beneficiaries of Bergland Development Trust. The owner of the Berghoff Farm, who is also a beneficiary of the project helps to explore the markets for the product and assist with the planning of the technical and financial aspects of the farm. Although not yet formalised, the mentorship contributes to the

smooth running of the Mountain Dew Farm. In addition, the mentorship together with Management Group and Board of Trustees help to ensure the sustainability of the project in general.

An established Board of Trustees assists with the management of the Mountain Dew Farm. Although engagement between the Board of Trustees, the Management Group and the beneficiaries does not take place on a regular basis, it succeeds in steering the project in a way that it is still sustainable and successful. With more training in management-related skills and more engagement from their side with the beneficiaries and management, it is viable to become a strong Board of Trustees which can impact even more on the development of the Mountain Dew Farm.

Land is imperative for many people in rural areas to earn a living. It is also clear that many of those who reside in rural areas have no ownership of land. Others are part of a share-equity scheme project where they earn dividends from the joint venture. The beneficiaries of the Bergland Development Trust however, indicated that they are the initial owners of the land and also have the Title Deeds of the land they owned. This arrangement is unique in the sense that it differs from other joint ventures which normally receive only dividends, where as the Bergland Development Trust is the true owner of Mountain Dew Farm.

Many land reform projects of this nature are always on the lookout for ways to increase their income in order to cater for all the members of the project which are normally extensive. The Bergland Development Trust is privileged to have shares in other companies which have the intention to increase their income as beneficiaries. The Bergland Development Trust has a huge number of beneficiaries (56) which they need to cater for and who are currently a challenge for them.

In order to farm successfully and to make a profit, land reform projects need well-established markets for their products to sell. The business has a well-established market in Europe which helped them to earn valuable profits in the past, but this is currently under pressure due to the economic down-turn in these particular countries where they normally sell their flowers. However, this project distinguished itself from other land reform projects where others struggle to get markets, this particular project already has a well-established market to sell their products. This also coincides with Mayson`s closing remarks of emphasising secure markets that form the most decisive factor for making the business successful (Mayson, 2003:16).

During the interviews and focus groups, the overwhelming majority of participants referred to their farm as a commercial farm. They based this assumption on the fact that they have export markets and the farming practices they employed on the farm relate to those being used on a commercial farm. Those who refer to them as ‘small-scale farming’ based it more on the size of the farm which is currently 86 hectares.

The project also employed a variation of successful farming practices on the Mountain Dew Farm. The first practice is the structure of management which consists of the Board of Trustees, a Management Group and the beneficiaries of the entire farm. The mentor, although not formalised, is included in the Management Group who runs the day to day duties on the farm. The second

farming practice relates to the scientific cultivation of the farm. Flowers got covers to protect them against the extreme weather and wildlife of the environment and to increase their production and profit of the farm.

The farm used adjacent dams to provide irrigation in a sustainable manner to cover for the hot summer months and during times of severe draught in the area (See Figure 7 below). The business also employed a strategy of decomposing their waste of the agricultural products they used, by using leaves, flowers and stems in a special process to turn it into compost, which they used in the flower plantations as compost. This particular method coincides with Engel (2008:6; also see Karriem, 2009, 2013) who postulates that agro-ecological farming benefits small-scale farming. In addition, these farming practices also echoed Knight et al's (2003) statement that if joint ventures have certain constitutional arrangements and exercise the required farming practices, they will succeed in their endeavors (Knight et al, 2003:16).

**Figure 7: One of the three dams that provide water to the Mountain Dew farm**



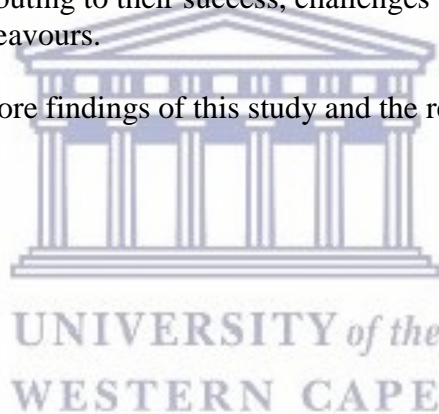
**Source:** Researcher

## **5.5 Chapter Summary**

The aim of this study was to answer the research question which intended to analyse and explore the livelihood resources, strategies, institutional process underlying the challenges which the project had to contend with in order to be successful. Data was collected and analysed through a profound process, the Sustainable Livelihood Approach, which increases our knowledge on the assets, strategies, institutional processes and challenges overcome by the Bergland Development Trust in order to be successful in their intended endeavour. The afore-mentioned confirms that the initial goal of answering the research question had been met.

Participants of the Bergland Development Trust view the project as a success, a fact which was also confirmed by the data that had been collected and analysed, as the initial objectives of the business had been met and the livelihoods of the beneficiaries had improved. The participants experience a constant quest for new ways and opportunities to expand the amount of land, increase production and profit in order to improve the lives of their families. In addition, participants were able to identify the factors contributing to their success, challenges that had to be contended with and lessons learnt from their endeavours.

The next chapter deals with the core findings of this study and the recommendations based on these particular findings.



## **CHAPTER 6: CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

### ***6.1 Introduction***

The initial aim of this particular research was to answer the research question put forward in this study, namely “Is the Bergland Development Trust a successful land reform project?” The research was successful as the sample was 66% and thus representative of the entire sample population. In addition the data collection methods utilised in gathering the required information, followed by the analysis of the data, support the answering of the research question. This concluding chapter of the research contains the important findings of the study, recommendations and limitations of the study.

