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# **WESTERN CAPE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR CLIMATE CHANGE RESPONSE FRAMEWORK AND IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (SMARTAGRI) EVALUATION MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENT PLAN**

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Western Cape Department of Agriculture

January 2021

**WESTERN CAPE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR CLIMATE CHANGE RESPONSE FRAMEWORK  
AND IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (SMARTAGRI) EVALUATION  
MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENT PLAN**

**1. MANAGEMENT RESPONSE ON RECOMMENDATIONS**

	<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>Record of agreement or disagreement</b>	<b>Reasons for disagreement</b>
1	Undertake a review and update of the climatic information and any required refinements to response strategies that underpin the SmartAgri Plan – particularly at the downscaled level.	Agree	
2	Undertake an internal review of the projects and detailed activities defined in the SmartAgri Plan to assess relevance and any needs for updating requirements.	Agree	
3	Institute, mandate and resource a formalised SmartAgri Plan management/oversight structure.	Agree	
4	Undertake a deep-dive review of each programme in the two lead departments to assess levels of adoption of the SmartAgri Plan and drive towards institutionalisation within each department's programmes.	Agree	
5	Re-engage and strengthen uptake by other provincial and national government departments identified in the SmartAgri Plan.	Agree	
6	Re-engage and strengthen uptake by Industry organisations and role players identified in the SmartAgri Plan.	Agree	
7	Adopt mechanisms to identify and mainstream farm-level innovation, learning and change.	Agree	

## 2. IMPROVEMENT OBJECTIVES

Recommendation 1:	Undertake a review and update of the climatic information and any required refinements to response strategies that underpin the SmartAgri Plan – particularly at the downscaled level.
<b>Improvement Objective 1:</b>	Review, update and make available the latest downscaled climate change projections, with associated risks and impacts, and make recommendations for the updating of the SmartAgri Plan and supporting resources.
Recommendation 2:	Undertake an internal review of the projects and detailed activities defined in the SmartAgri Plan to assess relevance and any needs for updating requirements.
<b>Improvement Objective 2:</b>	Review the projects, their detailed activities and their lead institutions as defined in the SmartAgri Plan to identify and agree any required amendments, deletions and additions, and update the Plan accordingly.
Recommendation 3:	Institute, mandate and resource a formalised SmartAgri Plan management / oversight structure.
<b>Improvement Objective 3:</b>	Formally institute, mandate and resource a SmartAgri management/ oversight/ coordination unit within the DOA.
Recommendation 4:	Undertake a deep-dive review of each programme in the two lead departments to assess levels of adoption of the SmartAgri Plan and drive towards institutionalisation within each department's programmes.
<b>Improvement Objective 4:</b>	Review the uptake of projects and activities defined in the SmartAgri Plan within relevant programmes in DOA and DEA&DP, and develop planning and M,E&L mechanisms for the institutionalisation of Plan activities in these departments.
Recommendation 5:	Re-engage and strengthen uptake by other provincial and national government departments identified in the SmartAgri Plan.
<b>Improvement Objective 5:</b>	Activate or establish formal dialogue channels between DOA and other provincial and national departments identified in the SmartAgri Plan, through which engagement around SmartAgri institutionalisation and implementation will take place.
Recommendation 6:	Re-engage and strengthen uptake by Industry organisations and role players identified in the SmartAgri Plan.
<b>Improvement Objective 6:</b>	Activate or establish formal dialogue channels between DOA and key agricultural sector organisations and role players identified in the SmartAgri Plan, through which engagement around SmartAgri awareness, uptake and implementation will take place.
Recommendation 7:	Adopt mechanisms to identify and mainstream farm-level innovation, learning and change.
<b>Improvement Objective 7:</b>	Establish mechanisms to make updated SmartAgri resources and tools widely available to farmers through online portals and farmer forums, and to establish a spatially explicit database to capture local innovations and learning at farm/landscape level.

