

Flagship projects



The ARC (Agricultural Research Council) and DoA (Department of Agriculture) have a service level agreement (SLA) in place to ensure effective collaboration and support for the agricultural sector. This agreement facilitates research and development activities, focusing on addressing sector needs and providing scientific solutions for growth, transformation, and developmental challenges. The SLA also encompasses a wide range of research and development projects across different directorates.



agriculture
Department:
Agriculture
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

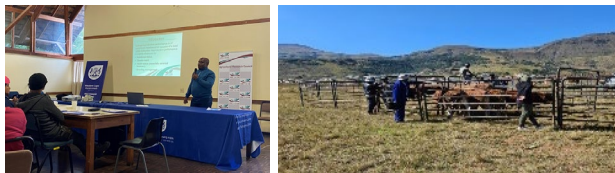
Breeding of new and improved tropical and subtropical crops



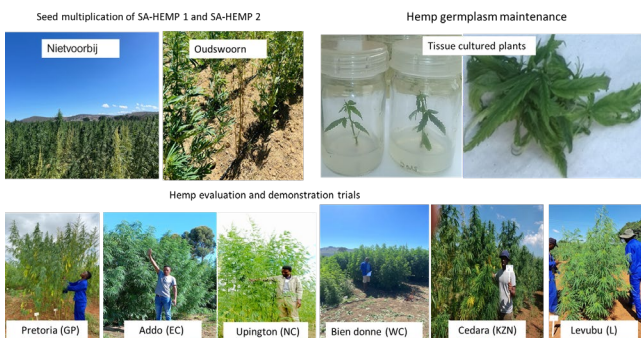
New cultivar development for increased competitiveness

KyD and collaborative data repository to collect field data for the census to support INTERGIS

- KyD conducted 6 **farmers' days** in 4 provinces attended by 376 farmers comprising 38% women
- 147 Farmers comprising 36% women earned R1.8 million from selling 326 head of cattle at 3 auctions in KZN



Cannabis and medicinal plant value chain development



Root, Tuber and Bulbous Crops Section

Community Seed Systems

- Seed quality assurance for preservation, multiplication & supply of seed to researchers & producers
- Seed purity (genetic and physical purity)
- Seed quality (physiological quality) – germination & vigor
- Seed health – address insect infestation & fungal infection, in or on seed
- Working with Bioversity International and Department of Agriculture (DoA) in community seed banks

Value chains for fresh produce and seed markets offer significant opportunities for development, particularly for women and youth. The current smallholder seed systems suffer from problems such as inadequate access to quality seeds, lack of guaranteed product quality, poor storage and treatment practices, and limited smallholder participation in seed value chains.

The ARC and DOA (Department of Agriculture) have been working hand-in-hand with farmers since 2013 on the management of crop diversity at the farm level, where seed banking was recognized as an effective method of seed conservation, particularly for NUS and traditional crop varieties. This has led to the establishment of three community seed banks in the country, one in Limpopo (Gumbu village), one in Eastern Cape (Mbobo village) and in North-West Province (Jericho).



Establish additional rabies diagnostic capacity in Eastern Cape and Limpopo Provinces, South Africa

Capex procurement of minus 20 and minus 80 freezers done.



Consultative meeting held in Limpopo on the 27th of February 2024.



Renovations of Eastern Cape laboratory now complete.

Assessment of Genomic Diversity in South African Pigs



Poisonous plants and their health affects on livestock

- Conducted workshops, interviews and questionnaire surveys on poisonous plants causing livestock losses and affecting subsistence farmers.
- Collected poisonous plant samples from different Local Municipalities in Eastern Cape, OR Tambo District, Mthatha.



Biobank Conservation

Stakeholder engagement and information dissemination
NAMPO 2024



Kwazulu-Natal and Limpopo small scale and new era farmers that are key stakeholders in the project

Consultative meeting with IVG breeders society for reference breeds to optimise the workflows: IVG is a stakeholder in building panels for conservation

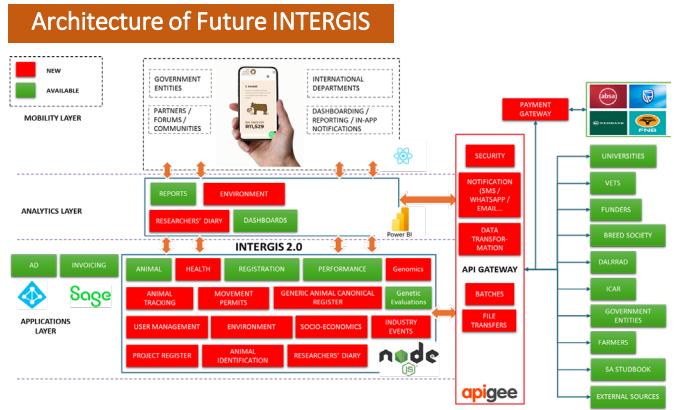
Discussions between the arc (BTP and API) with IVG: impact on the a51: goat mortality in assisting farmers with basic training

Centre of Excellence on Climate Smart Agriculture



- Architects appointed, designs in progress
- Solar contracted
- Production systems in planning
- Engagements with various Universities nationally and internationally on R&D projects advanced, MOUs and SLAs signed/in progress

Integrated Registration and Genetic Information System (INTERGIS)



- moderPhase I: Completed
- INTERGIS business analysis
 - Future fit-for-purpose INTERGIS system design
 - Specification of the future INTERGIS system
- Phase II - INTERGIS nization.

Tick Toxicoses and Paralysis

- Collection of ticks to establish in colony (~2 year lifecycle)

