

YEAR END REPORT 2018

Wishing all UMATI Members, Supporters & Sponsors a Merry Christmas & Prosperous 2019

1. EXPROPRIATION OF LAND WITHOUT COMPENSATION

UMATI was very active in the submissions made to Government on the EWC issues. James Kean spoke at Pmb Meeting (July 2018). The UMATI delegation to the EWC Pmb Submission was represented by a number of cross section of the agricultural community. Graham Armstrong was invited to serve on the RPO committee to formulate a submission for presentation to parliament.

2. MEDIA EXPOSURE

Umati was once again in the news when an article by Nkululeko Nene and Fred Kockott appeared twice in the Sunday Tribune. James Kean also appeared on SABC News & featured on the German Radio to promote UMATI. Hans Peter, formally from Shandon farm, now in Switzerland reported back that he heard the interview on German TV.

3. UMGUNGUNDLOVU WATER SECURITY & EXPANSION PROJECT UNDER THE UMATI UMBRELLA

Under the umbrella of UMATI, the MIP (MPOFANA IRRIGATION PROJECT) has progressed this year whereby the Geotechnical work on the Kamberg Dam site has been completed and by the end of February 2019, the hydrology study will have been completed. By the end of February 2019, a decision for future plans will be taken by the MIP Members of the Project.

4. FPSU (FARMER PRODUCTION SUPPORT UNIT) & AGRIPARKS.

UMATI and its members continue to support this concept in the interests of Transformation.

Due to the support by UMATI's Graham Armstrong, the Gugulethu Farm (Middelrus) is in the process of lifting a bumper potato crop.

Assisting FPSU Farmers with a Tractor Use Program for tractors & equipment that have been provided by DRDLR by the suppliers of this equipment Afri Rent. Discussions are underway with French company Suffle to produce barley in Middelrus

Gugulethu Potato Crop



Tractor Training Program

5. KWANALU

UMATI members have been active in various initiatives by organised agriculture to participate in the EWC submissions and also to interact with KWANALU on

transformation projects in KZN'. KWANALU is promoting our endeavours in the interest of KZN agriculture.

6. SUPPORT TO DEVELOPING STOCK FARMERS

Umati members continue to encourage and advise developing farmers on management practises for their cattle. Debbie Stratford has started ABALIMI BASEMPOFANA, a study group for emerging farmers, with the assistance of Barry Symons & we thank them for their contribution.



King Langalibalele Visits the MMAA

AAM Livestock Agents & Auctioneers continue to run our sales at MMAA, which over 36% of sales are from developing farmers. The year ended on a high note with a visit by King Langalibalele and his associates who requested assistance from UMATI with their farming practices.

7. UMATI ASSIST AGRICULTURAL STUDENTS

Farmers support these students by giving them opportunities to gain experience on farms.

Peter and Sandy Ward have two past Students now in Senior positions in their management team, well done to all concerned. Two Future Farmer students have recently returned from Tasmania to middle management positions at Mearns farms, reporting that after the thorough farm training here they fitted in very well on a large dairy there.

James Kean and other farmers continue to host students on Educational tours of their farms, where students are affording the opportunity to gain an insight to working of a farm.

We are indeed grateful to these farmers for offering their valuable time to host these tours.

Any farmer who would like to benefit from student involvement, please contact us.

8. EDUCATIONAL INITIATIVES



Bruntville Primary School Leaver Lunch

UMATI is supporting 9 students at **Weston Agricultural College**. This included their fees and help with stationary and uniforms. UMatI would like to thank Mooimec, Sienna Human Capital, and Mearns Farming for their continued support of these promising students.

UMati have confirmed three new students' entrance into grade 8, thanks to the proceeds from the MMAA advertising display. We will welcome further contributions to assist more students who have proven their interest in agriculture and achievements at Weston, but have financial limitations.

James Kean was invited to address the Bruntville primary school leavers, and parents at a lunch where he spoke about the challenges and great opportunities ahead for those that are prepared to work hard in our changing world.

The Kamberg Valley Social Responsibility Programme

Various initiatives have run throughout the year:



Tendela Library

- The Early Learning Centre is a dedicated classroom at Mkhize School teaching extra English and Maths Literacy from Grade R- Grade 3 (>200 learners).
- The Computer Centre at Mkhize School with computer lessons (Word & Excel Skills) for the grade 9s.
- Mkhize School Library Assistant Sponsorship Mkhize School and extra reading at Thibani School.
- Tendela School & Community Centre Internet Sponsorship.

Special Projects in 2018 included the Tendela School library renovation; sponsorship of the Isibindi Christmas party; renovation assistance of the kitchen at Thibani School; and Sibonokuhle School paint contribution.



KVA members with parents from the school governing body and Mkhize School Principal, Mr Mdakane (far right).



Top learners in the Computer lessons with Mkhize principal
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UMATI would very much like to thank the KVA, MMA, NRLA, MIP, NORTHMEC, AAM, ABSA BANK, TWK, FORGE AGRI, SIENNA HUMAN CAPITAL & the Mpofana Municipality for all the on-going support throughout the year