### 3. IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Improvement Objective 1:		Review, update and make available the latest downscaled climate change projections, with associated risks and impacts, and make recommendations for the updating of the SmartAgri Plan and supporting resources.					
Output	Priority	Activity	Deliverable	Person	Deadline	Budget available	Progress
1.1	Very important	1.1.1	Updated Status Quo Review Ch. 3 with recommendations for updating the SmartAgri Plan and supporting resources	Service provider (climate change climatologist)	31 July 2021	Funds to be allocated within operational budget to appoint service provider	
	Important	1.1.2	Updated Status Quo Review Ch. 9 with recommendations for updating the SmartAgri Plan and supporting resources	Dr S. Midgley	31 August 2021	Operational budget	

Improvement Objective 1:		Review, update and make available the latest downscaled climate change projections, with associated risks and impacts, and make recommendations for the updating of the SmartAgri Plan and supporting resources.						
Output	Priority	Activity	Deliverable	Person	Deadline	Budget available	Progress	
1.2	Very important	1.2.1 Make the updated projections and assessments available through the GreenAgri Portal and departmental website and SmartAgri newsletter	Updated chapters 3 and 9 (excl. recommendations) and maps uploaded on the GreenAgri portal, departmental website and SmartAgri newsletter	Dr S. Midgley	30 September 2021	Operational budget		
	Important	1.2.2 Plan the integration of the spatial layers of the climate change projections per agro-ecological zone into Cape Farm Mapper	Work Plan	FC Basson and F Koegeleberg	28 February 2022	Operational budget		
	Important	1.2.3 Plan the updating and dissemination of supporting resources (Commodity Briefs, Executive Summary)	Work Plan	Dr S. Midgley	30 September 2021	Operational budget		

Improvement Objective 2:		Review the projects, their detailed activities and their lead institutions as defined in the SmartAgri Plan to identify and agree any required amendments, deletions and additions, and update the Plan accordingly.						
Output	Priority	Activity	Deliverable	Person	Deadline	Budget available	Progress	
2.1 Needs and recommendations for an updated SmartAgri Plan are identified	Very important	2.1.1 Consultative internal departmental review of the projects in the SmartAgri Plan, their detailed activities, and their lead institutions, to assess relevance and updating needs, with recommendations	Document listing the needs and recommendations for updating the SmartAgri Plan, for discussion by the Steering Committee <sup>1</sup>	Dr S. Midgley	30 September 2021	Operational budget		
2.2 Update the SmartAgri Plan	Very important	2.2.1 Meeting of SmartAgri Steering Committee <sup>2</sup> to discuss the updating of the SmartAgri Plan	Minutes of meeting	Dr I. Trautmann	31 October 2021	Operational budget		
	Very important	2.2.2 Update the SmartAgri Plan	Updated SmartAgri Plan document with agreed lead institutions	Dr S. Midgley	30 November 2021	Operational budget		

<sup>1</sup> See Objective 3.1

<sup>2</sup> See Objective 3.1

Improvement Objective 3:		Formally institute, mandate and resource a SmartAgri management/ oversight/ coordination unit within the DOA.						
Output	Priority	Activity	Deliverable	Person	Deadline	Budget available	Progress	
3.1	Very important	3.1.1	Re-institute the SmartAgri Steering Committee including more representatives from departmental programmes	Confirmed membership and meeting schedule for 2021/2022	Dr.I. Trautmann	28 February 2021	Operational budget	
3.2	Very important	3.2.1	Meeting of the SmartAgri Steering Committee to agree on unit's structure and function	Minutes of meeting	Dr.I. Trautmann	30 April 2021	Operational budget	
	Very important	3.2.2	Senior management of DOA formally institute and mandate the unit	Minutes of meeting	Dr.I. Trautmann	30 June 2021	Operational budget	
3.3	Very important	3.3.1	Appoint a dedicated person in DOA with clear responsibilities and authorities to oversee and coordinate the	Person appointed	Dr.I. Trautmann	01 January 2021	Compensation of employment budget	Completed (Dr S. Midgley appointed from 01-01-2021)

Improvement Objective 3:		Formally Institute, mandate and resource a SmartAgri management/ oversight/ coordination unit within the DOA.						
Output	Priority	Activity	Deliverable	Person	Deadline	Budget available	Progress	
		work of the unit						
	Very important	3.3.2 Identify and co-opt semi-dedicated support persons in DOA and DEA&DP	Support persons approved by line managers	Dr I. Trautmann and Mr G. Isaacs	28 February 2021	Operational budget		
	Very important	3.3.3 Develop a distinct operating budget for the unit	Budget	Dr I. Trautmann and Dr S Midgley	31 July 2021	Operational budget		
3.4	Very important	3.4.1 Develop and gain approval for Work Plan for remainder of 2021/2022	Work Plan 2021/2022	Dr S. Midgley	31 July 2021	Operational budget		
	Important	3.4.2 Develop and gain approval for Action Plan for 2022/2023	Work Plan 2022/2023	Dr S. Midgley	30 November 2021	Operational budget		
	Very important	3.4.3 Integrate Action Plans into unit members' Performance Agreements	Updated Performance Agreements	Dr I. Trautmann [and Mr G. Isaacs]	28 February 2022	Operational budget		
3.5	Important	3.5.1 Review and evaluate options for	Document outlining proposed	Dr S. Midgley	28 February 2022	Operational budget		