### ***6.2 Main Findings***

The overwhelming majority of the participants indicated that the Bergland Development Trust was a successful business. They based their assumption on the fact that concrete land reform had taken place and although not always visible, their livelihoods had improved. The fact that they are the true title deed holders of the land and are also in possession of the title deeds, increases the belief that the initial purpose of the project had been met. This approach differs from past land reform projects in a sense that the transfer of land had taken place in this event, as in the case of other projects where beneficiaries only received shares as a matter of remuneration.

All the participants (100%) reported that the project is sustainable. This is due to the joint venture with Berghoff Farming and Mountain Dew Farm. The Bergland Development Trust benefited from this joint venture by drawing from the sharing of resources like the workshop, the workforce and implements of Berghoff Farming. Participants also confirmed that implements utilised on the farm are in a good working condition which further proves the value of the joint venture with Berghoff Farming. In addition, this joint venture with Berghoff Farming provided them with a capable mentorship, sharing their technical and financial capabilities and sound knowledge of export markets with the Bergland Development Trust. This is also a contributing factor to the success and sustainability of the business.

A further contributing factor to their ultimate success and sustainability is the good working relationship that currently exists between the Board of Trustees, the Management Group and the beneficiaries. The overwhelming majority of participants (100%) confirmed this good working relationship between the afore-mentioned which not only brings stability, but also draws a sense of trust from stakeholders who encourage them to support the business financially and morally. In addition, encourage them to give back to their community by donating resources (finance, vehicle) to the local school and crèche, which in turn have a positive impact on the community of Bo-Op–Die Berg (High on the mountain).

The majority of participants felt the need for diversification of the business. The current scale of farming is not conducive for expanding the land or for diversifying their farming products in order to increase their profits. In order to increase their production and income of the farm, they

need more hectares to farm on. Currently the economic down turn globally prevented them from financing new ventures on the farm. However the majority of participants stated that in order to increase their profits and to farm independently, they need to increase the size of the land and production. Most of the beneficiaries viewed their farm as a commercial farm. This view is grounded in the markets they currently enjoy, the application of more specialised farming practises and their structure of managing the farm within the joint venture. Most of the land reform projects are small-scale farming, but this one differs from other land reform projects in a sense that it farms commercially.

The overwhelming majority indicated that the government plays a role in the development of the farm. This is evident in the financing of a modern packaging store, implements and packaging material, to complement the work on the farm and increase their production and profits. However, there is a sense that the Board of Trustees, the Management Group and the beneficiaries underestimate the pivotal role that the government can play in enhancing their business. This is highly visible in the way management deals with this relationship as a matter of just an ordinary visit by an official of the Department of Agriculture and nothing else.

The payment of dividends to beneficiaries is characteristic of joint ventures of this nature and normally beneficiaries look out for such remunerations to buy their most desired goods. The overwhelming majority of the beneficiaries confirmed this notion by indicating that they received dividends only three times which they used to buy clothes, furniture and to pay for the children's school fees. Beneficiaries insisted on receiving more dividends in future in order to improve their livelihoods.

The lack of their own housing is also a concern for the beneficiaries of the Bergland Development Trust. The overwhelming majority of beneficiaries (100%) live in houses belonging to the owner of the farm. Although the houses that the beneficiaries use to stay in are in a good condition and have all the basic gadgets, beneficiaries still desire their own houses, built on the Mountain Dew Farm.

## **6.3 Recommendations**

### **6.3.1 Recommendations to the Bergland Development Trust (BDT)**

1. The Bergland Development Trust needs to ensure that regular information sessions regarding its mission, vision and finances of the business are conveyed to the beneficiaries in order to encourage mutual understanding, sustainable cooperation and a sense of ownership of the Farm between the Board of Trustees, the Management Group and the beneficiaries.
2. The project needs urgent diversification measures in order to cater for its large number of beneficiaries. In order to compensate for this large number of beneficiaries, the business needs to buy more land or invest in any other business to be able to compensate every beneficiary in reasonable terms. This can certainly encourage a sense of a successful



business, but also alleviate poverty amongst the members of the Bergland Development Trust.

3. The BDT must ensure that the current mentorship be formalised by introducing clear measures that will service both beneficiaries' and mentors' expectations regarding the business. Such measures will enhance the development, growth and sustainability of the farm and in addition, will equip the beneficiaries with valuable management-, leadership-, marketing- and financial skills which in turn will benefit the entire business.
4. The BDT should follow a more constructive approach on the relationship with the Department of Agriculture in order to add real value to this particular relationship. This constructive approach can entail a more open discussion about the immediate needs of the business, like the buying of additional land, equipment, support with markets and other important resources needed to compensate for the large size of the beneficiary group and to grow the business extensively. In addition, the BDT should ensure that the Department of Local Government also gets on board, due to the immediate resources it brings to the table, like buying more land and identifying more stakeholders that can support the project in various ways.
5. The BDT should facilitate more training for the members of the Board of Trustees, the Management Group and the beneficiaries in order to equip them with valuable skills pertaining to management, business, finance and leadership. This will ensure further growth of the business and will also secure the succession of new incoming members on the project.
6. The BDT should ensure that the aim of securing ownership of houses by the beneficiaries of the project is prioritised. The housing needs of the beneficiaries also need to be addressed by possibly introducing agro-villages; the BDT could approach the Department of Human Settlements for assistance in this particular challenge facing the business.

