

**THE IMPACT OF MABUNDA CITRUS PROJECT ON POVERTY
ALLEVIATION IN THE COMMUNITY OF XITLAKATI IN THE GREATER
GIYANI MUNICIPALITY OF MOPANI DISTRICT IN LIMPOPO PROVINCE**

by

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The aim of the study was to investigate the impact of a community-based agricultural project, the Mabunda Citrus Project in the Greater Giyani Municipality of Mopani District, Limpopo Province, on poverty alleviation and community development within the framework of rural development in the Agricultural Sector. Although there is a general view that community-based agricultural projects have an impact on community development in the literature, very little is known about the impact of community initiatives in Limpopo Province. This study project therefore sought to fill in this knowledge gap and highlight prospects and challenges of these endeavours.

Using a qualitative case study design, a series of interviews schedules and focus group sessions were conducted among 21 (n=21) direct beneficiaries who each had about 10 hectares orchard, seven (n=7) civic community structure and seven (n=7) youth structure committee members and one (n=1) Deputy Chief in the Xitlakati Community in the Greater Giyani Municipality. Data collected over a period of a week were captured via field notes and analyzed using thematic and content analyses.

The results of the study show three interrelated results. First, the beneficiaries included in the study met the requirements of people below the poverty line, save for one volunteer teacher. Secondly, the findings show that although the project does not meet all the needs of the beneficiaries, it does show many positive impacts on poverty alleviation. This is illustrated by increased employment of the beneficiaries and seasonal workers, donation of uniforms to poor children in both primary and secondary schools in the community, provision of oranges for consumption to workers, deputy chief and schools as well as the acquisition of a community hall in the Xitlakati community.

Given these positive findings above, the researcher concluded that community-based agricultural projects in Limpopo are a necessary condition for poverty alleviation in rural areas. However, the researcher has observed that structural and practical challenges, as outlined in the study, may derail the project from reaching its full potential. It is therefore recommended that a full time specialized technician be provided, the beneficiary selection criteria to include more females and disabled persons be revised; budget and salaries be discussed in a transparent way, among other potential threats. Since this is a qualitative research, the conclusions derived are limited due to the sample size. Further quantitative research is necessary to provide quantitative measures of the impact of the project on poverty alleviation.

DECLARATION

I declare that the mini-dissertation hereby submitted to the University of Limpopo, for the degree of Master of Development in the Graduate School of Leadership Faculty of Management Science and Law has not previously been submitted by me for a degree at this or any other university; that it is my work in design and execution, and that all material contained herein has been duly acknowledged.

Mashila DM (Mrs)

Date

[REDACTED]

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The following people are duly appreciated for their contribution in this study:

Dr Moyo T was always there for me; although it was not easy for her (you are a mother in deed).

My friend Josephine Manganyi motivated me to complete this study.

My husband and children were always encouraging me to have a beginning and ending. I was always reminded that “you are a student.”

To my mum; even though you cannot read or write, I can because of you.

To the Almighty, I am eternally grateful.

DEDICATION

This study is dedicated to Amukelani Dalia, my first born daughter; and Nkateko, my grandson.

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CHAPTER ONE

ORIENTATION TO THE STUDY

1.1 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

The main cause of rural poverty in South Africa is the impact of Apartheid, which deprived people of their assets such as land. Deprivation of land and racial discrimination led to lack of access to productivity resources, capital, and finance. Most of the rural people in South Africa depend on pension and child support grants. The grants are facilitated by the government in order to close the gap of food insecurity to the households. Furthermore, it is the duty of the government to ensure that sufficient food and water are accessible to every citizen. Agriculture is also used as food security in rural communities. For this reason, most of the rural people participate in dry land farming and communal projects such as community gardens and backyard gardens. These types of farming usually provide for household consumption; surplus is for sale. Rural people owning more than one hectare, usually lack capital for production, irrigation water, ploughing unit, and so on.

The South African government has taken initiatives in alleviating rural poverty. For example, the Department of Agriculture supports poor rural farmers through programs such as Comprehensive Agricultural Support Program (CASP), Land Care, and Letsema. CASP is intended to support household food production and poor farmers gained land through land reform; in terms of infrastructure, capacity building and technical advice. Land Care encourages rural people to manage natural resources, secure food, and create jobs. Letsema is intended to support poor farmers to participate competitively in agricultural production. In this programme, production inputs and technical support are provided (Department of Agriculture, 2010: 43-44). There is a new programme called Comprehensive Rural Development. The Programme is developed by the new Department of Rural Development and Land Reform through the mandate of the South African President, Jacob Zuma. The programme is intended to intervene in rural poverty to the whole South Africa. The Greater Giyani Local Municipality in Limpopo is chosen as a pilot project (Department of Rural Development & Land Reform, 2009: 3).

The government has also taken an initiative in provisioning of houses and social assistance grants to the rural poor people. To participate in these offers, the household should get or earn less than R800, 00 per month. According to the White Paper (1994), two thirds of the 17.1 million people estimated to live below the poverty datum line are living in the rural areas. It was believed that an appropriate housing policies and delivery system could contribute to employment creation and economic growth. As far as land is concerned, the government looked forward for speedy delivery of land for development purposes, more especially for housing programme.

