

Impact of the Land Redistribution for Agricultural Development (LRAD) Projects on Livelihoods of Beneficiaries in Ngaka Modiri Molema District, South Africa

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KEYWORDS Land Reform. Projects. Beneficiaries. Impact. Livelihoods. South Africa

ABSTRACT. The fundamental objective of this study was to evaluate the impact of the Land Redistribution for Agricultural Development (LRAD) projects on livelihoods of beneficiaries in the Ngaka Modiri Molema district of the North-West Province. Under the ownerships of LRAD beneficiaries, the majority of the projects undertake combinations of livestock, grains and vegetable production. Qualitative and quantitative analyses were performed on the data collected using structured questionnaire from randomly selected forty-seven LRAD projects in the study area. Graphs, histograms and tables were used to present the results of frequency indicator variables. The results of the analysis showed that some of the key indicator variables were lowly achieved; such as low quality of infrastructure, few skills training, less contribution to food security, poor savings and financial constraints. The positive aspects revealed by the results of the study include: access to sizeable productive agricultural lands; improved participation of women and youth in farming; household supply of food stuffs from the projects; earning of some form of monthly income from farm produce sales; some of the projects, even though small in number, have some good farming infrastructure; through the projects, though grossly inadequate, some have means of transport and farm machinery; the projects created some permanent and temporary jobs; and established some beneficial linkages. An integrated agrarian reform support programme will go a long way in improving productivity of the projects if it consists of a package in support services, rural infrastructure and co-operatives. The main function of such unit should be training, acquisition and distribution of agricultural inputs/equipment to agrarian project beneficiaries and there should also be extension of special grant to support government's efforts.