

Case study for successful collaboration: KZN.

WESBANK Arelemeng (let's get planting) Activation days:

Fall within the Food Security and Livelihoods Programme (FSALP2). Larger programme consisting of a number of organisations (around 22) implementing community based food security systems within the boundaries of input supply, production efficiency and marketing systems. The scale is assumed to start with producing some food (fresh vegetables and fruit) for household food security increasing such efforts to sell small surpluses and 'graduating' to be able to fulfil a number of livelihoods requirements for homestead food production.

The activation days aim to initiate and roots movements for production of fresh marginalised communities through the of innovative gardening techniques and well as elements of nutrition and food that householders can go home and try



expand grass food in introduction processes, as preservation out .

UNISA HFSP

Within the CAES of UNISA is a community programme aimed at the qualification of food security facilitators to work as change agents in the areas of agriculture, food and nutrition, health and social welfare using participatory learning in a structured environment focussing on households within communities.

engagement household

Seeks to improve conditions in rural and urban areas through development of capacity, skills and values within these communities to meet long term goals of sustainable development and poverty alleviation

The Arelemeng activation days offer a great opportunity to learner groups, households they are working with and the broader community engage with each other and other stakeholders in building awareness and motivation for implementation of innovative gardening techniques and food and nutrition processes.

Arelemeng themes

Expanded in 2013 to include further household food security issues such as seed saving, fruit production, conservation agriculture and inclusion of legumes. For UNISA groups the more basic format was used as the learners and households are being introduced to sustainable agriculture techniques and gardening mostly for the first time.

- **Nutrition and Food processing:** Food diversity (incl traditional foods), cooking methods, drying, (incl modernised recipes for traditional foods), pickles, jams, sweet potato bites
- **Garden and bed design:** Demos trench beds, run-on ditches, windbreaks, seedbeds, mulching
- **Tower, container and keyhole gardening:** Beds, with use of grey water and mixed cropping
- **Natural pest and disease control:** Tyre and eco circle gardens, multipurpose species, brews

Development of Household Food

Food Security Short Learning Programme with UNISA and Wesbank

- 94 students enrolled through Wesbank (22 in Richmond, 24 in Kranskop, 21 in Ashdown and 27 in Mtubatuba)

- Conducted *Arelemeng* days that consciously included UNISA students and their households (4 days for 8 UNISA learning groups: Msinga (2), Kranskop, Ashdown, Tembaletu, Mtubatuba, Hluhluwe and Richmond)
- Evaluation student and household learning & implementation for 2012 finalised and 2013 commenced.



Clockwise above: Sample pictures from the Wesbank-UNISA activation days: Making the soil, manure, ash mixture for a tower garden in Hluhluwe. Doing trench bed in Msinga. Discussing natural pest and disease control in Hluhluwe. Building the tower garden in PMB and demonstration of mixed cropping with mulching in Richmond

The Arelemeng days were well attended:

Area	Date	No of participants	
Hluhluwe (including Mtubatuba promoter and 9 learners)	2 August 2013	42	

PMB; Ashdown and tembaletu groups	15 August 2013	110	
Richmond; World Food Day	18 October 2013	76	
Msinga; 2 groups from the area, plus promoter and 9 learners from Kranskop	18 September 2013	76	

The Arelemeng activation days helped a lot in providing focus for gardening activities with the students and households and there were a number of garden visits where learners and promoters together further promoted and assisted households to implement some of the ideas. Below are some photographic examples from Richmond and Ashdown.

RICHMOND

Below left: One of the learners standing by a keyhole bed made by the learners for the Richmond group in a community garden and feeding centre based just outside the town. The learners were keen to implement some of the gardening methods themselves.

Below right: A group of learners stand by their completed tower garden.



Below left: A bakkie load of manure and other resources was procured and brought to the garden for the promoter and learners to use in their gardening demonstration. This was donated by one of the learners. Njabulo Buthelezi the promoter is busy helping to move the manure to the beds

Below right: the learners finalise the making of a compost heap in their demonstration garden.



Right: learners assist in household gardens to make min tillage plots and dig trench beds



Far right: In another household learners assisted to make a trench bed for seedling production



ASHDOWN

Below left and far left: Lungile Jili, the promoter, the learner group(Xoliswa and Thobeka Malinga) and the household member are making a trench and doing tyre gardens in her small garden.



Below left: Learners assist a householder Mrs Mchunu to make a trench bed and eco-circle. On this day the facilitators for the KZNDAE Food Security Programme also joined the group to take part in the practical activities



Right; the eco-circle has been dug and manure and grass added. The 2litre perforated bottle has been planted for 'automatic irrigation' of the bed.

