

Can Nguni Cattle Contribute to Livelihoods and Food Security: The Case of IDC Nguni Cattle Project in Limpopo Province, South Africa.

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I like colloquium!

Research Experience with animal scientists

Nguni IDC Project: An Overview

Structure (Soft loan)

- 30 pregnant heifers
- A breeding bull
- Repayment if five years
- Self scaling project

Objectives

- Reintroduction of Nguni bloodlines in the smallholder farming communities
- Improving welfare of the previously disadvantaged farmers

Land reform beneficiaries:

The Settlement Land Acquisitions Grant (SLAG) and Land Redistribution for Agricultural Development (LRAD)

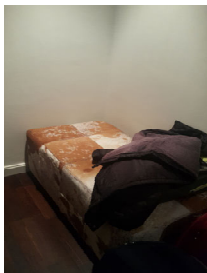
Smallholder Vs Commercial

- In terms of constraints faced and production knowledge (Smallholder)
- In terms of land resources and government support (Emerging to commercial)

Constraints to market participation

- Low prices lead to low profitability therefore low development
- Non registration as pure breeders
- Inaccessible markets (hides-equivalent to meat!)
- Auctions discount for small frame
- Meat grading system favours exotics (Is a point being missed-research) (Angus bull X Nguni cow cross). Bulls did not survive.

Nguni skin?



Nguni by-product



Possible interventions to improve offtake, profitability and food security contribution of IDC Nguni cattle farmers

- Education and training (Previously disadvantage-Lots of literature)
- Farmer organisations/Commodity groups/Cooperatives (Skins)
- Public-Private Partnerships (Central selling point)
- Use of ICT (Digital divide)
- Commercialisation (Paradigm shifts-Nobel Prize winner -Mohammed Yunus and Grameen Bank-Lending to poor women one or two chickens!)

Going back to the young researcher!

- Many changes have taken place (Dean pre-empted them last night)
- Digital development (Facebook engagement-Consulted our partners-What they mean)
- With the developments characterization should be a walk in the park! Is it not?
- Presidents have changed-especially those who overstayed)
- Politicians in an immigrant based country chanting "She must go back"
- Senior civil servants learning through Twitter that they lost a job!
- Some changes are welcome-This room! High level meeting. Talent like Prof Dzama.
- But what about the questions about the Mukota-Perhaps the real change is we are asking the questions in social media

Soooo-can we make a difference and advance our argument?

- I have worked in many African countries:
 - South Africa, Ethiopia, Uganda, Tanzania, Kenya, West Africa e.g.: Benin,
 - Botswana. Lesotho, Swaziland etc.
- The questions are the same. There is also good science being done but it seems to stop there!
- Need to rope in two or three more economists to address structural issues (When to introduce innovation and market constraints)
- Next time we meet we should be discussing implementation problems-otherwise there is no progress.

Security: The Case of IDC Nguni Cattle Project in Limpopo Province, South Africa.

The answer is YES...BUT there are constraints that need to be addressed!

**The end
Thank you
(and Thank you Prof Makombe)**
