



# UMSIZI CORPORATE AND DEVELOPMENT PROFILE



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The name “Umsizi” is taken from the local South African Zulu language meaning “helper” or “helping hand”. We are specialists in the formulation and implementation of Socio-economic Development



## SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Assist corporates to comply with their social and sustainability requirements from legislation, charters and global best practise.



## BROAD-BASED ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT

Establish community based enterprises and empower entrepreneurs in agriculture, light industries and manufacturing.



## SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Design and implement community development projects, focused on livelihoods, income creation and poverty eradication.



## CORPORATE SOCIAL INVESTMENT

Provide corporates with real, proven and sustainable community development projects for their CSI and BBEE requirements.



## THE UMSIZI WAY

Umsizi is a company which has a proven and successful track-record, specialist skills base and extensive experience in socio-economic and sustainable community development. We operate throughout Southern Africa and Africa with many successful examples.

## OUR VISION

Building self-reliant and prosperous communities through implementing sustainable socio-economic development solutions and programmes focused on empowering people in regions affected by poverty.

## OUR GOALS

- To provide industry and corporates with real and sustainable community development opportunities and projects for their corporate social investment and compliance.
- To provide households, individuals and people groups with tangible economic means to improve their quality of life and break the cycle of poverty and dependency.
- To provide productive socio-economic technologies and programmes from our wealth of intellectual and human resources to succeed in our vision.



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## THE UMSIZI TEAM

Umsizi is lauded as an expert in the fields of Socio-Economic Development, Rural and Community Development, Sustainable Livelihood Development, Local Economic Development and Sustainable Economic Production. Our expertise extend to Social and Labour Plans, Social-Economic Impact Assessments, Stakeholder Engagement and Sustainability Reporting.

Umsizi is led by John-Mark Kilian as its Executive Director, followed by Luyanda Ntlanjeni as the company's Operations Director. Umsizi is proudly a level 3 BBBEE company with 48% black ownership. Our CSI is a non-profit organization called Impophomo which focuses on socio-economic development in impoverished communities. 25% of Umsizi's financial and human resources go towards to Imphomomo.

The Umsizi team consists of around 30 leading experts with varying aptitudes required for sustainable socio-economic development. I.e. Community development officers, training facilitators, design engineers, project managers, report writers, impact assessment practitioners, agricultural specialists, enterprise development practitioners and social scientists. Everyone at Umsizi is incredibly proud of the work we do and we feel privileged to use our expertise in improving the quality of life and eradicating poverty in impoverished communities.



## OUR PRINCIPLES

- Establish meaningful and people-centred socio-economic investment at a grassroots community level.
- Design and implement high impact solutions based on integrity, social justice and economic empowerment.
- Form genuine and honest partnerships with stakeholders- based on meaningful engagement and common values .
- Satisfy the corporate social investment and sustainability compliance requirements of our clients and stakeholders.
- Empower households, individuals and people groups in poor communities to meet their basic needs and benefit effectively from the economic mainstream.



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## CONTEXT

South Africa is a country rich in resources and yet it is shrouded by the POVERTY of its people. 5 million people are currently unemployed in South Africa with 41.4% of people living below the poverty line\*. So how do we bridge the divide between rich and poor? The South African Government has always said that to achieve this goal, the Government and private sectors need to work together. There are national and global regulations in place which attempt to 'bridge the divide' and stop the cycle of poverty. Companies are required to comply with Corporate Social Investment standards, sustainability requirements, corporate governance practices and Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment regulations in order to spearhead change and create opportunities for marginalized communities.

*\* R3,864 per capita, per annum at 2000 prices (<http://transformationaudit.org>).*

### THE ROLE OF LEGISLATION

One way to achieve this balance is with legislation. For example, within industry, the South African Government requires companies to socially and economically stimulate poverty eradication and develop local communities. The Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act of 2002 (MPRDA), obligates mines to implement Local Economic Development (LED) projects in their labour-sending and surrounding communities. This specific requirement is also underpinned by the Social and Labour Plan (SLP), wherein mines stipulate their efforts in this regard to the Department of Mineral Resources (DMR). Additionally, the Broad-based Black Economic Empowerment regulations call for each company to also observe socio-economic empowerment regulations. Therefore, companies are required to invest in poverty eradication as enforced by Government.

### SUSTAINABILITY & CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

In order to meet Global Sustainability Reporting and good Corporate Governance requirements, organisations must meet the four pillars of long-term performance and impact; economic, environmental, social and governance. The King 3 report states that for a company to operate at a functionally efficient sustainable condition, resources need to be utilized in a means that considers these four pillars. The competitiveness of global services and products will be influenced by the degree to which organisations meet the King 3 requirements.

### CORPORATE SOCIAL INVESTMENT

There is a moral requirement for organisations to go beyond compliance and corporate governance in making a greater difference in social justice and the fight against poverty. Corporate social investment is one such way for companies to do so. Your return on investment is contributing to an improved quality of life for marginalised people groups and creating access to economic development opportunities .