### **6.3.2 Recommendations for other land reform projects**

This study encourages other land reform projects to:

1. Ensure ownership of the land and not just shareholding in the business. Empowerment and ownership of land can only take place where land is transferred to the beneficiaries of a particular project. Beneficiaries of a land reform project need to be the title deed holders of the properties in order to claim ownership of that particular property and not just be shareholders in which case beneficiaries are denied ownership of property.
2. Undertake proper research on the right size of the group of beneficiaries before starting the project, because it reduces the amount of dividend payments substantially and causes a lot of organisational difficulties which a land reform project needs to deal with. It also has a hampering effect on the overall growth and development of the project.

3. Ensure that all the beneficiaries or participants are aware that the process to establish a business of this nature, requires time and patience and in addition, it is a long-term process before you reach the stage where you make a decent profit. This view of establishing a business will curb unreasonable expectations about the project and will also enhance cohesion and stability amongst the members of the project.
4. Inform the beneficiaries about the mission, vision and new developments about the business. Ensure that they form part of the core decision-making of the running of the farm, so that they can be part of the journey that the project is embarking on and in addition, give their full support to the cause.
5. Plan ahead in terms of diversification and financing of the farm. Advance planning will combat poor cash flow restrictions and unnecessary tension amongst members of the project and moreover, it will enhance continuous growth and development of the members of the business and the business itself.
6. Ensure the building of a good relationship amongst the Board of Trustees, the Management Group, the Beneficiaries and stakeholders in order to gain access to valuable resources and advice regarding the smooth running of the farm and to foster good cooperation of the members of the business.
7. Undertake a deliberate effort to ensure that all the necessary Government Departments, in particular the Department of Local Government are part of the project. This will ultimately ensure that valuable resources like obtaining more land, equipment and markets will come to the project.
8. Ensure immediate attention to the housing need, even before the farm is established, in order to prevent the housing of the beneficiaries becomes a problem. Involve the Department of Human Settlements and Housing as well as the Department of Local Government to provide guidance on the matter.
9. Implement proper legislation to govern the joint venture. This particular legislation entails directives for the Board of Trustees, the Management Group, the beneficiaries and Berghoff Fynbos Pty (Ltd), to foster the smooth running of the business.
10. Ensure suitable markets for the products of the business. By securing good markets for the products, it improves the cash flow, streamlines the planning of the business and assists with the expansion of the project.

### **6.3.3 Recommendations to the Government**

This research project strongly advises the Government to:

1. Ensure that the aim of securing ownership of land is achieved by transferring property rights to beneficiaries. Many land reform projects in South Africa only pay dividends as

remuneration which present challenges such as tension amongst beneficiaries and also a lack of constant growth of the project. Land reform can only take place if land or property is transferred to the poor people.

2. Undertake thorough planning of the land reform project in order to determine the size of the project. Government is constantly under pressure to use its resources very wisely, but the current situation surrounding land reform projects requires a reasonably small size of beneficiaries in order to share a substantial amount of profits amongst the beneficiaries of a particular project.
3. Ensure the provision of proper housing for beneficiaries of land reform projects. In an effort to find a solution for the challenge of providing proper housing for beneficiaries of land reform projects, it is pivotal to draw in the support of the Department of Human Settlements and also to have a fresh look at agri-villages which can also serve as suitable accommodation for beneficiaries of land reform projects.
4. Assist with the exploration of suitable markets for the products of land reform businesses. Government, with its immense bargaining power could open up markets globally and locally to support beneficiaries of land reform projects. Locally, government could assist the development of potential small businesses by providing risk capital to finance the goods bought from local small-scale farmers and in turn sell those goods on the local market.
5. Ensure the support of the Department of Local Government, Department of Agriculture and other related government departments to explore the many opportunities available to beneficiaries of land reform projects within the various government departments of the country. Moreover, the government could assist in exploring the resources of the Department of Local Government, which many land reform businesses constantly ignore, which could provide valuable resources like finance, networking and even commonage land.
6. Develop a brand new model for empowering the rural poor. Land reform forms part of rural development and is also included in the National Development Plan, which implies that we need to do land reform in a holistic manner. Land reform can no longer be viewed as only transferring land to people, but should also include other businesses like agroprocessing and other related businesses. Ensuring the implementation of this holistic approach to land reform could certainly help to create close to a million jobs in this particular sector, but could also combat the influx of people into the big cities of the country.
7. Ensure capable mentorship within the various land reform projects, by securing experienced farmers from the commercial sector who could serve as mentors to emerging land reform projects. The use of these experienced commercial farmers could certainly equip the beneficiaries of the land reform projects with valuable skills in cultivation, finance and management of business and ultimately enhance their businesses.

8. Undertake a land reform project that farms with products that are familiar to the beneficiaries. By ensuring that the product is familiar to the beneficiaries, it helps them to adapt quickly to the farming process, ensuring the quality of the product and promoting better cooperation among the members of the project and their mentor.

#### ***6.4 Limitations of the study***

During the research process the researcher needed to deal with five major constraints to the study. The first limitation was the time in which the study needed to be completed which caused a lot of pressure on both the researcher and participants of the project.