Mabunda Citrus Project is one of those projects established with the purpose of poverty alleviation and job creation at Xitlakati area in 1998 by Agricultural Rural Development Corporation (ARDC). ARDC terminated the partnership in 2001. In 2002, the Department of Agriculture organized a temporary strategic partner for the project. The partnership terminated in 2009. Presently, the project has no strategic partner, but it is facilitated by the Local Department of Agriculture in the Greater Giyani Municipality. The project is owned by twenty-five (25) beneficiaries. Initially, they were thirty (30), but five (5) of them were alleged to have violated the project constitution, which led to dismissal. Most of the beneficiaries are elderly people. The average project size is 300 hectares. The beneficiaries are farming oranges at a large scale and mangoes at a small scale. The products are marketed locally and nationally. The project has a reliable source of irrigation water which is Letaba River. It has a workable constitution, an office, clerk, lively committee (combination of males and females). During the peak season, the beneficiaries employ temporary workers from the community members (Field Survey, 2009).

1.2 STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Elgar (2006: 465) maintains that Apartheid's legacy superimposed on British colonial heritage left South Africa with poverty. In South Africa, poor people are likely to be black, rural or peri-urban, women and children, without secure land tenure or other fixed property and without education. Siddique (1980) maintains that poverty is very common amongst the women headed households. According to Gray, Lyne & Ferrer (2005: 465), poverty is measured by transition matrix of households by four different

symptoms of poverty; namely current income, wealth, and principal component index of housing quality. The most commonly used poverty line is income. Income as poverty line includes household consumption, per capita food expenditure, average education level of adult household members, and quality of housing.

Xitlakati community is far from town or government offices, meaning that it is not easy for its residents to get employment. Prior to the establishment of the Mabunda Citrus Project, most of the beneficiaries were working for White farmers at the neighbouring farms. The inhabitants depended on dry land farming. Most of the young children were used to seek jobs at neighbouring farms owned by Whites immediately after completing primary education. The adults were illiterate. Most of the houses were made of traditional materials; for example, thatch houses that need renovation from time to time. The project was established with the aim of alleviating poverty and job creation to the community of Xitlakati, which was classified amongst the poverty stricken villages. The project members generate income from the project products sales. Most of the adults in the community are not educated. The majority of young men are still working at the neighbouring farms owned by Whites. Many houses within the community are of poor standard. There are sixty-three (63) RDP houses in the community. The fact that there are sixty- three RDP houses within the community proves that the majority of the houses are of poor standard. Furthermore, the Greater Giyani Municipality confirms that there is a need to build more houses. The project has sufficient irrigation water, three hundred hectares, potential fruit trees hard working beneficiaries, and market. The project is intended to alleviate poverty and create jobs to the community (Field Survey, 2009). Thus, the researcher seeks to assess the impact of the project on the livelihoods, standard of living, and development status of the beneficiaries and the community.

1.3 AIM OF THE STUDY

The aim of the study is to assess the impact of Mabunda Citrus Project on poverty alleviation in the community of Xitlakati in the Greater Giyani Municipality.

1.4 OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The objectives of the study are as follows:

- To examine the operations of Mabunda citrus project;
- To assess the impact of Mabunda Citrus Project on poverty alleviation to the beneficiaries;
- To assess the impact of Mabunda Citrus Project on poverty alleviation to the community of Xitlakati;
- To find out gender impact in the project; and
- To identify the key factors which have contributed to the performance of the project and make appropriate recommendations based on the study and findings.

1.5 RESEARCH QUESTIONS

This study was guided by the following research questions:

- What is the nature of the activities of the project?
- What is the impact of the project in the livelihoods of project members?
- What does Mabunda citrus project contribute towards the development of the community?
- What impact the Mabunda Citrus Project made in creating jobs?

1.6 DEFINITION OF CONCEPTS

The key concepts used in the study are defined as follows:

1.6.1 Poverty

Gray, Lyne & Ferrer (2005: 467) define poverty as denial of opportunities and choices most basic to human development leading to long healthy, creative life and

enjoy decent standards of living, freedom, dignity, self-esteem, and respect from others.

According to Webster (1990: 18), poverty is based on an estimate of the level of income necessary for buying food sufficient to satisfy the average nutrition needs of each child within a family. The cost of food is said to be the basic cost of subsistence when added to an allowance for basic clothing, fuel and rent, produces an income figure below which family can be said to be in poverty.

Khumalo (2003:1) defines poverty as multi-faceted which can be manifested in hunger, unemployment and exploitation, lack of access to clean water, sanitation, health care and education.

The three definitions of poverty presented by the different authors are revolving around common things: deprivation, disadvantaged, failing to meet basic needs, low income, living below basic standards of living, lack of education, and lack of self-esteem. All those negative words are referred to the so called poor people or poorest of the poor. The above mentioned three definitions of poverty are all relevant to this study.

1.6.2 Poverty eradication

According to the South African former President Thabo Mbeki (2008), poverty eradication is a national war room for battle against poverty. This perspective recognises poverty as a national crisis which requires a vigorous strategy which is tantamount to a war.

