



WATER FOR EMERGING FARMERS

Cederberg

Project objectives:

- Assess capacity building and empowerment need.
- Develop training materials.
- Facilitate workshops.
- Engage with local water user associations.
- Monitor and evaluate engagement.
- Provide further education and training to forum members.

Project Timeframe

Duration 12 months

Long-term goals:

- Facilitate sustainable development.
- Ensure the forum becomes an effective mouthpiece for emerging farmers.

Contact:

Water for Emerging Farmers

Dirk Ockhuis & Andreas April
 Cederberg Opkomende Boere Forum
 P O Box 440
 Clanwilliam
 8135
 Tel: 027 482 2802 or
 073 004 9328
 Fax: 022 921 2186 /1651

The National Water Act (Act 36 of 1998) sets out a framework for the management of water resources in South Africa. The Act provides for the establishment of water management institutions, which include Catchment Management Agencies (CMA) and Water Users Associations (WUA). Water is an important resource in the alleviation of poverty and for the implementation of sustainable agricultural projects.

focus of water management allocation reform. Water allocation reform is fundamentally a socio-political process that addresses issues of:

- Poverty.
- Gender and race imbalances.
- Sustainable development.
- Environmental protection.

“We have enough water to meet our needs if we use water wisely,”



Water resources management has often been seen as a highly technical process. This project will demonstrate that people are the

says Dirk Ockhuis, chairman of the Cederberg Emerging Farmers Forum. “Much has already been done to ensure that our water re-





Water for Resource Limited Farmers and Reform



sources are well managed. But we need to continue to manage our water carefully, and also ensure that historically disadvantaged South Africans, particularly women, can benefit from the use of water.”

Our project has the following objectives:

- Assess the need for capacity building and empowerment.
- Develop training materials.
- Conduct empowerment workshops.
- Facilitate engagement with local WUAs (Clanwilliam, Citrusdal and Sandveld).
- Engage with the pilot compulsory licensing process taking place in the Jan Dissels River catchment.
- Monitor and evaluate the effect of these engagements.
- Provide access to further education and training in project planning and management, financial management and marketing.
- Facilitate “farmer to farmer” extension.

Ockhuis explains: “Emerging farmers, like any farmer, needs water. Under apartheid, we were denied access to water. We now need to participate effectively in the Water Allocation Reform process in order to put right the wrongs of the past. Now we will help our members to apply for water licenses, not just for projects aimed at eradicating poverty and increasing food security, but also for establishing large scale commercial farming enterprises.”

In the long term, we aim to:

- Ensure the sustainable development of the emerging farmers in the Cederberg Municipal Area;
- Ensure the forum becomes an effective mouth-piece for emerging farmer associations, especially with regard to land and water allocation reform.