The second limitation was the inability of the beneficiaries to provide clear answers to the core proceedings of the project, due to the fact that some of them lived on the Berghoff Farm which is close to the land reform project and others lived on other farms far from Mountain Dew Farm. This caused the researcher to rely mostly on the Board of Trustees, the Management Group, the Representative of the Department of Agriculture and the Mentor to provide the researcher with a better understanding of the development of the project. It is evident from the individual interviews and focus groups that the Board of Trustees, the Management Group and the Mentor played a pivotal role in the success of the project.

The third limitation was the timing of the research, which took place during a busy period when the flowers were being harvested. This resulted in many participants struggling to get time for interviews and questionnaires and which delayed the completion of the process. However, it was later on decided to do the interviews and questionnaires after working hours and during weekends which allowed them ample time for the data collection. The interviews on weekends, due to the ample time, provided an environment for vigorous and open discussion on the questions put forward to the participants. Moreover, it encouraged a lively debate and discussion on the prospects and future of their business and helped with the process of data collection and with the confirmation of information against the information that was given by Management and the Board of Trustees.

The fourth limitation was the failure to compare the project with other land reform projects in other parts of the country and how that relates to the state of rural development as the determining factors and strategies on the scale of farming. The scale of farming normally determines the needs and strategies employed in such land reform projects. In addition, the size of the land also determines the ultimate outcomes of such land reform projects.

The fifth limitation was also difficult to generalise the factors and strategies employed to determine the success of land reform projects due to the focus on one specific land reform project. However, the representative sample provided a good understanding of what success is possible if certain factors and strategies are employed. Moreover, it provided a clear understanding of what is attainable if certain measures were in place to be able to measure the success of other related land reform projects in other parts of the country. Additionally, the sample supported our hopes of an increase in the success of land reform projects in South Africa.

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# APPENDICES



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*Private Bag X17, Bellville 7535, Cape Town, South Africa*  
*Telephone : (021) 959 3858/6 Fax: (021) 959 3865*  
**E-mail: [pkippie@uwc.ac.za](mailto:pkippie@uwc.ac.za) or [spenderis@uwc.ac.za](mailto:spenderis@uwc.ac.za)**

## APPENDIX A INFORMATION SHEET (English Version)

**Project Title: “Is Land Reform Working? A Critical Evaluation of The Bergland Development Trust(BDT) Land Reform Project in Porterville, Western Cape, South Africa”.**

*What is this study about?*

This research project is being conducted by William Edward Ficks, a student at the University of the Western Cape. You are invited to participate in this research project as you are a member of the Bergland Development Trust land reform project. The purpose of this research project is to study the Bergland Development Trust land reform project, analyse the factors that resulted in the success at the Bergland Development Trust and see what lessons this project may hold for other land reform projects. The research will further look to provide recommendations to land reform policymakers and implementers that will hopefully contribute to a more effective land reform programme within the bigger context of rural development.

*What will I be asked to do if I agree to participate?*

You will be asked to share information, opinions and suggestions on the land reform project of which you are a part, and to ascertain whether it helped to improve your life. The interview will take about 30-45 minutes and will take place on the farm where the participants live. The interview will involve completing a questionnaire on your project. The questions will be on the history of the project, the success of the project, and how the project has improved your life. In

the case of illiteracy, digital recordings will be made, and the questionnaire will be completed with the answers and verified by another person as indicated by the relevant participant.

*Would my participation in this study be kept confidential?*

Your personal information will be kept confidential and participants may remain anonymous if they so choose. You will be required to sign a consent form to protect your confidentiality and privacy whilst taking part in this study. The identity of participants will remain confidential and identity details will only be provided voluntarily or used only with consent. The information contributed by participants will be kept safe and only used for the purpose of this research project. In the research report, your identity will be protected to the maximum extent possible. In accordance with legal requirements and/or professional standards, we will disclose to the appropriate individuals and/or authorities information that comes to our attention concerning potential harm to you or others. Confidentiality of information provided by participant is guaranteed.

As the researcher I am bound by the university Ethics Policy which provides ethical and legal obligations regarding my conduct. The policy makes provision for ethical conduct in the collection and use of information gathered during this research.

*What are the risks of this research?*

There are no known risks associated with participating in this research project. From the onset the aims and objectives will be made clear with all participants so that no unrealistic expectations are created through participation.

*What are the benefits of this research?*

This research is not designed to help you personally. The results of this research would assist the investigator in making recommendations to the participants as well as other land reform projects and initiatives on how to improve to land reform and rural development. It is hoped that in future it can assist in improving the livelihoods of the rural poor in other parts of South Africa.

*Do I have to be in this research and may I stop participating at any time?*

Your participation in this research is completely voluntary. You may choose not to take part at all. If you decide to participate in this research, you may stop participating at any time. If you decide not to participate in this study or if you stop participating at any time, you will not be penalized or lose any benefits.

*Is any assistance available if I am negatively affected by participating in this study?*

There are no likely or anticipated negative effects that could arise from participating in this study.

*What if I have questions?*



This research is being conducted by William Ficks (0845140363), a student at the University of the Western Cape.

If you have any questions about the research study itself, please contact Dr Razack Karriem at The Institute for Social Development (ISD), University of the Western Cape, telephone number, 021 959 3853.