1.6.3 Poor people

Webster (1990: 20) defines poor people as individual families and groups which are lacking the resources to obtain type of diet, participate in the activities, and have the living conditions and amenities which are customary in the societies to which they belong. According to Elgar (2006: 465), poor people are people who come from constant deprivation and basic necessities of life such as food, medical care, and shelter.

The above two definitions on poor people are more relevant to this study.

1.6.4 Development

According to Allen & Thomas (2000: 23), development is moving towards getting rid of poverty, increased living standards, improved health, well being for all and the achievement of whatever is general good for society at large.

Coetzee, Graff, Fred, Hendricks & Wood (2001:122) define development as components which satisfy basic needs such as food, clothing, shelter, with the inclusion of other more concrete needs such as the right to live a meaningful life.

According to FitzGerald, Lennan & Munslow (1999), development is a process of transferring skills to people, and giving them access to resources so that they have control over their lives.

One cannot separate development and poverty. Poverty is the symptom of lacking, while development is the provider of the lacking. The first two definitions regard development as correctional service, to improve health and satisfy basic needs. The third definition is concerned with provisioning of skills for accessing resources leading to better life.

1.6.5 Rural Development

According to Chaminuka, Belete & Moholwa (2004:35)

“Rural development is a process that is people centred and circumstances specific”.

Rural development shares the same indicators with poverty alleviation. The indicators are as follows: increased productivity, improve health facilities, infrastructure, sanitation facilities and educational services.

1.6.6 Community development

Community development has something to do with promotion of human development. Its main aim is to empower communities and strengthening their capacity for self-sustaining development (de Beer & Swanepoel, 2000: 125).

1.6.7 Empowerment

Empowerment is the process of helping the poorest of the poor to identify their goals, opportunities, solve their own problems, and gain access to resource which will lead them to have control on their own future (Sharma & Motilal: 1990:5).

1.6.8 Participation

Participation is the integral part of any development program, and it takes place when people are consciously involved in development (Coetzee et al 2001: 125).

1.6.9 Participatory Extension Approach (PEA)

Participatory Extension Approach is a learning approach for strengthening the individual and organizational capacities of rural people. It further enables them to deal with the dynamic challenges and changes to their livelihoods to move out of poverty (Novafrica, 2007: IV).

1.6.10 Household

According to Statistic South Africa (2001) “A household is a group of persons who live together, and provide themselves jointly with food and/or other essentials for living, or a single person who lives alone”.

1.7 STRUCTURE OF THE MINI-DISSERTATION

The structure of this study will be as follows:

Chapter One presents the orientation of the study which includes introduction and background of the study, statement of the problem, aim of the study, objectives of the study, research questions, definition of concepts relevant to the study and structure of the Mini- dissertation.

Chapter Two comprises literature review of the study. It addresses the theoretical background of the study.

Chapter Three addresses the Research methodology of the study which includes the following: research design of the study, choice and rationale of design, study area,

research population, sample size, selection methods, hypothesis, data collection methods, qualitative data analysis and ethical considerations.

Chapter Four presents the findings of the study and their interpretations.

Chapter Five consists of the summary of the study, recommendations, recommendation for future research and conclusion.

1.8 CONCLUSION

The chapter addressed the orientation of the study through introduction and background; the statement of conducting the research about the Mabunda Citrus Project; main aim of conducting this study; stated the main objectives of the study which are a guidance on what the researcher is intending to do; research questions to be addressed through data collection; and definition of concepts to be used in this study and the structure of the mini-dissertation. All of the above is done in order to assess the impact of Mabunda Citrus Project on poverty alleviation in the community of Xitlakati IN Greater Giyani Municipality of Mopani District in Limpopo Province.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

AGRICULTURAL PROJECTS AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION

2.1 INTRODUCTION

The aim of the study is to investigate the impact of the Mabunda Citrus Project on poverty alleviation in the community of Xitlakati in Greater Giyani Municipality. This chapter presents a review of literature on agricultural projects towards poverty alleviation as found in empirical studies in national and international contexts. The chapter focuses on the relationship between poverty alleviation and agricultural projects, ownership of agricultural projects, general impact of agriculture on poverty alleviation, poverty alleviation programmes, and credit. In the end, the main findings from the literature are synthesized in order to reveal the gaps in the body of knowledge on impact of agricultural projects on poverty alleviation.

2.2 Poverty in rural areas and agricultural projects

Research has established that there is a relationship between poverty in rural households and agricultural projects. This has been found to be the case especially in countries where a large portion of the population falls into the income trap in the large-size households. In these households, the most publicised causes of income poverty are illiteracy, unemployment, and low income. In the case where rural poor fail to secure employment in the formal and informal sectors, the government intervenes by offering income grants and public works programmes. Income-generation projects also form part in addressing poverty in the country. Agricultural projects, for example, are cited as some of the major contributors to poverty alleviation (Kwaw, 2006: 59).