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## THE WORK WE DO & EXPERIENCE



**UMSIZI PROVIDES** high-impact proven solutions and programmes to assist organisations comply with all of their requirements. These relate to the fields of Socio-Economic Development, Community Development, Enterprise Development and Sustainable Livelihood Creation. In the execution of these, our approach is to build strong working relationships with: Industry; Corporates; Individuals; Households; Communities; Government; and Tribal authorities.

Some our corporate clients include: Richards Bay Minerals, BHP Billiton, Rio Tinto, Royal Bafokeng Platinum, Australia Aid, Peiser Social Impact, Evraz Highveld Steel, AngloGold Ashanti, Shanduka, Tendele Mining, Letatsi Power Company, Eskom, Black Wattle Colliery, Black Mountain Mine, Samancor, Ruukki, Glencore, De Beers, Xstrata Mining, Chromex, Lafarge, Lanxess Mining, Palabora Mining Company, Petmin, Harmony Gold, Anglo Base Metals, Anglo Platinum, ERM and Jindal.

We have a proven track record of successful programmes and projects throughout Southern Africa. We have successfully worked in rural contexts, urban environments, traditional settings, remote communities and bureaucratic frameworks where people are trapped in poverty.

### **We provide the following core products\*:**

1. Consulting Services
2. Socio-Economic Development Projects
3. Community Development Solutions
4. Broad-based Enterprise Development
5. Corporate Social Investment Programmes

*\*Each aspect is discussed in the sections which follow.*



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# CONSULTING SERVICES

Umsizi's niche is to assist organisations to meet their compliance and reporting requirements through addressing the social, economic and community components of development projects. We offer a professional practice based on **providing expert advice through the following:**

- Socio-Economic Development
- Social & Labour Plans
- Local Economic Development
- Rural and Community Development
- Baseline Socio-Economic Studies and Surveys
- Socio-Economic Impact Assessments
- Sustainable Livelihood and Enterprise Development
- Community and Stakeholder Engagement Processes
- Corporate Social Investment
- Sustainable Social Development Solutions
- Resettlement Action Plans
- Social Closure and Sustainable Land-use Management
- Sustainability and Impact Reporting
- Legislative Compliance and Assessment
- Community and Stakeholder Mobilization
- Programme and Project Design and Implementation

**“We have put all our faith in Umsizi to create highly significant socio-economic development programmes for our communities.”**

- Tendele Mining CEO, Johan Gloy, March 2013

**“Umsizi has helped us to comply with the Mining Charter and to develop sustainable and high impact social development programmes.”**

-Company Secretary Palabora Mining, July 2013.

Umsizi has helped many organisations and corporates to achieve compliance with social, sustainability and development regulations and requirements. We have compiled numerous socio-economic solutions and expert reports for our clients. In all of these, Umsizi has provided excellence, innovation, specialist knowledge and integrity in meeting their needs.



**“Umsizi has implemented successful social and economic development programmes in the Royal Bafokeng nation around sustainable livelihood creation, agricultural production and enterprise development.”**

-Royal Bafokeng Nation, Administration and Community Manager , July 2013.



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# SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT METHODOLOGY

Socio-Economic Development (SED) is any programme that creates sustainable access to the economy for its beneficiaries. From the many years of SED experience, Umsizi has created a process that takes development from the initial inception phase right through to final long-term sustainability. **This inclusive process explores the unique baseline needs of client targeted people groups in regions affected by poverty.** In doing so Umsizi is able to design a tailor made sustainable development project to meet the client's and community's needs whilst adopting global best practice standards.

The SED process includes the following detailed steps:

- 1. Rapid Assessment** - to understand the zone of impact of each development and the profile of the surrounding communities.
- 2. Stakeholder Engagement** - a commitment to provide stakeholders with the right to be heard and accepting the obligation to account to them. It is used to build and maintain constructive relationships over time. This is an ongoing process between a project and its project stakeholders that extends throughout the life of the project.
- 3. Socio-Economic Baseline Study** - to provide a sound and factual socio-economic database to plan development interventions that best seek to promote the sustainable development of local communities over the long-term. This further provides a foundation on which to establish a detailed Community Engagement Strategy.
- 4. Social Impact & Risk Assessment** - to analyse the social and economic benefits and risks of a development on the broader community, taking into account its immediate implications and the longer term implications. It further