Formally institute, mandate and resource a SmartAgri management/ oversight/ coordination unit within the DOA.								
Improvement Objective 3:	Output	Priority	Activity	Deliverable	Person	Deadline	Budget available	Progress
	framework are formulated		M,E&L framework for the SmartAgri Plan	structure of M,E&L framework, for discussion	and Mr. G Isaacs			

Review the uptake of projects and activities defined in the SmartAgri Plan within relevant programmes in DOA and DEA&DP, and develop planning and M,E&L mechanisms for the institutionalisation of Plan activities in these departments.								
Improvement Objective 4:	Output	Priority	Activity	Deliverable	Person	Deadline	Budget available	Progress
	4.1 Relevant departments have been re-engaged and activities and gaps assessed	Very important	4.1.1 Conduct a consultative strategic review of each relevant DOA programme or sub-programme to assess level of adoption, misalignment or gaps	Report for each DOA programme including minutes of meetings	Dr S. Midgley	30 November 2021	Operational budget	
	4.2 Planning and M,E&L framework to achieve implementation and institutionalisation	Important	4.2.1 Develop Management Improvement Plans for each relevant DOA programme to drive the	Management Improvement Plans for each DOA programme	Each Director / Chief Director of relevant programmes	28 February 2022	Operational budget	

<b>Improvement Objective 4:</b>		<b>Review the uptake of projects and activities defined in the SmartAgri Plan within relevant programmes in DOA and DEA&amp;DP, and develop planning and M,E&amp;L mechanisms for the institutionalisation of Plan activities in these departments.</b>						
<b>Output</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Deliverable</b>	<b>Person</b>	<b>Deadline</b>	<b>Budget available</b>	<b>Progress</b>	
		institutionalisation of SmartAgri Plan projects and activities						
	Important	4.2.2 Linking with 3.4.1, identify mechanisms that can link relevant DOA programmes and their activities into a SmartAgri M,E&L framework	Feed identified mechanisms into 3.4.1	Dr S. Midgley	28 February 2022	Operational budget		

<b>Improvement Objective 5:</b>		<b>Activate or establish formal dialogue channels between DOA and other provincial and national departments identified in the SmartAgri Plan, through which engagement around SmartAgri institutionalisation and implementation will take place.</b>						
<b>Output</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Deliverable</b>	<b>Person</b>	<b>Deadline</b>	<b>Budget available</b>	<b>Progress</b>	
5.1 Departments and their engagement partners are identified	Very important	5.1.1 Identification of departments and partners to be re-engaged	List of departments / engagement partners with contacts	Dr S. Midgley	31 March 2021	Operational budget	Older stakeholder list is available but must be updated and focused	

Improvement Objective 5:		Activate or establish formal dialogue channels between DOA and other provincial and national departments identified in the SmartAgri Plan, through which engagement around SmartAgri institutionalisation and implementation will take place.						
Output	Priority	Activity	Deliverable	Person	Deadline	Budget available	Progress	
5.2	Very important	5.2.1	Identification of existing channels of engagement and agreement of terms of engagement	Proof of agreed terms of engagement	Dr I. Trautmann	30 April 2021	Operational budget	
	Very important	5.2.2	Meetings with departments to establish new channels and terms of engagement	Minutes of meetings with agreed mode and terms of engagement	Dr I. Trautmann	31 December 2021	Operational budget	
5.3	Important	5.3.1	Begin a process of re-engaging with departments on the SmartAgri Plan and their roles within it, via the channels identified in 5.2	Minutes of each engagement	Dr S. Midgley	28 February 2022	Operational budget	

Improvement Objective 6:		Activate or establish formal dialogue channels between DOA and key agricultural sector organisations and role players identified in the SmartAgri Plan, through which engagement around SmartAgri awareness, uptake and implementation will take place.						
Output	Priority	Activity	Deliverable	Person	Deadline	Budget available	Progress	
6.1	Very important	6.1.1 Identification of sectoral role players and partners to be engaged	List of sectoral role players / engagement partners with contacts	Dr S. Midgley	31 March 2021	Operational budget	Older stakeholder list is available but must be updated and focused	
6.2	Very important	6.2.1 Identification of existing channels of engagement and agreement of terms of engage	Proof of agreed terms of engagement	Dr S. Midgley and Dr I Trautmann	31 May 2021	Operational budget		
	Very important	6.2.2 Meetings with partners to establish new channels and terms of engagement	Minutes of meetings with agreed mode and terms of engagement	Dr S. Midgley and Dr I Trautmann	31 December 2021	Operational budget		
6.3.	Important	6.3.1 Begin a process of re-engaging with sectoral role players on the SmartAgri Plan and their roles within it, via the channels identified in 5.2	Minutes of each engagement	Dr S. Midgley	28 February 2022	Operational budget		