While agricultural projects may have a positive impact on poverty alleviation, it is however, noted that there are only three major institutions promoting organised community agriculture in Limpopo Province; namely, Department of Social Development, Department of Agriculture, and the National Development Agency. This limited number of institutions renders it hard for agricultural projects to cater for

a large number of rural participants. With regard to organised community agricultural projects, there are six agricultural programmes: Community Gardens, Land Care Programme, Rural Enterprise Agricultural Projects, and Special Programme for Food Security. The main purpose of establishment of both poverty alleviation and income generation projects is for income poverty alleviation and food security in the rural household. Without sufficient support in resources, it is difficult to conceive of a large scale impact on poverty (Kwaw, 2006: 61). The foregoing discussion shows that agricultural products in design have a potential to target the rural households and reduce poverty in large-size rural homes. The present study will further probe such an impact at the selected site of the study.

2.3 Ownership of the projects

Ownership of agricultural projects has been established as one of the factors contributing to the overall impact of the projects. Research has established that the ownership of the projects depends on what projects members perceive as reason(s) for establishment. However, it is generally preferred that the community feel they have a role to play in agricultural projects. This involvement of the community will facilitate the problem identified and its definition (Mudau, 2001 in Marais, Muthien, Jansen Van Rensburg, Maaga, de Wet, and Coetzee, 2001).

Mudau as cited in Marais et al (2001) carried out a study that sought to determine sustainability and the ownership of projects in South Africa. This study revealed that 60% of the projects had been initiated by the National Nutrition and Social Development programme. Very little was required on the part of the community members except that they were told to get together and form a committee. When assessing the perceptions of the community on ownership, 20% of the respondents believed that that the projects had been established to contribute to the creation of employment for the people in the neighbourhood. Another 15% of the respondents believed that the projects were there to alleviate poverty in the neighbourhood, and 5% felt the projects were merely aimed to generate income particularly for those who were unemployed. This study is relevant to the current one as the attitudes of the project participants will be important in informing the project on whether the Mabunda Citrus Project has an impact on poverty alleviation.

2.4 Impact of agriculture on poverty

One of the frequently pursued questions is whether agriculture has an impact on poverty. There is sufficient theoretical support in the literature, which substantiates that agriculture reduces poverty (Anriquez and Stamoulis, 2007:16-17). There are four main channels, which reveal that agricultural growth helps poverty alleviation. The channels are as follows:

- Directly increasing the income/ own consumption: expansion of agricultural sector may benefit small-holder sector and pull some of them out of poverty;
- Indirectly reducing food prices: reduction of food price leads to two-way accounting improvement in the welfare of the poor. This implies that their real income increases because food is the main component of their consumption basket. Concurrently the poverty is decreased;
- Indirectly increasing the income generated by the non-farm rural economy: rural non-farm economy in most regions is mostly composed of goods and services that directly serve agriculture, or indirectly depends on the demand of those tied to agriculture. Agricultural growth increases the demand for the goods and services of the rural non-growth sector, which could assist to pull out the poverty household tied to this section; and
- Indirectly raising employment and wages of the unskilled: agriculture is usually populated with unskilled labour. Agricultural growth through and increase in unskilled labour demand gives rise to unskilled employment. Raising the unskilled wages in agriculture in turn pushes upward the unskilled wages in urban areas.

The four described channels benefit the poorest households of the economy (Anriquez and Stamoulis, 2007:16-17). Traditionally, agricultural growth is regarded as important for poverty alleviation because it is the major source of income for the poor rural household. Further, it was found that agriculture will have positive impact on the poor depending on households. Furthermore, it is well established that the recommendations of the paper always suggest that poverty reduction policies should take into consideration the strategic importance of the agricultural growth and its

transformation (Bresciani & Coppenstedt, 2006:1). This evidence is also supported by Aido's (2009) findings, which claimed that the majority of rural households depend on agriculture for their income. This, according to Aido (2009), means that agriculture has a positive impact on the household incomes.

The perceived impact of agriculture on poverty has also been noted by the Department of Agriculture Minister, Dipuo Letsatsi-Duba (2011). The Minister observed that community capacity building, eradication of poverty and creation of better sustainable jobs for all are possible through agriculture because agriculture is one of the economic drivers when it comes to employment, rural development and food security in Limpopo and the country as a whole. In the current study, the impact of agricultural project in a remote rural area will be investigated to test the claims made in the reviewed literature above.

2.5 Programmes towards poverty alleviation

Alleviation of poverty has been observed as a mission that can be achieved through programmes and projects in the previous studies on poverty alleviation. In South Africa, there is a general consensus that programmes had significant impact on reducing poverty, redistribution of income and reducing inequality in South Africa (Statistics South Africa, 2003 & 2007). On the converse, it was also found that some programmes never succeed if they do not have poverty alleviation component. According to Vyas and Bhargava (1995), all successful projects are those that make sizeable investments in poverty alleviation programmes. In such projects, failure in implementation of poverty alleviation programmes is caused by other factors such as improper spending of poverty alleviation funds or usage of funds in a manner that hinders sustainability (Vyas and Bhargava, 1995: 2572). For projects and programmes to achieve poverty alleviation goal, they should build on knowledge and skills of all people involved; furthermore, stakeholders need to be given space and time to learn and share knowledge (Hjorth, 2003). It is in this context that the present study will investigate all variables that account for an impact on an agricultural project placed in a remote rural area of Limpopo Province.

