



Promoting collaborative, pro-poor agricultural innovation

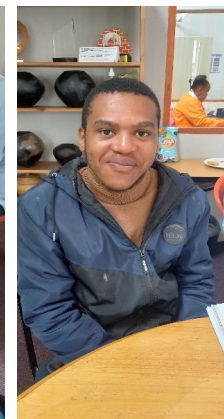
Our Vision

2003-2024

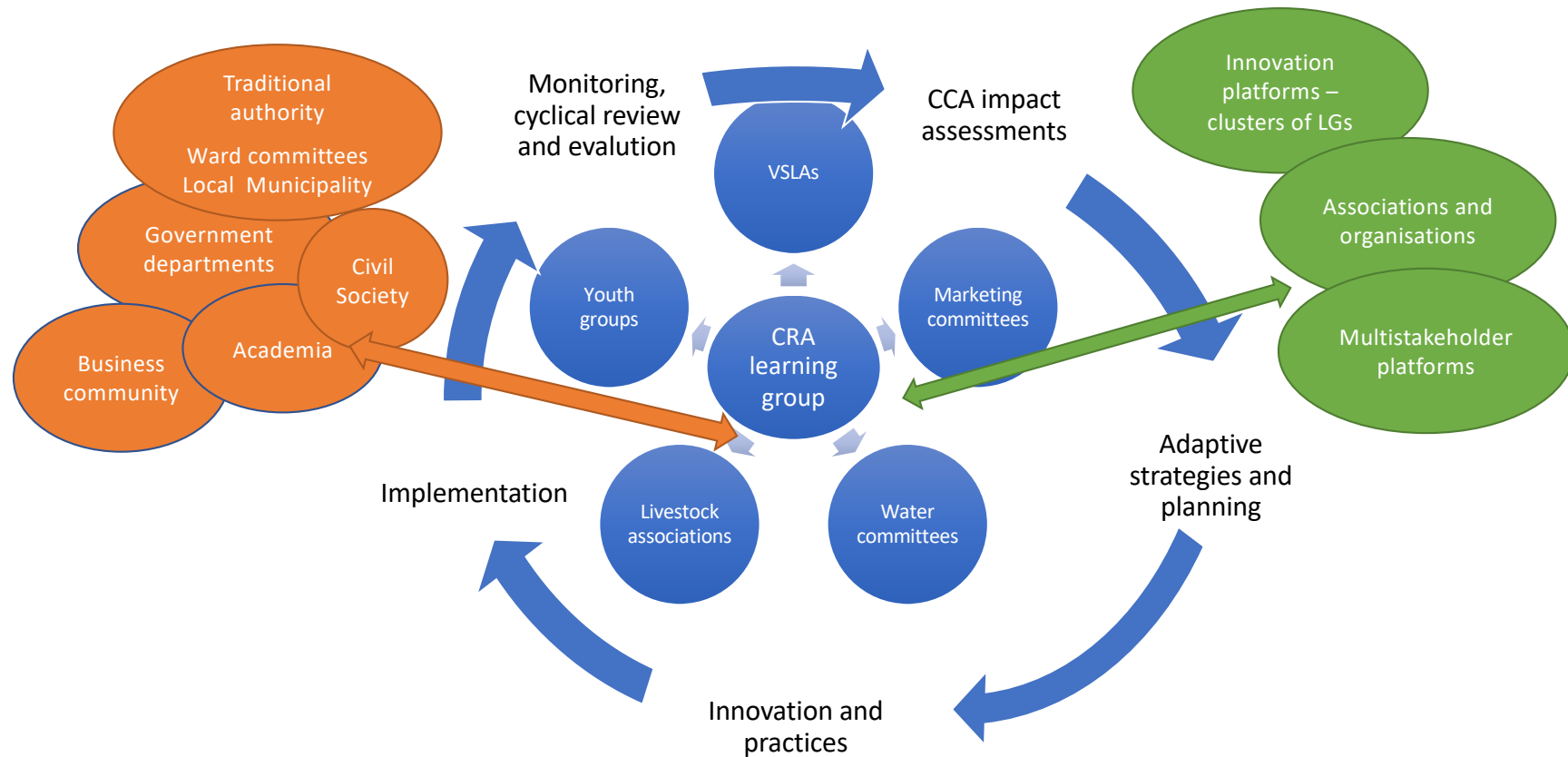
- To support the harmonious living of people in their natural, social and economic environments in a way that supports and strengthens both the people and their environment.
- To assist the rural poor to better their lives, to diversify their livelihoods and to face their challenges with resilience.