Improvement Objective 7:		Establish mechanisms to make updated SmartAgri resources and tools widely available to farmers through online portals and farmer forums, and to establish a spatially explicit database to capture local innovations and learning at farm/landscape level.					
Output	Priority	Activity	Deliverable	Person	Deadline	Budget available	Progress
7.1 Updated resources and tools are available to farmers through a consolidated and widely known portal / point	Very important	7.1.1 Review all the resources and tools available to farmers via the Eisenburg and GreenAgri Portal websites to determine if updating is required and to make the necessary updates	Updated SmartAgri point of the GreenAgri Portal	Dr S. Midgley	31 March 2021	Operational budget	
	Very important	7.1.2 Create a consolidated point on the GreenAgri Portal and Eisenburg websites where all the resources can be more easily accessed by users	SmartAgri point on the GreenAgri Portal with clear link on Eisenburg website	Dr S. Midgley	31 March 2021	Operational budget	
	Very important	7.1.3 Communicate the resources/ tools available from which farmers and	Communications and awareness raising through key mediums e.g. AgriProbe.	Dr S. Midgley	31 August 2021	Operational budget	

Establish mechanisms to make updated SmartAgri resources and tools widely available to farmers through online portals and farmer forums, and to establish a spatially explicit database to capture local innovations and learning at farm/landscape level.								
Improvement Objective 7:	Output	Priority	Activity	Deliverable	Person	Deadline	Budget available	Progress
			extension officers can 'pull' the information they need, with strategic assistance from DOA Communications	SmartAgri Barometer, Farmer Days, Radio Eisenburg, etc.				
	Farmer forums per agro-climatic zone are identified and their use as a SmartAgri support structure agreed with forum leaders	Very important	7.2.1 Undertake a study to identify the different forums used by farmers in different commodities and agro-climatic zones (e.g. study groups) with a view to identifying the best structures through which to support local/regional learning, and engage with forum leaders	Study report and excel-based list of forums (per agro-climatic zone) to be used, with contacts	Dr S. Midgley	31 December 2021	Operational budget	
7.2								
7.3	Database is established	Important	7.3.1 Develop database structure for capturing climate change	Database structure	Dr S. Midgley	31 October 2021	Operational budget	

Improvement Objective 7:		Establish mechanisms to make updated SmartAgri resources and tools widely available to farmers through online portals and farmer forums, and to establish a spatially explicit database to capture local innovations and learning at farm/landscape level.					
Output	Priority	Activity	Deliverable	Person	Deadline	Budget available	Progress
7.4	Important	7.4.1 adaptation/mitigation innovations and learning, per agro-climatic zone Scope and evaluate different risk-assessment tools that can aide farmers to think holistically about their farming systems, to identify systemic risks and define the 'improvement pathways' towards greater resilience appropriate to their farms	Scoping report	Dr S. Midgley	30 July 2021	Operational budget	
7.5	Important	7.5.1 Begin a process of participating in the forums identified in 7.2 to facilitate engagement, to make farmers	Minutes of engagements; database is being populated	Dr S. Midgley	28 February 2022	Operational budget	

Establish mechanisms to make updated SmartAgri resources and tools widely available to farmers through online portals and farmer forums, and to establish a spatially explicit database to capture local innovations and learning at farm/landscape level.								
Improvement Objective 7:	Output	Priority	Activity	Deliverable	Person	Deadline	Budget available	Progress
	of innovations/learnings		more aware of the resources available, and to start to document the local innovations/learnings					
7.6	Needs assessment for training of extension support services	Important	7.6.1 Meeting with FSD / Extension Services to discuss the need for, and feasibility of, targeted training of extension support services	Minutes of meeting	Dr S. Midgley	30 June 2021	Operational budget	



**4. SIGNOFF**

It is recommended that this Management Improvement Plan is implemented



21/01/2021.

DATE

**PROGRAMME MANAGER:**

APPROVED / ~~NOT APPROVED~~



**DR M SEBOPETSA  
HEAD OF DEPARTMENT**

26 Jan 2021

DATE