2.6 Credit suppliers for the poor

Several studies on the impact of agricultural projects have singled out government support with credit as one important factor for the projects to be sustainable. This particularly became the subject of interest because guaranteed sustainability can prolong the impact of the projects. According to a study by Sharma and Motilal, (1990:5), projects will likely have an impact if the participants in the projects are provided with resources and social support services. These scholars found that farmers, in particular, must be given an opportunity to govern their own lives and future through empowerment. In this way, poor farmers can identify their goals, opportunities and solve their own problems. Having a good financial backing will be psychologically empowering to gain confidence and inner strength. Sharma and Motilal (1990) also found that there were many cases of misunderstanding regarding loaning schemes available. The problem with misunderstanding, according to them, is that the approach to credit suppliers for the poor has been developed without consultation to hear the farmers' needs and aspirations. It is expected that the availability of the credit to the poor on affordable terms can lead to productive resources. The poor generally need small amount of credit. The type of credit that was found to be effective is a series of small short term loans for working capital which may ensure the supply of raw materials for carrying out activities. It is thus recommended that the state should be responsible to create income earning opportunities for the target group of the poor (Vyas and Bargava, 1995: 2556). In this way, there will be sustainability of the projects, which may in turn lead to major impact on the lives of the poor people in the rural areas. The impact of the Mabunda Citrus Project, a subject of the current study, will also be assessed in terms of the financial backing by stakeholders.

2.7 Capacity building

The impact of agricultural projects has also been assessed in terms of the capacity building aspect. Several studies have investigated the skills that are acquired by farmers through their involvement in the project. According to Kwaw (2006:65), capacity building in agricultural projects included training programmes in organised communities. The poor are empowered by strengthening their capacity for the sake

of engaging them in development through educational and skills building programmes (de Beer & Swanepoel, 2000: 134). In the present project, capacity building is investigated as a measure for impact of the Mabunda Citrus project.

2.8 Relationship between poverty and size of the household

Research has established that there is close relationship between poverty and size of the household. The findings of the study were that larger households with many dependants are much poor. The findings further revealed that 61% of female-headed households are poor as compared to 31% male-headed households (Swanepoel and de Beer, 2000: 16). This study is relevant to the current one because Mabunda Citrus Project will be assessed in terms of the relationship between poverty and size of the household.

2.9 Conclusion

This chapter reviewed literature on the relationship between poverty alleviation and agricultural projects. First, the studies showed that rural areas are the worst affected by poverty and that agricultural projects are geared toward alleviating poverty in these areas. Second, the impact of agricultural projects is heavily dependent on the level to which the communities are involved as key stakeholders. The third observation from the literature is the overall impact of agriculture on poverty. Researchers have established that agriculture has an important role to play in poverty alleviation through direct employment of unskilled labour. Further, the literature shows that inclusion of poverty alleviation in programmes and projects guarantees success of the project. What was also found is that impact is interrelated with sustainability, which is dependent on credit supplies and closely managed loans to farmers. Further in terms of capacity building, the targets groups are empowered through educational and skills development programmes. All these factors, taken together show that there is a correlation between poverty alleviation and agricultural projects. However, it is noteworthy that there are few studies that assessed impact from remote rural areas in Africa in general and South Africa in particular. Finally, in terms of relationship between poverty and size of the family, it was found that larger household with many dependants are much poor and the female-headed households are poor as compared to male-headed households.

The present study thus fills in this knowledge gap through a detailed assessment of the impact of Mabunda Citrus Project on poverty alleviation in Limpopo Province.

The following chapter deals with the methods and research design of the impact of the Mabunda Citrus Project.

CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY AND RESEARCH ETHICS

3.1 INTRODUCTION

In the previous chapter, literature review has been reviewed in order to find out what has been researched by other researchers. In this chapter, the researcher presents full details of research methodology of this study. Hypothesis and ethical consideration are also included in this chapter.

3.2 RESEARCH DESIGN

Mouton (2001: 55) defines research design as a plan or blueprint of how a researcher is intending to conduct his research. This definition is only suitable in quantitative research design. In a qualitative research design, there is no step-by-step or fixed recipe to follow (de Vos, Fouché & Delpont 2005:269).

According to Welman, Kruger & Mitchell (2005: 52), a research design is the plan which a researcher obtains research participants and collects information from them; in it a researcher describes what he is going to do with the participants with a view to reach a conclusion about the research problem. The latter definition accurately describes qualitative research design procedures. The research process reflects the procedures of the chosen design (de Vos et al. 2005: 2690).

3.2.1 Differences between Quantitative and Qualitative Research Designs

Quantitative research design uses large samples and the analysis of results is usually based on statistics. In contrast, qualitative research design uses small samples of people and also implements in-depth methods (Welman, Kruger & Mitchell 2005: 8). In quantitative design, location is artificial while in qualitative research design location is natural (Collis & Hussey 2009:62).

According to Collis and Hussey (2009: 62), in quantitative research design, the results are generalised from the sample to population while in the qualitative research design the findings are generalised from one setting to another similar case. In quantitative research design the design is determined by the researcher's

choices and actions unlike in a qualitative research the researcher's choice and actions determines the design (de Vos et al. 2005: 269).

