

# Food Security Programms

## OBJECTIVE

The Food Security Programme is primarily aimed at alleviating hunger and poverty in the Province through agricultural initiatives. The sub- programme targets the most vulnerable women, children, unemployed youth, and people living with disabilities.

## PROJECTS OFFERED

There are three (3) types of initiatives that attempt to reduce the number of food insecure households in the province:

Community Food Gardens

Homestead Food Gardens

Schools Food Gardens

## COMMUNITY FOOD GARDENS

The sub-programme is responsible for establishing community food production units whose aim is to increase food production at household level.

Participants are given support that includes infrastructure, technical advice, training and production inputs.

The sub-programme assists in the management of these projects for a period of three to five years. Beneficiaries will be expected to independently manage these projects.

Interested members of the community must have access to land. A letter indicating the permission to use the land has been granted and the number of years that the land can be used must be submitted as a starting point. An Agricultural Advisor will then make contact with the interested person(s) and guide them on how to take the process forward.

## HOMESTEAD FOOD GARDENS

More recently the Department launched the Homestead Food Gardens

The Homestead Food Gardens involve the identification of participants with the assistance of Ward Councillors, Community Development Workers, Non Governmental Organisations, Department of Health and Social Development, Municipality officials and other organizations involved in food security initiatives.

The selection of actual participants is through a volunteer programme and training. All interested participants must be trained before they can receive a vegetable production pack that comprises of basic garden tools, seeds, shade netting and organic fertilisers

Interested participants can contact their ward councillors, community development workers in their area or an Agricultural Advisor.

## **SCHOOL FOOD GARDENS**

To support the Department of Education's school nutrition feeding programme, the sub-programme also launched the school gardening project in 2008/2009. The No Fee Paying Primary schools [NFP] were the first to be targeted. Currently, the assistance has expanded to include the No Fee Paying High schools.

### **OBJECTIVES**

To raise awareness on the importance of Food Security to learners.

To raise awareness on agriculture as a career path.

To complement the school nutrition feeding programme.

### **For more information**

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