Our Mission

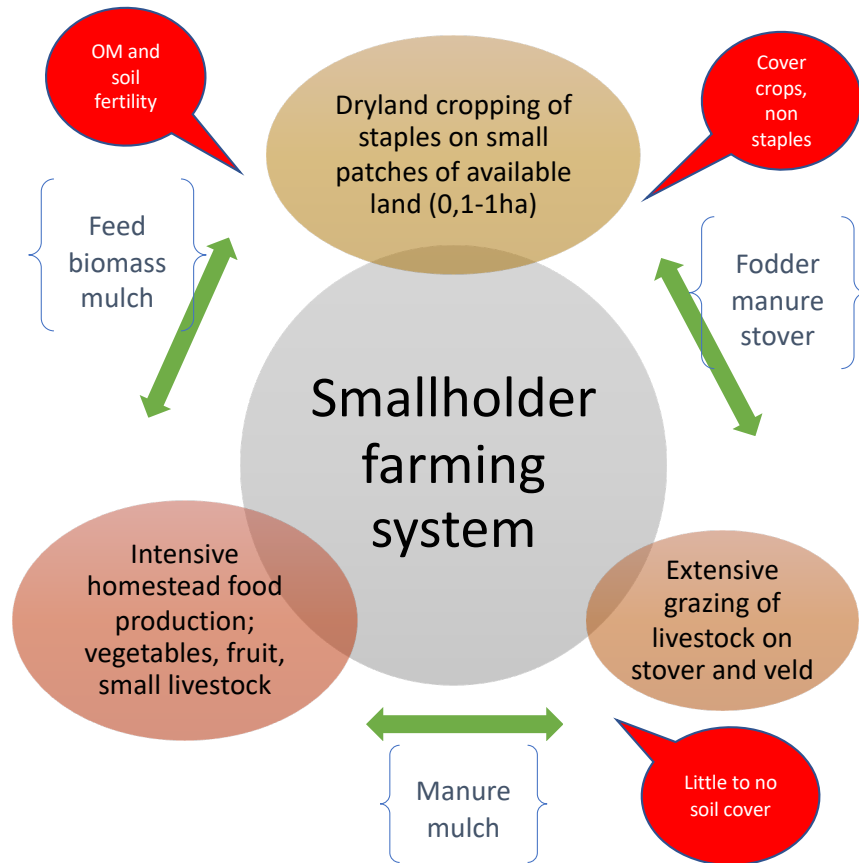
- To design and implement innovative projects and programmes which promote collaborative, pro-poor agricultural innovation, working in partnership with other organizations and communities.
- To work at the cutting edge of development methodology and process integrating learning (training), research and implementation into new models and processes emphasizing synergy and integration.



CRA learning groups: Process for development of social agency




The smallholder farming system



Activities: *(4 villages, 180 smallholder participants, 40 Hub staff and youth participants)*

- **Conservation/ Regenerative Agriculture: (LEI)** Dryland cropping to improve soil health, crop diversity, yields, water use efficiency: *Intercropping, crop rotation, cover crops, fodder production*
- **Livestock integration:** *Winter fodder supplementation, hay baling, conservation agreements, local livestock auctions*
- **Intensive homestead food production:** *Agroecology: Tunnels, trench beds, crop diversification, mulching, greywater management, fruit production*
- **Community owned local water access:** *Water committees: Spring protection, boreholes, water reticulation, pipes and tanks at homestead level*
- *Village savings and loan associations: Village based savings groups for savings and small loans for productive activities*
- *Local marketing and food systems: Monthly produce market stalls, organised per village, exploration of further marketing options, small mills for maize*
- *Soil and water conservation: village-based learning groups in Climate change adaptation undertake resource conservation activities*
- Social learning and knowledge co-creation
- Improved social agency for local resource management; agreements, processes
- Community level improvement of governance : individual, group , village and local stakeholder based



INSTITUTIONAL GOVERNANCE
Support and facilitation with
Traditional Councils, Local
Municipalities, and Isimangaliso
MPA to allow for pro-poor,
equitable, gender sensitive
beneficiation and implementation

Learning and mentoring (Nkovokeni, kwaDapha, Mabibi, Sokhulu)

- Focus on climate change impact, adaptive strategies, prioritized climate smart practices in intensive homestead food production (vegetables, dryland crops, small livestock, large livestock integration)
- Training of trainers and Hub demonstration gardens (10staff/hub)
- Farmer level training and support for homestead implementation (45 farmers/village) – over 18 months – different start times
- Learning themes
 - Garden layout: soil and water conservation,
 - Soil conservation and fertility (trench beds, liquid manures, seed,
 - Conservation Agriculture
 - Water conservation and management (tower gardens, seed/seedlings tunnels/cages, drip irrigation, JoJo tanks)
 - Crop management

Improved alternative livelihoods to fishing and natural resources harvesting as well as low yield transient agricultural activities

The intention is to implement intensive homestead food production strategies to improve productive, natural and water use efficiency within an agroecological framework to minimize negative impacts on the environment and optimize synergies



Beneficiation and infrastructure: Intensification for existing household area-NO NEW AREAS OR EXPANSIONS PLANNED

Mabibi, kwaDapha, Nkovokeni, Sokhulu

- Participatory vulnerability assessments- through focus group discussions and baselines (min 50 households/village)
- Participatory beneficiary selection (Implementation team, TC, and community)
 - 5 micro-tunnels/village (20)
 - 5 fenced off gardens/village (20)
 - 5 chicken tractors/village (20)
 - 10 tower gardens/village (40)
 - 20x2500l JoJo tanks/village (80)
- Participatory water resources assessment – mapping, scenario development, planning and implementation for 5 villages (incl **kwaZibi**) based boreholes – with reticulation for multi-purpose use

CLIMATE RISK

- High risk, transient resources use
- Over-use of natural resources
- * Focus on alternative livelihoods to reduce pressure on resources and intensive homestead production in existing household allocations


POVERTY

- unemployed
- women and child headed
- missing middle; families without social grants





Support
from
Isimangaliso
:

- Decisions around generational communal cropping areas still in existence around lakes and in wetlands
 - Maps of households and extent (ancestral homestead footprints) for Nkovokeni, kwaDapha, kwaZibi and Mabibi
 - Specific boundaries of the protected area-detailed maps for use with villages
 - Rules and regulations around land-use for local villages inside the protected area.
 - Contact persons for presentations and discussions with villages
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Workplan and timeline: 1st Year -2024