3.2.2 Choice and rationale of design

In this study the researcher has used qualitative research design. Under qualitative research design, the type of study implemented is a case study. According to Collis and Hussey (2009: 82), a case study is a methodology that is used to find out more about a single phenomenon in a natural setting using a variety of methods to obtain in-depth knowledge. Case Study is relevant to this study because the data was generated from Mabunda Citrus Project beneficiaries and from both Civic and Youth committee members in their natural settings (Babbie & Mouton, 2001:270).

Leedy and Ormord (2005: 133) interpret the word natural setting as "real world." Visiting the respondents in their natural setting helped the researcher to obtain in-depth descriptions and understanding of actions of events.

Limited use of the quantitative design was made with respect to analysis of data on the profile of the respondents.

3.2.3 Qualitative Research Design

In this study qualitative research design has been implemented because of the following reasons:

The study was in need of the primary data. The data of this study were collected from the original sources, namely Mabunda Citrus Project beneficiaries, Deputy Chief and local structures, namely Civic and Youth committees (Collins & Hussey 2009:73). In this study most of the descriptive and interpretations are presented in a narration with words rather than numbers (McMillan & Schumacher, 1993:14). Numerical data are used occasionally during data collection; for example, number of dependants, years and so on. Numerical data are also used to elaborate the findings identified in the study.

3.3 STUDY AREA

The study is conducted in Xitlakati area. The area is in the Southern part of Giyani Town. It is about seventy (70) kilometres from Giyani Town. Xitlakati area is well known as a source of Mopani worms (these are suited for human consumption and are highly nutritious) and Marula trees which produce fruits for juice and beer making. Makhura (2004:65) regards the marula beer and juice as a remedy for cleaning stomach. He further indicates that marula nut is mixed with vegetables “morogo” to make a very delicious meal. As far as temperature is concerned, the area shares with Ba-Phalaborwa areas. It is very hot in summer.

Mabunda Citrus Project was selected for the study because most of the community members of Xitlakati area participate in the project. It is, therefore, a source of livelihood. The project also employs a number of people in the community. Thus the study intends to assess whether the project will achieve its purpose of reducing poverty or not.

3.4 RESEARCH POPULATION

Research population has something to do with the total collection of all units of analysis on which the researcher make specific conclusion (Welman, Kruger & Mitchell, 2005: 52).

The targeted population of this study is as follows:

- Twenty five (25) beneficiaries of Mabunda Citrus Project: they are key informants, and they are directly involved in the project.
- One hundred (100) members of Xitlakati Civic Structure: they participate in planning of all developments of an area (Xitlakati).
- One hundred (100) Xitlakati Youth Structure members: they have an influence in the development of the community.
- One Deputy Chief (commonly known as Headman): he is gives consent to all matters related to development.

3.5 SAMPLING AND SAMPLING METHODS

A sample is a small portion of the total set of objects, events, or persons which together consist of the subject of the study (Seaberg, in de Vos et al. 2005: 194).

According to Collis and Hussey (2009: 62), a sample is a subset of the population. This means that a sample is chosen amongst the whole population with a view of obtaining information about the larger group.

3.5.1 Sampling size

In this study the researcher interviewed seven (7) Xitlakati Civic structure members (committee), out of hundred (100) members. The reason for selecting the committee instead of the whole members is because of time constraints. Seven (7) Xitlakati Youth Structure members (committee) were also interviewed. The reason for interviewing seven (7) members out of hundred (100) is also because of time constraints and to minimise the transport fee. The researcher was supposed to interview all twenty-five beneficiaries of Mabunda Citrus Project because the size is manageable. Instead of interviewing all twenty-five (25) beneficiaries of Mabunda Citrus Project, the researcher interviewed twenty-one (21) because of the following reasons: Two (2) members were critically ill, One (1) member has decided to work in Johannesburg and one has exercised her right not to be interviewed (she said boldly that she is not interested).

3.5.2 Selection method

The researcher has used purposive sampling which is a non-probability sampling method to obtain a workable number from both Civic and Youth Structures. In this case, it means that certain members had no chance of being included in a sample (Welman et al. 2005: 67).

In the case of the beneficiaries of Mabunda Citrus Project, the researcher's interest was to interview all of them because their number was reasonable. This type of approach is used by people taking census.

3.6 HYPOTHESIS

The tentative hypothesis for this study is as follows:

Mabunda Citrus Project has made a positive impact on poverty alleviation to the community of Xitlakati.

3.7 DATA COLLECTION METHOD

The method of data collection chosen was guided by the type of design chosen. In this study, the researcher choose qualitative research design, which means that the data have been collected through focus groups and semi- structured one-to-one interviews in order to collect in-depth data.

3.7.1 Focus Groups

According to Collis and Hussey (2009:155), focus groups are used to gather data regarding to the feelings and opinions of a group of people who are involved in common situation or knowledgeable about the same phenomenon. Focus groups consist of a small number of individuals that are drawn together for the purpose of communicating their opinions on a specific set of open questions; they are also called group in-depth interviews (Welman et al., 2005: 201).

The researcher has used focus group interviews to collect data from both committees of civic and youth structures because they are knowledgeable about Mabunda Citrus Project. Each group consisted of seven (7) respondents. According to de Vos et al. (2005: 205), focus groups ranging from six (6) to ten (10) participants allow everyone to participate. During discussions in both two groups, the respondents were sharing their experiences and their feelings freely. The researcher has gained a lot in both two discussions.