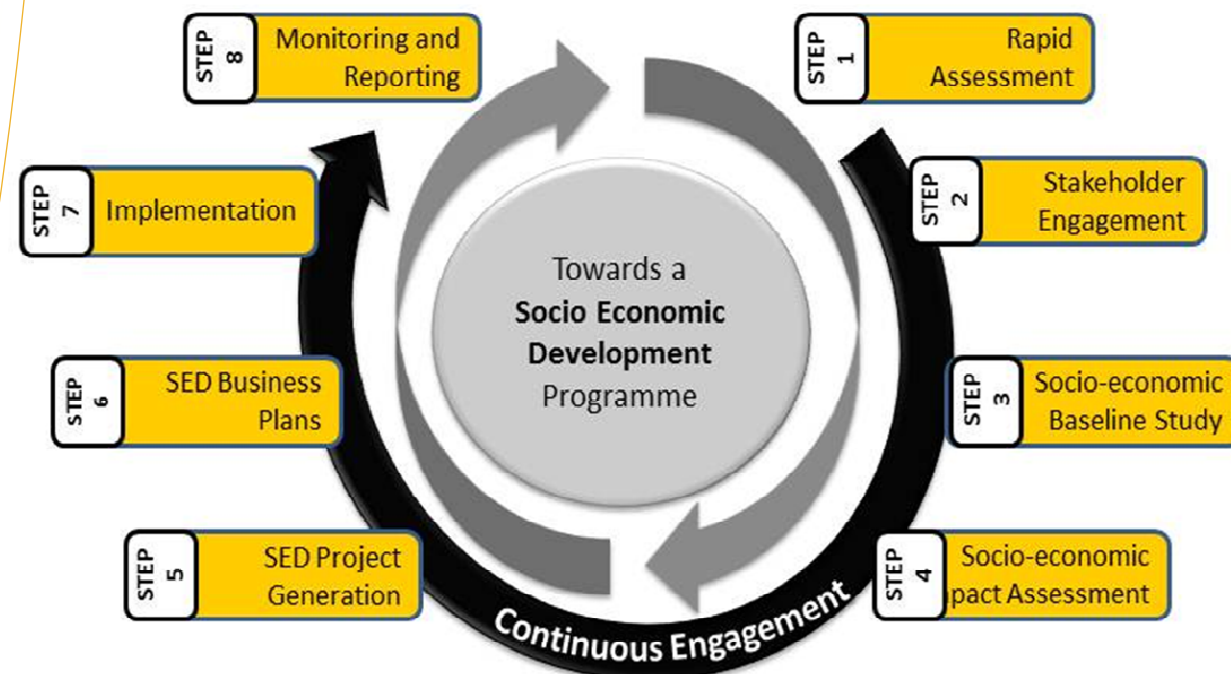
identifies opportunities for enhancing the socio-economic well-being of the people who live and work in the project's area of influence.

**5. SED Program & Project Generation** - SED projects are the specific actions that will be taken to achieve the joint vision, goals and objectives of the project and its stakeholders.

**6. SED Project Business Plan** - a formal document that demonstrates a professional approach to planning and operating the business.

**7. Implementation Phase** - the identified project must actually be conducted and implemented with the progress in reaching the set objectives with the focus on sustainability.

**8. Monitoring & Evaluation** – Good monitoring and evaluation techniques help to quantify outcomes, justify expenditures, determine enhancements and adjustments, and develop good practices.



*Umsizi's passion for equipping people with productive economic means is underpinned by expert use of scientific methodologies and knowledge-based practices. Our specialists are renowned leaders in their respective fields of expertise. Umsizi's success is based on interfacing such knowledge into a social developmental context. Humility, respect for others and compassion for the poor, is our heart.*



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# STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

In many ways Umsizi's implementation success is rooted in participatory and meaningful engagement with stakeholders. Our aim is to build long-lasting and mutually beneficial relationships with stakeholders, which is a vital, prioritised aspect of each and every Umsizi project.

In order for development projects to be successful they must meet the needs of targeted communities in a manner the beneficiaries can embrace as their own. **It is imperative to achieve self-reliance, participatory development, independent ownership and a breaking of dependency, for sustainability to be possible.** This becomes pertinent when working with the livelihoods of households, individuals and people groups.

Umsizi maintains relationships with stakeholders and beneficiaries long after a project has been completed to ensure their well-being. In doing so, relationships with our stakeholders become partnerships for achieving long-lasting and sustainable socio-economic development.

## Umsizi Stakeholder Engagement Model

The Umsizi Stakeholder Engagement follows specific steps to ensure all our project work with the principles of Stakeholder Engagement:

- 1. Identify stakeholders** - the individuals or groups who are affected by an organisation. Key Stakeholders are those individuals who could play a leading role in development interventions.
- 2. Conduct stakeholder mapping and prioritisation** exercises - aids the process of prioritising key stakeholders.
- 3. Consultation and information disclosure** to stakeholders. Communicating information in a manner that is understandable to stakeholders is an important step in the process of stakeholder engagement and develops a relationship and trust between proponents and beneficiaries.
- 4. Identify the most effective engagement approaches** - There are many types but generally all stakeholder engagements should take place in the stakeholders own environment and should be lead by community leaders.
- 5. Develop socio-economic fact sheets** for each stakeholder - A fact sheet provides a platform to disclose important information regarding the opinions of key stakeholders at specific sites, giving insight and understanding of stakeholder expectations and needs.
- 6. Provide regular information updates** - Communicating regular information updates are essential to the success of stakeholder engagement.