Should you have any questions regarding this study and your rights as a research participant or if you wish to report any problems you have experienced related to the study, please contact:

Professor Julian May  
Head of Department: Institute for Social Development.  
School of Government  
University of the Western Cape  
Private Bag X17  
Bellville 7535

This research has been approved by the University of the Western Cape's Senate Research Committee and Ethics Committee.



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**APPENDIX B**  
**Letter of consent (English Version)**

I,.....  
 ....., have had the opportunity to ask any questions related to this study, and received satisfactory answers to my questions, and any additional details I wanted.  
 I agree to take part in this research.  
 I understand that my participation in this study is voluntary. I am free not to participate and have the right to withdraw from the study at any time, without having to explain myself.  
 I am aware that this interview might result in research which may be published, but my name may be/ not be used (circle appropriate).  
 I understand that if I don't want my name to be used that this will be ensured by the researcher.  
 I may also refuse to answer any questions that I don't want to answer.

Date:.....  
 Participant  
 Name:.....  
 Participant  
 Signature:.....  
 .

Interviewer name:           **WILLIAM FICKS**  
 Interviewer  
 Signature:.....

If you have any questions concerning this research, feel free to call William Ficks at 0845140363 or ficks@telkomsa.net or my supervisor, Dr. Razack Karriem, at 021 959 3858 or via email at akarriem@uwc.ac.za.

**APPENDIX C**  
**UNIVERSITY OF THE WESTERN CAPE**  
**INFORMATION SHEET**  
**ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE FOR SPECIFIC ISSUES**

Audio taping/Photographs/Digital Recordings

This research project involves making audiotapes and photographs of you. The taping of the interview is to ensure a verbatim or voice recording of the interview; the recordings will be transcribed into print and may be included in the research report. Only the researcher will have access to the recorded information and in the event of services of other parties being used such services will be bound by confidentiality provisions of the University. The information will be deemed property of the university. The tapes may be destroyed later.

- I agree to be audio taped and/or photographed during my participation in this study.  
 I do not agree to be audio taped and/or photographed during my participation in this study.



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## APPENDIX D

### Project Title:

**“Is Land Reform Working? A Critical Evaluation of the Bergland Development Trust (BDT) Land Reform Project in Porterville, Western Cape, South Africa.”**

### Management Group (Semi-Structured Interview) (English Version)

### Questions:

1. What was the original plan for the project?
2. Was the plan achieved? Yes or No If yes, what changed? Why did it change?
3. What did Bergland Development Trust acquire when the project started, and what do they currently own?
4. The Bergland Development Trust Land Reform Project engages in :
  - a) Emerging or medium scale Farming OR
  - b) Commercial FarmingWhat does the farming activities include and the markets for each farming type?  
Describe the management structure for the farming and trust.
5. What training has been afforded to the Bergland Development Trust members?
6. Name and describe the support provided by government to the trust and project since inception.
7. Name and describe other support the Bergland Development Trust received since inception.
8. The commercial partner committed to being a mentor and transferring skills to the trust to farm independently. What did the mentorship entail? If the mentorship still continues, describe the current arrangements? What is the exit strategy?
9. Name the benefits the Bergland Development Trust community has received due to the project.
10. Name the benefits the larger community of the people “Op -Die -Berg” has received due to the project.

11. Is the Bergland Development Trust project successful? Yes or No  
If yes, what are the successes? If no, why not? What factors led to the successes?
12. Describe the challenges to the project and how it was handled?
13. What is the vision for Mountain Dew Farm? How does the future look?
14. Any other comments?



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## APPENDIX E

**Titel:** “Slaag Grond Hervorming ? `n Kritiese evaluasie van die Bergland OntwikkelingsTrust (BOT) Grond Hervormingsprojek in Porterville, Wes Kaap, Suid Afrika”.

**(Afrikaanse weergawe/ Afrikaans version)**

**Bestuursgroep (Semi-gestruktureerde onderhoud)**

**Vrae:**

15. Wat was die oorspronklike plan vir die projek?
16. Is die plan bereik? Ja of Nee  
Indien nee, hoekom is die plan nie bereik nie? Wat het verander?
17. Wat het Bergland OntwikkelingsTrust aan die begin van sy ontstaan bekom en wat besit die Trust tans?
18. Die Bergland OntwikkelingsTrust Projek is aktief betrokke in :  
c) Opkomende of Medium Skaalse Boerdery OF  
d) Kommersiële Boerdery  
Wat is die boerdery aktiwiteite en die mark vir elke aktiwiteit?  
Beskryf die bestuurstruktuur ten opsigte van die Boerdery en trust?
19. Watter opleiding het die Bergland OntwikkelingsTrust lede al ontvang?
20. Identifiseer en beskryf die ondersteuning wat die trust en projek vanaf die staat ontvang het sedert ontstaan van die projek?
21. Identifiseer en beskryf enige ander ondersteuning wat die trust en projek al ontvang het.
22. Die kommersiële vennoot het hom verbind tot mentorskap en die oordrag van vaardighede sodat die trust later onafhanklik kan boer. Wat het die mentorskap behels? Bestaan die mentorskap nog? Indien wel, beskryf die huidige reëlings van die mentorskap?
23. Watter voordele het die gemeenskap van Bergland OntwikkelingsTrust al beleef as gevolg van die projek?
24. Noem die voordele wat die projek vir die gemeenskap van “Bo-Op-Die-Berg” area het.
25. Is die Bergland OntwikkelingsTrust projek suksesvol? Ja of Nee?  
Indien Ja, wat is die suksesse? OF Indien Nee, hoekom onsuksesvol?  
Watter faktore het tot die sukses of “onsukses” gelei?
26. Beskryf die uitdagings wat die projek moes hanteer en oorkom.