The method was more relevant in this study because it is the combination of interviewing and observation. The two groups; namely, the Civic and Youth structures committees, engaged in this study contributed rich information about Mabunda Citrus Project. The method helped the researcher to obtain data rapidly at a low cost. According to de Vos et al, (2005: 300), focus groups have an advantage of obtaining data in a shorter period of time than in individual interviews. The

researcher had an advantage of communicating directly with the committees of civic and youth structures. During discussions, the researcher had an advantage of clarifying some of the questions to the respondents (Welman et al., 2005: 203).

3.7.2 Semi-structured one-to-one interviews

The researcher collected data from both Mabunda Citrus Project and Deputy Chief through semi-structured one-to-one interviews. Interviews are a method for collecting data in which the selected respondents are asked questions to find out what they do, think or feel (Collins & Hussey, 2009: 144).

The instrument was more relevant to the respondents because amongst them there were respondents who received education through ABET (Adult Based Education). The researcher learned the schedule in advance, for that reason the researcher was having an advantage of concentrating during interviews. The researcher was able to watch the facial expressions of the respondents and how they articulate their responses. Emotions and preconception were recorded in order to be used during data analysis. The questions were open-ended. Open-ended questions facilitated freedom to the respondents to express themselves freely (de Vos et al., 2005: 297).

According to Collis and Hussey (2009: 145), semi-structured interviews allowed the researcher to understand the responses in depth because of probes. Probes are questions a researcher asks in response to what the interviewee has said. After each interview, the respondents were reassured that their information will be treated confidential (Collis et al. 2009: 146).

3.7.3 Tape recording of interviews

According to Collins and Hussey (2009: 143), a researcher should always ask the interviewee permission to record the interview using some form of audio recorder and taking notes. In this study, the researcher has asked the permission from the respondents to use both tape recorder and taking notes for data generating. Unfortunately, all of them were not comfortable with the use of tape recorder. All of them were comfortable with that one of taking notes. The assistant facilitator was competent in notes taking, which means that having no tape recorder during interview session caused no harm to this study.

3.7.4 Field notes

Field notes are defined as detailed notes and observations that are made by the interviewer or researcher. During interviewing sessions the researcher was interviewing the participants and jot down only the non verbal behaviour of the respondents. The researcher was having enough time to make follow up questions to pursue the implications of answers to the main questions. The co-facilitator was writing everything that is said during the interview; including the non-verbal behaviour such as pauses during conversation and body gestures (Welman et al. 2005: 199).

The field notes were discussed by the researcher and co-facilitator immediately after the interviews. During discussion, the researcher was taking an advantage of adding notes. The discussion was fruitful because the information was still fresh.

3.8 DATA ANALYSIS

The main aim of this study is to assess the impact of Mabunda Citrus Project on poverty alleviation in the community of Xitlakati. According to White (2002: 82), qualitative research requires logical reasoning and it makes considerable use of inductive reasoning, organising the data into categories and identifying patterns among the categories. To maintain the quality of the findings, the researcher has taken into consideration the trends and patterns that reappear within the two interviewed focus groups (de Vos et al. 2005: 136).

The field notes from focus groups and semi-structured one-to one interviews of targeted respondents were taken into consideration during data analysis as follows:

The researcher has read the transcripts several times in order to get sense from the entire interviews before unpacking it into parts. After this step the researcher unpacked the details collected during two focus groups and two semi- structured interviews. Similar topics were clustered together in all interviews. Data was compared to establish themes, trends and patterns. The themes were categorised into topics. Related topics were put in one category. The data and their interpretation were scrutinised to find out themes and other patterns which characterise the case more broadly than a single piece of information. After data

scrutiny, the case was concluded. This study is a single case, which means that generalisation will not be done until further support from other studies (Cresswell, cited by Leedy & Ormord, 2005:136).

The researcher also used quantitative analysis to a limited extent in order to profile the participants.

3.9 ETHICAL CONSIDERATION

In this study, the researcher has taken into consideration the following research ethics:

3.9.1 Permission to conduct research

According to McMillan and Schumacher (1993:195), an approval for conducting the research if it is to be conducted in an institution such as a university or school should be obtained. In this study the researcher has consulted relevant stakeholders. The researcher made a personal visit to the Headman of Xitlakati for asking permission to conduct a development research at Mabunda Citrus Project. The Headman was also requested to be one of the respondents in this study because he is knowledgeable about the project. The Headman was excited to be part of the research. The researcher has written a letter to the chief at Dzumeri Traditional Authority for requesting permission for conducting the research in Mabunda Citrus Project. The permission has been granted. Finally a letter has been written by the researcher to Mabunda Citrus Project for requesting permission for conducting a research in their project. The response was also positive. Personal visits were made to both chairpersons of Xitlakati civic and youth structures for communicating that the researcher is requesting the committees to be the part of the research. Later on the positive response to the request has been granted.

3.9.2 Informed consent

In this study all participants were given relevant information on what the research is all about and what they are expected to do (Mouton, 2001:244). The participants have been informed that they were expected to participate freely without any force. They have been also informed that if they felt like discontinuing in participating in this

study, they were welcomed to do so. All the participants of this study signed the consent forms.