*“Stakeholder engagement is about building and maintaining constructive relationships over time. It is an on-going process between a company or organisation and its project stakeholders, that extends throughout the life of the project and encompasses a range of activities and approaches, from information sharing and consultation, to participation, negotiation and partnerships. The nature and frequency of this engagement should reflect the level of project risks and impacts.”* - IFC Stakeholder Engagement: A Good Practice Handbook for Companies.



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# SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOOD DEVELOPMENT:

## Creating Opportunities

Enterprise and economic development opportunities are abundant in South Africa. The tragedy of poverty is most people are unable to benefit from them. People lack the knowledge, capacity and means to access opportunities to utilize these to their economic advantage. Sustainable livelihood and entrepreneurial development equips households, individuals and groups with the means to generate income streams and exploit benefits in the economic mainstream.

Enterprise development focuses on identifying various key needs, markets and opportunities in terms of the regional economy. This process looks at the local and available capacity, resources, skills and knowledge to effectively exploit these. Umsizi's focus is to identify existing entrepreneurs, or persons with potential to become so, within the local economy and enhance their economic means. We enhance the local capacity through developing skills, income and sustainable livelihoods.

The basic principles for supporting and incubating sustainable livelihood opportunities are:

1. Existing entrepreneurial activity on the ground, or potential for;
2. Available economic opportunity and market;
3. Strong potential for replication and multiplication of the entrepreneurial activity, and
4. Selection of entrepreneurial projects for incubation at an enterprise Hub (to be described on page 22) which can the highest impact on the local area.

Umsizi provides sustainable livelihood development opportunities in order to:

- Empowerment people economically
- Improve household food security and nutrition
- Create productive economic means
- Enable individuals access to the economic mainstream
- Create income generation opportunities
- Develop entrepreneurs and enterprises



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# SOCIO ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

Within community development projects the aim is to significantly improve the wellbeing of households, individuals or groups within impoverished communities. Projects are designed to be community specific so that upon implementation the positive impacts on the ground, can be sustainable and widespread.

## Our key Socio-Economic Development (SED) projects\* are:

- Household Agricultural Livelihood Development
- Community-run Indigenous Nurseries
- Livestock Improvement Project
- Poultry Improvement Project
- Basic Service Provision & Infrastructure
- The HUB

*\* each project is described in detail on the pages which follow.*

The success of all the Umsizi projects is as a result of extensive stakeholder engagement, training, empowerment and entrepreneurial development. Training is followed up by monitoring and mentoring, which ensures that the participants are nurtured and grow under the guidance of training facilitators. Umsizi has mastered the art of training households, individuals and groups in a manner that both motivates and inspires the learner. A component which also contributes to the success of our projects, is the application of Umsizi's intellectual and productive development solutions to bring about meaningful socio-economic and community development .



**“You do not bring any infrastructure before preparing the people. If the people do not take ownership, the project fails”**

*-One training facilitator for Umsizi*



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# HOUSEHOLD AGRICULTURAL LIVELIHOOD DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

The Household Agricultural Livelihoods Development Project is one of the SED projects currently being implemented by Umsizi across South Africa. The project is a livelihood improvement programme which is focused on empowering households to enter into the economic mainstream through crop production.

The project is divided into two main components. The first component is an outreach component, whereby local households, farmers and institutions are assisted with their agricultural activities (both at subsistence- and commercial-level) and nutritional health. This component entails training households in agriculture crop production and providing them with agricultural infrastructure. The second component of the project focuses on linking the households to external markets, providing local economic development and income generation opportunities for households. The project specific training and details about the infrastructure is described further on pages 13 and 14 which follow.

**This project is about changing previous ideas about community agriculture. The project challenges households to realise their potential for sustainable and commercial agriculture, while providing them with the means to do so.**



## Key Benefits & Project Objectives

- Skills development & training in agriculture crop production.
- On-going agricultural & training opportunities to flow to needy households.
- Opportunity for households to sell excess produce, while being individually monitored & mentored in business management & finances.
- Facilitating downstream community-owned enterprise development, skills training & employment creation.
- Empowering communities & growing their sense of dignity to become sustainable.
- The project assists a community/area to take ownership of the project and to manage the retail of produce, while infrastructure erected at household-level will simultaneously boost agricultural activities.
- The community-outreach component of the project provides a strong basis for the communities to identify with the development of a large scale initiative, such as a Hub, see page 22.



