



UMZIMVUBU

— LOCAL MUNICIPALITY —

Policy Name	Agricultural Development and Support Policy
Status	Review
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Last Amended	2019

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1. ACRONYMS

- 1) **ULM** means Umzimvubu Local Municipality
- 2) **DEDEA** means Department of Economic Development and Environmental Affairs
- 3) **DAFF** means Department of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries
- 4) **ECRDA** means Eastern Cape Rural Development Agency
- 5) **EIA** means the Environmental Impact Assessment
- 6) **LED** means Local Economic Development.
- 7) **NEMA** means the National Environmental Management Act, Act 107 1998
- 8) **NWA** means the National Water Act 36 of 1983
- 8) **SIA** means the Strategic Impact Assessment
- 9) **PSC** means Project Steering Committee

2. BACKGROUND

The development of agriculture in ULM area of jurisdiction is often viewed solely as the subsistence farming characterised by low levels of production and poor quality of production.

Agriculture is a fundamentally important part of the South African economy. The significance of agriculture is enhanced by its large linkages with other sectors. This means that growth in agriculture leads to growth in other areas of the economy.

South Africa also has potential for the meaningful expansion of agricultural production if the potentially arable soil in communal land in high rainfall areas in ULM. This can significantly enhance the contribution of the agricultural sector to job-creating growth.

Making agriculture more effective in supporting growth, creating jobs and reducing poverty requires a favorable socio-economic climate, adequate governance, sound macro-economic fundamentals and supportive policies.

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3. DEFINITION OF AGRARIAN REFORM

Agrarian Reform could be defined as the rectification of the whole system of agriculture. It is normally done by the government where they redistribute the agricultural land among the farmers of the country. The agrarian reform is concerned with the relation between production and distribution of land among the farmers. It also concerns the processing of the raw materials that are produced by farming the land from the respective industries.

4. OBJECTIVES OF THIS POLICY

The primary purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for the development and support of agrarian initiatives within ULM and also to enhance agricultural development opportunities and ensure alignment within parameters of IDP .The policy is intended to:-

4.1.1. Provide guidelines and monitoring strategies for Umzimvubu agrarian projects.

4.1.2 .To sustain the agrarian program through value chain addition

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4.1.3. To provide solutions in addressing socio-economic challenges in the rural

communities of ULM.

Commented [M3]: add

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4.1.4. To forge links with institutions of higher learning in agricultural studies on research and innovation

4.1.5 To provide guidelines for the implementation mechanization of agrarian reform program in all wards.

5. POLICY ATTRIBUTES

The Municipality Shall:

5.1 Co-ordinate all the relevant and affected parties/ stakeholders in implementing the Agrarian activities in the rural areas.

5.2 Ensure that the training of emerging farmers is given a priority

5.3 Co-ordinate awareness and understanding of various land use systems and plans.

5.3 Ensure compliance with various legislations attributed to agricultural policies and development.

5.4 Upon implementation of the agrarian programs in the wards, each project must have Project Steering Committee (PSC).

5.5 Ensure that each ward Councilor is involved in every project implemented, completion certificates to be signed by PSC member and Ward Councilor prior submission to the LED Office for approval

5.6 Ensure that the beneficiaries / community is taking lead in each project implemented.

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5.7 The municipality negotiates access to market with potential buyers e.g PSP and Farmers Pride

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5.8 The municipality encourages farmers to utilize small scale milling plant for mealie meal and chicken feed

5.9 The municipality has Fresh Produce Market constructed, therefore, the Municipality shall encourage farmers to make use of the fresh produce market in selling their products.

Commented [M7]: Therefore, the Municipality shall encourage farmers to make use of the fresh produce market

5.10 The municipality shall consider issue of fencing on cropping fields, there shall be no cropping support provided where there is no fence.

5.11 The Municipality shall consider planting of other high value crops other than maize, e.g Beans, Sorghum, Sunflower, Hemp, Canola, Macadamia/Pecan nuts, Almonds, etc

5.12 The Municipality should support stakeholder developmental initiatives or programmes implemented by DRDAR, DRDLR, ECRDA, GRAIN-SA, LIMA, ARC, etc.

5.13 The will support Agro- processing initiatives such as Aloe Value Addition project, Peach Value Addition project and Umzimvubu Nursery project.

5.14 The structures of these initiatives will remain the Municipality asset through the life circle of the project or business.

5.15 The ward Councilor will ensure new beneficiaries are selected through the ward beneficiary nomination procedures.

5.16 The Municipality will plough/support all the 27 wards with a cropping programme on grain or vegetable production, depending on soil suitability factors.

5.17 That cropping should be done on both fenced and unfenced land in the current financial year then next financial year, a Ward shall decide as to what they wish for, either fencing or cropping.

5.18 In light to livestock production/ development programm the Municipality should assist the farmers with fodder production and medication, to seek marketing platforms such as agricultural shows and auction sales.

5.19 The Municipality shall identify auction site and provide with relevant infrastructure such as crash pens.

5.20 The Municipality should forge links with the livestock auction coordinators and supporters as strategic partners.

5.21 Furthermore the farmers should be encouraged to form up an Association that will represent the farmers from various commodity groups to be presented in Municipal developmental platforms and forums.

5.22 Ensure provision of fence to those areas with high potential in terms of good soil depth, near to water source and fertile lands should be assessed and verified by DRDAR, therefore DRDAR should submit a full detailed report on land status prior to approval by ULM for fencing.

5.23 Provision of irrigation system to crop producers and vegetable producers in prioritizing those fields allocated near water sources such as rivers.

6. TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

ULM is committed at developing the farmers through:

6.1 Training of farmers on both business and technical skills

6.2 Mentoring farmers in different categories

6.3 Market access and development

6.4 Stakeholder engagement including government departments for the betterment of farmers

6.5 Promotion of food security

7. COMMENCEMENT OF THE POLICY

Unless otherwise stated this Policy shall commence on the date of adoption of by Council.

8. PERMANENT / TEMPORARY WAIVER OF THIS POLICY

8.1 This policy may be wholly waived by the Municipal Council on temporary or permanent basis.

8.2 Notwithstanding clause 7.1 the Accounting Officer may under the circumstances of emergency temporarily waive this policy subject to reporting of such waiver to Council

9. SUSPENSION OF THIS POLICY

9.1 This policy may be repealed by the Council

9.2 This policy may be suspended by the Council

Commented [M8]: 8.3 REVITALISATION OF RURAL TOWNS AND VILLAGES

The revitalization of rural towns and village is considered a key concern in the Municipality efforts to regenerate the economies of rural towns. It is now widely accepted that there exists an economic, social and environmental interdependency between urban and rural areas; and, that there is a need for a balanced mutually supportive developmental approach to the two areas. Rural-urban dependency to the growing flow of public and private capital.

APPROVAL OF THE POLICY


The Municipal Council has approved this policy and amendments thereof.

AUTHENTICATION


The amendments of the policy and or the new policy was adopted by the Council on the
23/01/2020.....

As per Council Resolution number 215/19/20.....

Signed off



Mr. G.P.T. Nota
Municipal Manager



Cllr. N.F Ngonyolo
Speaker of the Council