27. Wat is die vooruitsigte/ visie vir Bergland Ontwikkelingstrust?  
28. Enige ander kommentaar?



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## APPENDIX F

### Project Title:

**“Is Land Reform Working? A Critical Evaluation of the Bergland Development Trust (BDT) Land Reform Project in Porterville, Western Cape, South Africa”.**

## Questionnaire: Individual Participants (English Version)

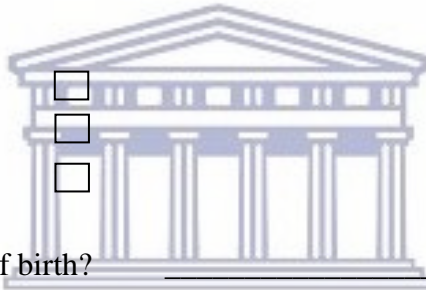
(Circle where applicable)

### 1. Personal Details

Gender:      Male orFemale

Marital Status:

- a) Single/never married
- b) Married
- c) Widowed



### 2. Demography:

- a) Which is your year of birth? \_\_\_\_\_
- b) What is your sex? Female      Male
- c) Who is the person in charge of your household? \_\_\_\_\_
  - i) Parent
  - ii) Grandparent      iii) Other
  - relative e.g. aunt, uncle iv) Sibling

Highest educational grade:  \_\_\_\_\_

- a) None
- b) Primary
- c) Secondary
- d) Higher education
- e) Agricultural College

Training:

- a) What level of agricultural training do you have?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



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- b) Was the training before joining the BDT project? Yes or No
- c) Was the training after joining the BDT project? Yes or No

d) Do you receive support from the government? Yes or No

e) If yes, what kind of support do you receive?

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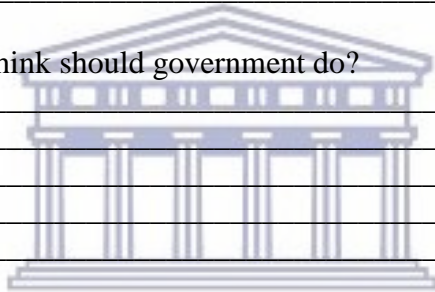
f) If no, what do you think should government do?

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g) How many people live in your home?

Adults in home: \_\_\_\_\_

i) Children in home: \_\_\_\_\_

h) Are you employed? Yes or No

If yes, what is your main occupation?

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i) What other occupation beside agriculture are you involved in?

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**3. Income:**

a) What was your income before joining the BDT project?

R 0-1000  R1000- 2000  R2000-3000   
R3000-4000  More than R4000

b) What is your income after joining the BDT project?

R 0-1000  R1000- 2000  R2000-3000   
R3000-4000  More than R4000

**4. When did you join the BDT project?**

a) From the start of the BDT project?

b) After the BDT project was established?

**5. Did you understand what Participating in the BDT project would entail?**

Yes or No

If yes, how are you involved in planning the project?

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**6. Did the project improve your life?** Yes or No If yes, how did your life improve?

Please give examples?

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**7. Is the BDT Project successful?** Yes or No If yes, what makes it successful?

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If no, what makes it unsuccessful?

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**8. Does the BDT project have problems?** Yes or No If yes, what were the problems encountered by the project?

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**9. Has the Bergland Development Trust community benefitted from the project?** Yes or No

If yes, how did they benefit?

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**10. Has the bigger community of Porterville benefitted from the project?** Yes or No

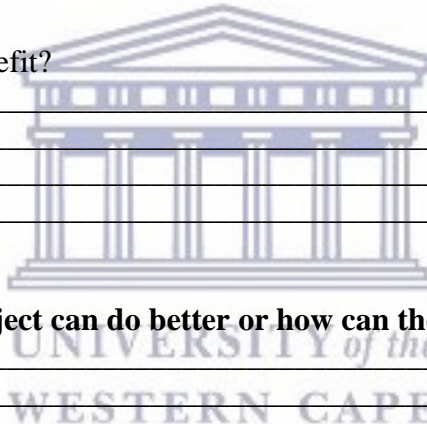
If yes, how did they benefit?

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**11. What do you think the project can do better or how can the BDT project be improved?**

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**12. Where do you see the project in 10 years and what will be the challenges?**

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**13. What assets (e.g. house, cattle, and car) have you accumulated after joining the BDT project?**

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**14. Do you think Land Reform is a good policy? Yes or No** If yes, please explain why it is a good policy.