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# HOUSEHOLD AGRICULTURAL LIVELIHOOD DEVELOPMENT PROJECT:

## Community Training

Training is presented to all selected areas, and involves open sessions to all interested local members. The training incorporates several modules on household conservation agricultural production. The training sessions teach attendees about aspects such as; nutrition, soil structure, seedling planting, crop rotation, vegetable harvesting, pest control and fruit tree planting and value-adding.

After a community has received the training (which normally stretch for about 4-6 months), members are continuously monitored and mentored in the various techniques. This enables the beneficiaries to acquire skills needed to grow and sell their produce, taking their agricultural activities to a commercial-level, entering into the economic mainstream.

Households who exhibit dedication and show initiative are supplied with greenhouse tunnels and rainwater harvest tanks to further enhance their production efforts (details follow on the next page).



**"I will expand it into a big business and apply the knowledge I gained from training."**

**"I gained self-empowerment"**

**"No more hunger in our families"**

**"I will sell my vegetables, help the poor and send my children to school"**

*~ comments made by project beneficiaries*



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# HOUSEHOLD AGRICULTURAL LIVELIHOOD DEVELOPMENT PROJECT: Infrastructure Provision



Beneficiaries who have completed the agricultural training and whom have shown great enthusiasm, embracing the Agricultural Livelihoods project are selected to receive agricultural supportive infrastructure in the form of a greenhouse tunnel and a rainwater harvesting system for crop production water needs. Detailed criteria is used to identify the infrastructure beneficiaries. The combination of infrastructure elements are customised to ensure that the specific needs, based on aspects such as an area's climate, are addressed.

A standard system consists of greenhouse tunnel, which provides a protected environment for growing crops and subsequently increases production. This tunnel is covered in material ensuring optimal growing conditions for cultivating a wide range of crops. Soil inside these tunnels is deep-trenched and packed with organic material to maximise yields and be water conservative. Most beneficiaries eagerly assist the construction team when installing the infrastructure, particularly the women who assist with sewing-related tasks for the nets. Further enabling skills development in communities.

Roof-rainwater harvesting 4500L tanks and gutters are also provided to further increase water collection and storage. This water can also be used for consumption, not only for crop production.

The ground rainwater system comprises 5,000L tanks that are sunken underground to harvest surface run-off rainwater. These buried garden tanks are fitted with internal stainless steel stabilising rings and built-in ladders, lockable lids and padlocks, and an innovative 'pipe-pump' for easy and reliable water extraction. A silt trap is installed to improve the quality of the water being collected and it decreases maintenance. This system can be further developed to provide primary water. The technologies provided in the form of crop production infrastructure, have been designed to innovative yet suited for frequent use with very low maintenance requirements.

**"My vegetables are now protected. I now know how to grow my own vegetables and to store water."  
"The project has helped to improve our yields. I will look after the tunnel and be able to produce more".**



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## COMMUNITY-RUN INDIGENOUS NURSERY



Umsizi's community-run indigenous nursery aims to propagate indigenous plants as well as rescue plants from development-areas in order to maximize the socio-economic positive impact in a community. One long-term objective of the project is to ultimately facilitate poverty eradication in an area and sustainably restore households' well-being and dignity whilst enabling them access to the economic mainstream.

Individuals are trained in indigenous plant propagation and plant identification so that they are able to rescue plants from mining- or construction- areas. The propagated plants are subsequently used for landsite rehabilitation or for indigenous landscaping. One long-term objective of the project is to ultimately facilitate poverty eradication through skills development and job creation within an area. The project also aims to instil a sense of ownership among communities, and to empower them to develop their own downstream projects by using the skills and training they received during the project.

**"We are excited about the prospect of growing this project further as we see it as ours"**

**"The project has given me HOPE for a better future, not just for me and my family, but for the community."**



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# COMMUNITY-RUN INDIGENOUS NURSERY

## Key Objectives

- To restore the well-being & livelihoods of the local communities to higher levels of sustainability.
- To rescue indigenous plants from development areas & replanting these in the nursery.
- On-going training & mentorship are provided to the employees in agriculture & indigenous vegetation [e.g. plant identification, general nursery systems, irrigation systems, business skills and rehabilitation of indigenous plants, and surface restoration].
- The establishment an indigenous nursery for poverty alleviation and through commercial solves, landsite rehabilitation and indigenous bioscaping.
- In the long-term, the nursery will be a commercially successful, independent, community-operated & owned indigenous nursery offering services such as rehabilitation and landscaping.
- Be a catalyst for the development of further community-owned, downstream economic ventures. The Hub (to be described on page 22) could include an indigenous component, becoming a platform to link the nursery to the commercial market.

