



# AFRICAP BASELINE HOUSEHOLD SURVEY REPORT FOR SOUTH AFRICA

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# Presentation outline

- Background of AFRICAP
- Study Area
- Research Methodology
- HAVA – Household Survey Results
- Concluding Remarks



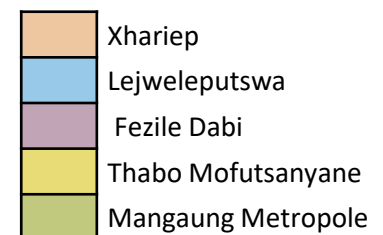
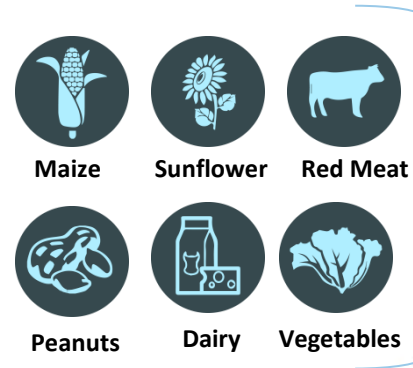
# Acknowledgement

The NAMC and FANRPAN would like to thank the Free State Department of Agriculture and Rural Development for their assistance in the making the survey possible, more specifically Ms Thabitha Mokone, Mr Maxwell Mamphiswana and the Agricultural Advisors.

# Background

- The Agricultural and Food-Systems Resilience: Increasing Capacity and Advising Policy (AFRICAP) is a programme aimed at supporting climate-smart and sustainable agricultural development.
- Working with local organisations and governments in Malawi, South Africa, Tanzania and Zambia, the programme is creating an evidence base to underpin new country-specific policies in agriculture and food production.
- In South Africa the chosen location for implementation of AFRICAP research work was the Free State Province in Thabo Mofutsanyane and Lejweleputswa District Municipalities

# Study Area



# Research Methodology & Demographics

- Approval to conduct the survey was received from the NAMC's Ethical Clearance Committee on 17 May 2019
- On 20 May 2019 the NAMC, together with FANRPAN, convened a data-collection training session for the AFRICAP HAVA project.
- In total, 17 persons were used as the numerators for the AFRICAP data collection. Of the 17 numerators, 10 were enumerators hired from within the Free and seven were NAMC and FANRPAN employees.
- The data was collected in the Open Data Kit application using tablets. The data in the server was managed by FANRPAN and the University of Leeds. The NAMC used STATA to analyze the data.
- A sample of 398 farmers from Lejweleputswa (175) and Thabo Mofutsanyane (223), were interviewed (subsistence, smallholder and commercial farmers).

# Agricultural Land holding

- The results suggest that farming in these districts is founded on family structure.
- In many instances, children are less involved in farming due to school attendance or migrant work. In that regard, the head of the household took full responsibility for the farm.
- Access to land for smallholder farmers remains a problem.
- In terms of the farmers with access, this was mainly pasture land (55 %) and active cultivation land (45 %), suggesting that the study sites are more likely to be suitable for the production of livestock and crops.



# Crop Cultivation Systems

- Evidence from data shows that maize, potatoes, sunflower, soybeans and dry beans were the first main crops respectively.
- Other crops that were harvested included beetroot, spinach, cabbage, tomatoes, pumpkins and butternuts.
- The area planted for the these ranged from 0.5 ha to 400 ha.
- Production is for home consumption to commercial production.
- Traditionally, planting starts in September, but they had started to shift towards planting around November due to prolonged dry spells.
- Due to the drought, farmers had delayed planting up until January in extreme situations to catch up with the changing climate.



# Market information

- The results show that maize production was market oriented.
- Large quantities that went into the market versus the quantity used for home consumption.
- Majority of farmers prefeed their own transport to deliver produce to the market, while 30% used hired transport.
- The survey showed that only sixty 15% of the farmers applied irrigation.  
The sources of water for irrigation were commonly from boreholes.

# Livestock System

- In terms of livestock in both the district municipalities, approximately 81% of the 398 households interviewed kept livestock in their households – either cattle, sheep, goats or chickens, or a combination thereof.
- Of the two district municipalities, it was found that more households in Thabo Mofutsanyane (190) than in Lejweleputswa (131) were involved in livestock farming.
- The main types of livestock kept were cattle, sheep, goats and chickens for several reasons – either for commercial or food security purposes or both.

## Concluding Remarks

- The results also revealed that some farmers had changed their farming practices and other farmers were willing to change.
- The farmers who had changed their farming practices employed the use of boreholes, or bought more tanks, bought feed for livestock, or delayed planting.
- The impact of natural disasters such as climate change, leading to drought, has a dire effect on agricultural production.
- It was evident that in the past four years most of the farmers experienced unusual or unexpected weather patterns.
- Although farmers were applying historical knowledge in dealing with the effects of climate change, more adaptation and mitigation strategies are needed in both crop and livestock farming practices.



**THANK YOU!**