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**15. If you could make recommendations to other land reform projects from the lessons Bergland Development Trust have learnt, what would they be?**

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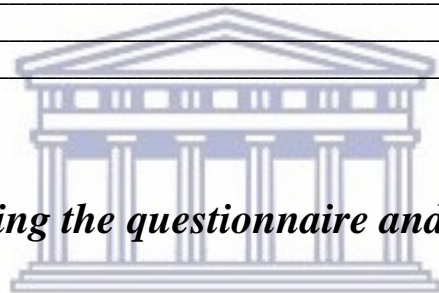
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*Thank you for completing the questionnaire and being part of the research!*



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## APPENDIX G

### Titel:

**“Is Gondhervorming Suksesvol? ‘n Kritiese Evaluering van die Bergland Ontwikkelingstrust (BOT) Grond Hervormingsprojek in Porterville, Weskus Distrik Munisipaliteit, Suid Afrika. Land Reform Project in Porterville, West Coast District, South Africa.**

## Vraelys: Individuele Begunstigdes / Deelnemers (Afrikaanse weergawe/ Afrikaans version)

(Omkring waar van toepassing)

### 1. Persoonlike Besonderhede

Geslag: Manlik of Vroulik

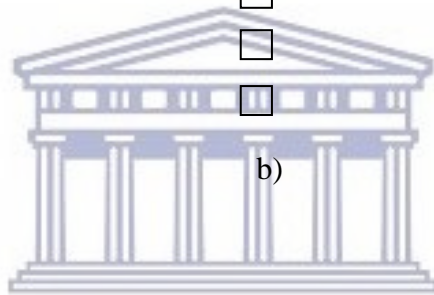
Huwelikstaat

a) Enkelopend/ongetroud

b)

Getroud

c) Weduwee/wewenaar



### 2. Demografie:

a) In watter jaar is u gebore?

c) Wat is u geslag? Manlik of Vroulik

d) Wie is die persoon in beheer van die huishouding? i) Ouer ii

Grootouers

iii Anderfamilielide, bv. tannie, oom

iv) Afhanklikes

Hoogste graad geslaag:

i) Geen ii Primêr iii

Sekondêr iv Hoogste Opleiding v

Landboukollege

Indien werk, watter tipe werk doen u:

Ouderdom:

Hoogste standaard/ kwalifikasie:

Waar woon u:

Beskryf u huis:

Opleiding

a) Watter vlak van landboukundige opleiding besit u?

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b) Was die opleiding voor aansluiting by die BOT projek? Ja of Nee

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c) Was die opleiding na aansluiting by die BOT projek? Ja of Nee

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d) Ontvang u tans ondersteuning van die regering? Ja of Nee

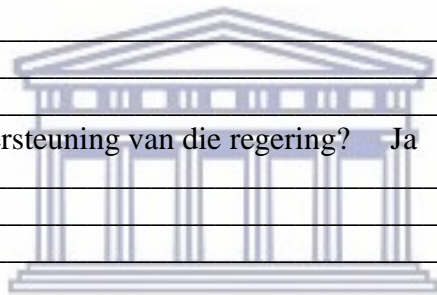
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e) Indien ja, Watter soort ondersteuning ontvang u?

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f) Indien, nee, wat dink u moet die regering doen?

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- g) Hoeveel mense woon in die huis: \_\_\_\_\_  
i) Volwassenes in huis: \_\_\_\_\_  
ii) Kinders in huis: \_\_\_\_\_  
iii) Afhanklikes : volwassenes \_\_\_\_\_ kinders \_\_\_\_\_

- g) Het u tans `n werk? Ja of Nee  
h) Indien, ja, watter pos beklee u huidiglik?

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- i) Watter ander pos naas hierdie pos in die landbou, beklee u nog?

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### 3. Inkomste

- a) Wat was u inkomste voor aansluiting by die BOT projek?

R 0-1000  R1000- 2000  R2000-3000   
R3000-4000  More than R4000

- b) Wat was u inkomste na aansluiting by die BOT projek?

R 0-1000  R1000-2000  R2000-3000   
R3000-4000  More than R4000

### 4. Wanneer het u by BOT projek aangesluit?

- a) Vanaf die begin van die BOT projek?   
b) Nadat die BOT projek gestig is?

### 5. Verstaan u wat deelname aan die BOT projek behels? Ja of Nee Indien ja, hoe is u by die beplanning van die projek betrokke?

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**6. Het die projek u lewensomstandighede verbeter?** Ja of Nee  
Indien ja, hoe het dit u lewensomstandighede verbeter? Gee asseblief voorbeelde van hoe u lewensomstandighede verbeter het?

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**7. Is die BOT projek suksesvol?** Ja of Nee Indien ja, wat maak die projek suksesvol?

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Indien nee, wat maak die projek onsuksesvol?

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**8. Ervaar die BOT projek huidiglik probleme?** Ja of Nee Indien ja, wat is die probleme wat die BOT projek huidiglik ervaar?

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**9. Het die Bergland Ontwikkelingstrust gemeenskap gebaat by die projek?** Ja of Nee

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Indien ja, op watter wyse het die BOT gemeenskap by die projek gebaat?

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**10. Het die breë gemeenskap van Porterville by die BOT projek gebaat? Ja of Nee**

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Indien ja, op watter wyse het die breë gemeenskap van Porterville daarby gebaat?



