



10 years of service

Corne Dempers Senior Economist

When did you start working for the NAMC?

I started working at the NAMC during February 2007 on a month-to-month contract basis and was then appointed as Technical Assistant.

Describe your first year at NAMC, what were your expectations?

The first year at the NAMC was exciting since I returned from a 2-year stay in Australia not spending much time in agriculture. Applying my expertise was very satisfying and during that time the Input Cost Monitoring (ICM) database and report were established.

Your work, what does it involve?

Currently I am mainly training and supervising junior members of the staff in gathering of data on various input costs, compilation and analysis of the data into the ICM reports. I am involved with other reports that are also compiled as required such as the quarterly Macro Economic Digest and the annual Food Cost Review. On an ad hoc base I conduct Agricultural Value Chain studies and is currently busy with a study for the Dairy Industry on the factors influencing their competitiveness.

10 years, what has been the greatest achievement?

With the years' come knowledge and experience and my greatest achievement must have been my promotions to firstly, Economist, on a permanent basis, and then later, becoming a Senior Economist in the Merc division.

What have you enjoyed the most about working at the NAMC?

The salary! Ok just joking. The NAMC was involved with a project called Agri-benchmark for a number of years. This project involved international farm level production cost benchmarking for beef and sheep as well as field crops. I was responsible to populate very extensive databases for the project which I enjoyed. I also had the privilege to attend some of the international conferences. This provided immense opportunities for personal and professional development.

In the next few years, how do you see things evolving?

There are a lot of young talented people employed by the NAMC that have the ability to keep and enhance the NAMC activities for a very long time. But I also believe that experience and knowledge can still enrich the work environment.