## Benefits of the project identified by nursery employees from the community-run nursery in Limpopo:

- Skills development
- Knowledge in constructing tunnels
- Individual and community empowerment
- Gaining knowledge about plants/environment
- Saving plants to rehabilitate mined areas
- Job creation
- Rehabilitate the plants and the community
- Knowledge and earning money
- Selling the plants to generate an income
- It helps the communities by creating employment opportunities

**“The project has made a huge difference in our community, training us in skills, providing income, teaching us to grow food and how to use water”**  
- project beneficiary



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# LIVESTOCK IMPROVEMENT PROJECT



Livestock symbolises wealth in many African cultures and is seen as an investment holding great status. This cultural tradition has resulted in thousands of free roaming livestock in rural and semi-urban areas alike. Traditional farming methods do not always include treatment of livestock against parasites, do not have measures to control overgrazing and there is often a limited water supply in many grazing areas. These challenges can cause stress on animal wellbeing and the environment. This programme address these issues with immediate effect, whilst planning long term sustainable support and exploring economic avenues which livestock owners can pursue.

Umsizi uses a development approach known as Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA). This approach aims to incorporate the knowledge and opinions of rural people in the planning and management of development projects and programmes. In this programme the PRA involves the following:

1. Assessing the available natural resources and existing issues/ concerns facing cattle owners;
2. Identifying solutions;
3. Establishing the various roles and responsibilities in the community needed for the solutions to work.

Based on the findings of the PRA, a Livestock Improvement Programme is developed for enhancing the local livestock asset and economic base. This framework promotes ownership by local farmers and livestock development solutions to nurture the cultural, social and economic wealth.

The immediate livestock support focuses on:

- Community engagement with farmers to identify community specific problems and solutions in a Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA).
- Tagging and recording livestock numbers.
- Treating livestock against parasites.
- Educating farmers on long term parasite treatment.
- Develop grazing management practices for an area.

The long term livestock support focuses on:

- Improve the condition of free-roaming livestock.
- Employ better livestock management and planning techniques amongst livestock owners.
- Building the economic and farming sustainability.
- Creating opportunities for commercial production.



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## POULTRY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT



Chicken meat is the most popular source of protein for South Africans. The commercial production of broilers is a highly developed market, with large production units being very common throughout the country. However, in recent years, there has been an influx of cheap imported chicken meat, and a major increase in the cost of poultry feed, as well as a sharp rise in the minimum wage for farm labour. Despite the market saturation and economic challenges faced by larger poultry units, there is strong potential for home-based and small-scale production of eggs and chicken meat. Successful poultry production at household level provides excellent economic potential through utilizing intermediate-sized poultry units to create sustainable livelihoods.

The approach taken is to:

- Implement a hands-on experimentation training programme.
- Develop self-management, financial management, production planning, and administration strategies.
- Introduce appropriate technological solutions.
- Provide production infrastructure and intellectual processes.
- Establish viable and local market opportunities.
- Implement training and ongoing mentorship.

The most important factors for successful and sustainable poultry production are to keep costs and losses low and production consistently high. By starting small, the household learn how to minimise the losses and maximise production. Based on this first-hand experience, they can then decide whether and how to expand. Poultry production must be manageable and affordable within people's daily context. The choice of technology is important. The training and technology must be a "smart subsidy", whereby Umsizi provides the knowledge and assets to enable sustainable and high-value production.

Our training and support programme will incubate producers into becoming self sufficient for their households or viable economic enterprises. Poultry production can focus on: 1. Developing chicken broilers to raise chickens for meat production; 2. Developing chicken layers to hatch chicks for sale and 3. Farming with hens for sustainable egg production.



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# BASIC SERVICES AND INFRASTRUCTURE PROVISION:

## Water Infrastructure

In rural villages across South Africa, many people have to dig for seepage water in riverbeds or walk long distances in order to access drinking water. Yet often the water is still of poor quality and can cause several health problems within the community. Unfortunately, the challenge around access to safe drinking water is still common in many rural villages around South Africa today. Water provision can be achieved through cost effective products that deliver safe, sufficient, high quality water. Umsizi either provides water provision equipment separately to needy households, in the form of rainwater harvesting infrastructure, or else in conjunction with our Household Agricultural Livelihood Development Project (as described on page 12). The infrastructure is customised to ensure that the specific requirements, based on aspects such as an area's climate, are addressed.

The equipment ensures that households are provided with:

- Safe clean water for consumption.
- Sufficient water for daily activities such as washing, cleaning and cooking (domestic needs).
- Decrease in waterborne diseases and therefore a reduction in illnesses.
- Sufficient water for crop production, therefore, improved nutrition and food security.
- Time saving- less time required to walk far distances to collect water.
- Improved school attendance by youth (no need to miss school to fetch water).
- Reduced competition for water resources.
- Less pressure on the natural resource and ecosystem.

A lack of water is a major constraint and compromises the wellbeing of a household; physically, economically and emotionally. A lack of water also prevents many rural households from producing crops at their homes. However, with improved water storage equipment, households can reuse their grey water to irrigate crops. Excellent progress has been made worldwide with the development of home-based filtration systems which bring peace of mind where households depend on inferior sources, or where there is doubt about consistency in the quality of treated water supplied to households.