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**11. Op watter wyse kan die BOT projek verbeter?**

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**12. Hoe sien u die projek oor 10 jaar en watter uitdagings lê vir die BOT projek voor?**

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**13. Watter bates (bv. huis, vee, motor) het u opgebou nadat jy by die BOT projek aangesluit het?**

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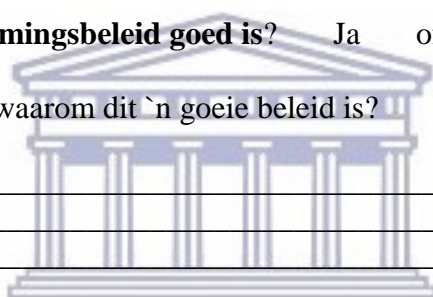
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**14. Dink u dat grondhervormingsbeleid goed is? Ja of Nee**

Indien ja, verduidelik asseblief waarom dit `n goeie beleid is?



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**15. Indien u sou aanbevelings maak na ander grondhervormingsprojekte in verband met lesse geleer uit die BOT projek, wat sou hierdie lesse wees?**

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**te wees van die navorsing!!!Baie dankie vir die voltooiing van die vraelys en dat u bereid is om deel**

## **APPENDIX H**

### **QUESTIONNAIRE FOR BOARD OF TRUSTEES, MANAGEMENT, REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND INDIVIDUAL PARTICIPANTS OF THE BERGLANDDEVELOPMENT TRUST.**

Dear Sir/Madam, my name is William Ficks. I am a student at the University of the Western Cape. I am currently undertaking a research project on the topic: "Is Land Reform Working? A critical evaluation of the Bergland Development Trust Land Reform Project in Porterville, Western Cape". Is it possible to answer the following questions? This will only take up approximately 30 minutes of your time. Your participation in this questionnaire is voluntary and answers will be handled with the utmost confidentiality. If you wish to have insight in this report, I will gladly provide you with a detailed report. Would you like to participate in this questionnaire? Yes or No. Please indicate by ticking the right answer. I value your input in this regard.

#### **SECTION A**

1. Is Bergland Development Trust important to you?

Please circle the number.

not important 1 2 3 4 5 extremely important

2. Is Bergland Development Trust important for the community?

3. Please tick on the list below and see which of the statements you agree with. You may tick more than one:

- How many people are involved with the project?
- How many people are male?
- How many people are female?
- Is the community of Porterville benefitting from this project?
- Are you personally benefitting from the project?
- Is there any tension between the members of the Bergland Development Trust ?
- Is the project sustainable?

#### **SECTION B**

4. Please indicate if you received any training concerning farming?

Did not receive training 1 2 3 4 5 Received an amount of training.

5. How much do you agree with this statement: The project is not performing well?

Totally disagree. 1 2 3 4 5 totally agree.

6. Are the various Government Departments supporting the project?

Yes

No

7. How many people have other sources of income?

Number of People \_\_\_\_\_

8. Name the sources of income? Commercial farming, teacher, retail services, municipality, retired person. Please indicate by marking the right answer(s). You can indicate more than one answer.
9. In which grade did you pass at school? Please circle the appropriate number.  
Grade 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12
10. Was the project over the past couple of years successful? Please indicate by ticking the appropriate answers. You may tick more than one answer.  
2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013
11. How many hours per day do you work at the project? Just indicate by circling the appropriate number.  
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
12. Was the project frequently visited by any of the Local or Provincial authorities? Never 1  
2 3 4 5 very frequently
13. What describes the purpose of this project the best? Indicate by ticking on the appropriate box.
  - for personal income generation
  - for fun
  - as a hobby
  - for research purposes
  - for the love of farming
  - friends urged me to do this



### SECTION C

14. Is the understanding of the policies that govern your project important to you? Indicate by circling the appropriate number.  
Not important 1 2 3 4 5 highly important
15. How many farming activities do you have on the farm?  
\_\_\_\_\_ farming activities
16. How often do you meet as project members? Indicate by ticking in the appropriate box.  
Always often sometimes rarely never
17. Does the community show any interest in the project? Indicate by ticking in the appropriate box. Not interested  
Show some interest  
Never interested
18. Are any of the following departments involved with the project? Indicate by ticking on the appropriate box.
  - Department of Correctional Services
  - Department of Social Development
  - Department of Agriculture
  - Department of Labour

19. Which of the following stakeholders are involved? Indicate by ticking on the appropriate box.

- KaapAgri
- Commercial farmer
- Local chartered accounting firm
- Community leaders

#### SECTION D

20. How many people were you in total when starting this project ?

\_\_\_\_\_ people

21. List the reasons for leaving this project. Indicate by ticking on the appropriate box.

- not interested
- tension
- have other commitments
- 

22. What is your current monthly income?

\_\_\_\_\_ per month

23. Is this amount stated in point 22 enough to meet the monthly requirements?

Not enough 1 2 3 4 5 highly sufficient

24. Are there any of these implements on the farm?

- Tractor
- Plough
- Spades
- fork

25. Are the implements in a working condition? Please indicate by ticking on the appropriate box. You may tick on more than one box.

- Not working
- bad condition but still working
- good condition
- very good condition

26. How many people are able to work with it?

\_\_\_\_\_ people

27. Are the working conditions amongst the members of the project good? Indicate by circle the appropriate number.

not good 1 2 3 4 5 very good

28. Do the project manager and stakeholders have a full understanding of their goal with the project? Indicate by ticking on the appropriate box.

- have no understanding - have a slight understanding
- have a full understanding.

Thank you very much for availing yourself to complete this form. If you have any concerns or questions do not hesitate to contact William Ficks, tel. 022-9312216 or my supervisor, Dr. Abdulrazack Karriem, tel 021 9593853.