Companies or individuals can become involved by way of CSI projects or else as part of SED.



### Infrastructure which can be provided includes:

- Roof rainwater harvesting tanks and gutters
- 210L water storage drums
- 50L water storage buckets
- Home water filters with microfilter purification



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# SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE SOLUTIONS

Umsizi has access to the new progressive building mechanism which uses low-cost building materials to construct varying structures. The building mechanism uses polystyrene as the insulating agent and fibre-coating as the outer-layer plastering. This construction process uses 95% of the construction labourers from local communities, which will be trained by accredited professionals, thereby enabling community empowerment, skills development and employment. These sustainable infrastructure solutions are perfect for community housing, resettlement villages, schools, clinics and other communal infrastructure. Umsizi provides these solutions as part of a socio-economic development programme or project to respective clients. This is not provided as a stand alone construction project.

This alternative building method has many benefits in comparison to conventional brick construction, such as:

- Fibre-coat is 3 times stronger and more durable than conventional plaster.
- The technology is cheaper than conventional bricks (and can be called low-cost building).
- Is classified as energy efficient with excellent insulation for internal temperature control.
- It is environmentally friendly with 90% reduction in cement usage and 7% less greenhouse gases than conventional building.
- Allows houses and structures to be built much faster than conventional brick structures due to the efficiency of the materials and processes; the construction phase can be halved.

This sustainable housing method, is not only a cost-effective option, but will develop skills in communities by training individuals in the construction techniques, therefore, improved living conditions as well as broad based empowerment. Umsizi specializes in community mobilization and skills development and will use this alternative building technique to uplift communities. This gives Umsizi an competitive edge, as the focus of the housing project will not only be to improve living conditions, but also improve livelihoods and develop people.

The sustainable infrastructure solutions are applied within the broader context of a development programme which empowers people with economic productive livelihoods to improve their quality of life.



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# THE HUB OVERVIEW

The main function of the HUB is to establish a Sustainable Productive Enhanced Mixed-Agricultural, Light Industrial and Commercial Enterprise Centre. This centre will provide training, employment, income generation, enterprise development and commercial production opportunities.

The HUB will:

- Provide mentoring and training support to community beneficiaries from the villages and commercial marketing support for their produce. The communities will link their produce to the HUB, which will then act as a distribution and marketing agent to export produce and secure higher income streams for the communities.
- Commercially produce a variety of high-value agricultural produce, indigenous plants, processed products and manufactured items such as crafts or clothing (among others), while securing local markets for these.
- Establish community market stalls for manufacturing and selling produce/products. This will become a trading centre for beneficiaries to trade and showcase their produce/products.
- Position the HUB as a regional tourism and cultural center. This will become a tourist attraction and destination to visit local communities and explore the cultural beauty and diversity of the local fabric of life.
- Become a centre of excellence for providing training and support for incubating successful, independent agricultural farmers, but also entrepreneurs. The Hub will empower new community villages to successfully engage in sustainable agricultural production and projects, thereby expanding the community-outreach component.
- Implement an Enterprise Development Initiative to provide entrepreneurial and technical assistance to individuals or people seeking to establish their own businesses.



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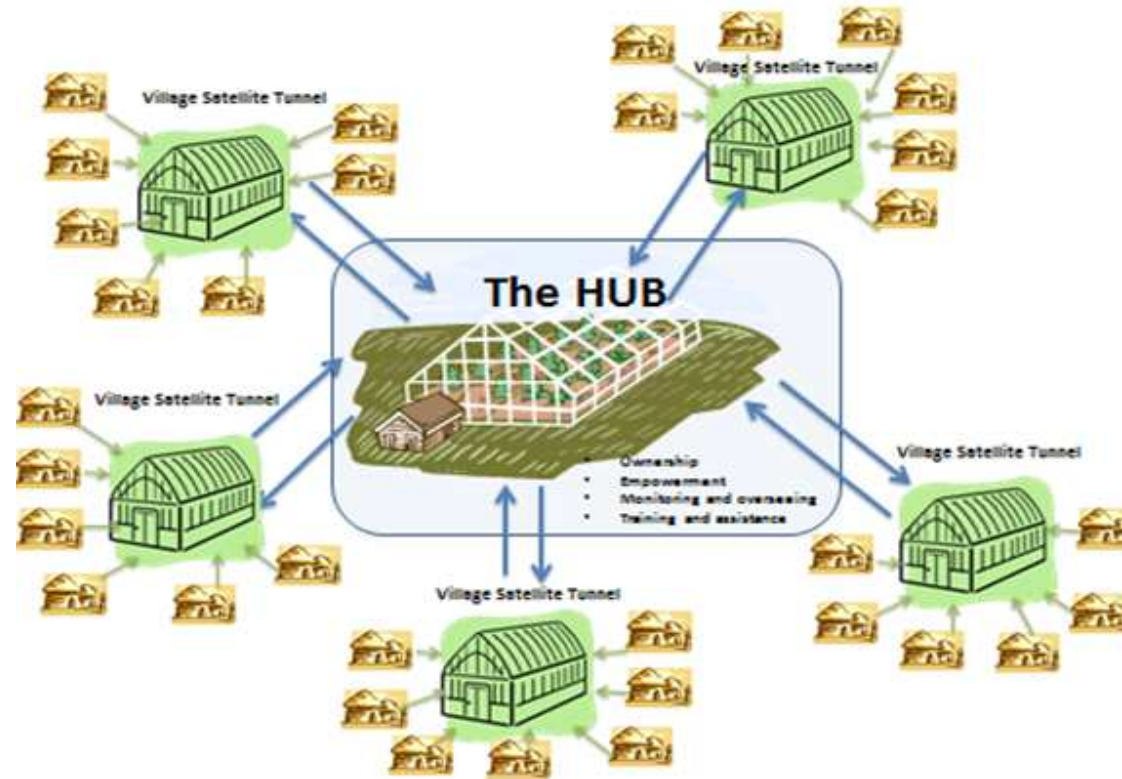
# AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AT THE HUB

## THE HUB AS A FOUNDATION FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MARKET SUPPLY

The HUB will be an agricultural training ground where households will, firstly, gain knowledge of the need for proper nutrition and the best food sources they will be taught on how to grow crops high in these food sources. Secondly, the purpose of training is to empower new producers to reach a state of economic self-sustenance and to enter the economic mainstream in a manner whereby they are able to trade profitably and competitively.

The HUB will act as an incubation centre which will link the empowered households/satellite growers to local markets. The HUB will also function as an outlet which will regulate quality, quantity and price of the household growers and supply the market demand.

Once successful, satellite growers are trained to replicate production, thereby increasing supply and supplier competitiveness. The HUB will become a centralised processing and marketing point for the household agriculture, linking household to commercial retailers.



### Short-term Objectives:

- Increasing food security and sustainable livelihoods of community households and entrepreneurs through agricultural training and agricultural infrastructure provision.
- Creating a direct link between the household and local producers and commercial markets.
- Value-adding through packaging and processing of household and local farmers' produce.
- Developing agricultural producers by means of training and mentorship.



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## ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT AT THE HUB

One successful approach to growing and developing communities, is via the creation of the HUB. The HUB will create, incubate and enhance enterprises with the aim of increasing broad-based socio-economic impact through cultivating new entrepreneurs and enterprises. The enterprises to be incubated at the HUB will be as a result of specific opportunities, markets or needs on the ground. This may include enterprises in the field of agriculture, light industries, retail, manufacturing or tourism.

Developing Enterprises at the HUB:

1. Identify potential opportunities within a community to be nurtured into sustainable enterprises.
2. Assist local entrepreneurs and community members to grow ideas into formal business plans, through the Business Development Centre.
3. Train new entrepreneurs in basic production and business techniques at the HUB to enable business development.
4. Further training, support and mentorship of producers will gear businesses towards becoming sustainable and profitable enterprises.

A Business Development Centre, based at the HUB, will provide business mentors and advisors, fluent in the local languages, who will offer a range of support in:

- Assist with writing business plans
- Evaluating businesses
- Accessing finances
- Helping with basic book-keeping and basic commercial law
- Taking advantage of Government incentives (in terms of SEDA)
- Improving general business skills

The Business Development Centre will also provide access to the Internet and a growing network of business service providers, as well as the use of the available conference facilities. This will enable local enterprises to grow, network and operate in a professional and technological environment.

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## CONCLUSION

IN THE WORK UMSIZI DOES, many battles have been fought to make a sustainable impact in communities. However, the last few years provided Umsizi with the opportunity to start implementing development projects for various industrial and corporate clients to unleash a magnitude of livelihood development, empowerment and income creation opportunities for communities.

These projects mentioned in this booklet are evidence of successful community developments, which have continued up until today and have increased in SED impact. These projects provide a catalyst for communities and industries to attract new development opportunities for other partners to get involved in integrated SED. All this results in greater impact and sustainable development at a grassroots level.

You might ask what makes a project sustainable and successful? Well, firstly, devotion, enthusiasm and Umsizi's technical know-how of community development - go a long way to ensure that such projects get off the ground. Secondly, communities need to be trained and empowered to develop their own projects, by using initial assistance as a catalyst for this development – and this is what Umsizi's projects are demonstrating.

In South Africa, various industries are still clouded by a lack of transformation and development of communities. However, Umsizi is certainly helping industries in changing this image through **sustainable socio-economic development projects, which empower the poor to create livelihoods and have access to the economic mainstream.** True empowerment lies in intellectual knowledge, and transferring this intellectual knowledge to historically disadvantaged persons in the right manner, is of far greater impact than mere physical assistance.

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