3.9.3 Confidentiality and anonymity

According to McMillan and Schumacher (1997: 195), information on subjects should be regarded as confidential unless otherwise agreed upon through informed consent. In this study the researcher has informed the participants that they have a right to anonymous. The researcher has informed the respondents that their identity will be kept secret, which means only the researcher has access to names. The respondents of this study were not comfortable with the use of a tape recorder. The respondents explained to the researcher that they associated the use of a tape recorder as a way of identifying the respondents with their voices. The researcher respected their wishes of not using the tape recorder. Amongst Mabunda Citrus Project members, one of them was not interested in participating in this study; the researcher promised her that she would not discuss her rights with the other members of the project.

3.9.4 The right to privacy

In this study, the researcher was very sensitive in this way:

The respondents of this study were never interviewed at mealtimes or interviewed at night (Mouton 2001: 243). Amongst Mabunda Citrus Project beneficiaries, there were two critical ill members at their homes; the researcher respected them by not interviewing them.

3.9.5 Deception of subjects and/ or respondents

According to de Vos, Strydom, Fouché, and Delport (2005:61), deception is not needed on respondents. In this study, the researcher did not withhold information or offer incorrect information to ensure participation. The researcher, by all means, avoided any form of deception. For example, the researcher told all the respondents of this study in time that participation is voluntary. All the respondents of this study completed the consent forms.

3.9.6 Actions and competence of researchers

According to de Vos et al. (2005: 64), utilisation of scarce resources in research is also an ethical issue on the side of the researcher. In this study, the researcher included focus groups in order to minimize transport problem and time. The researcher also made thorough preparations before the work of data generation as follows: Letters were written to the relevant stakeholders for requesting permission to conduct the research. Personal visits were made to relevant stakeholders for making preparations. The community of Xitlakati was visited before data collection in order to understand the community and its myth. The respondents were informed before data collection about ethical issues and what was expected from them.

3.9.7 Release or publication of the findings

The findings of this study will be displayed but not generalised. Generalisation will be on hold for further support from other studies. The respondents will be informed about the findings in an objective manner (for considering the principle of confidentiality). By informing the respondents about findings, the researcher will be recognising and expressing gratitude to the participants of the study (de Vos et al. 2005: 66).

3.9.8 Credibility

According to Schulze (2002:79), credibility concludes that the research was conducted in such a way that the phenomenon was accurately described. In this study, the researcher consulted books and journals on how to conduct a research before conducting it. The colleagues were consulted before composing the final draft of the report for establishing validity through poled judgements.

3.9.9 Debriefing of respondents

After completion of the project, the researcher will rectify any misperception that might have been arisen in the minds of participants. This study is a learning experience for both participants and researcher, which means the debriefing sessions, will take place to complete the learning experience (de Vos et al., 2005:67).

3.10 CONCLUSION

This chapter presented the methodology for this study. It was indicated that the study followed qualitative research design and the type is case study. The instruments used to collect data from the participants of this study are semi-structured interviews and focus group interviews. Purposive sampling under non-probability sampling was used to select respondents from both civic and youth structures. Using purposive sampling facilitated that some of the members of the structures being excluded in the sample. Concerning Mabunda Citrus Project beneficiaries, the researcher targeted to interview all of them, but it was impossible because of consideration of some ethics. Finally, all the ethics written in this study are all relevant to this study.

CHAPTER FOUR

DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

4.1 INTRODUCTION

The main objective of this study is to assess the impact of Mabunda Citrus Project on poverty alleviation to the beneficiaries and to the community of Xitlakati. This chapter presents the analysis of data and interpretations of the findings generated from focus group interviews and semi-structured interviews.

The researcher conducted interviews as follows:

Semi-structured one-to-one interviews

- 21 Mabunda Citrus Project beneficiaries
- 01 Deputy Chief

Focus group interviews

- 01 focus group interviews with 07 members of the civic structure
- 01 focus group interviews with 07 members of the youth structure

The researcher interviewed twenty-one beneficiaries of Mabunda Citrus Project and the Deputy Chief individually. The main aim of interviewing Mabunda Citrus Project beneficiaries one by one was to obtain in-depth information of how each member benefits out of the project; what each member does in the project and what he/she thought or felt about the project. Regarding Deputy Chief, he is highly involved in all developments of the project. When there are conflicts in the project, he is invited to come and participate in conflict resolution. This means that the Deputy Chief is one of the key informants about the Mabunda Citrus Project. In both two focus group interviews with civic and youth structures, the researcher wanted to know the participants' views concerning the impact of the Mabunda Citrus Project on poverty alleviation in the community of Xitlakati. All interviewees were expected to contribute towards strategies for overcoming challenges. All the interviews both individual and focus groups lasted about thirty-five to forty-five minutes. The data were collected

through notes taking during interviews by the assistant facilitator. The researcher was concentrating during interviews because the schedule was studied before-hand. After interviews the assistant facilitator and the researcher discussed the notes for accuracy sake. The researcher analysed the data generated from all the respondents of this study.

The researcher interviewed the respondents of two focus groups and the Deputy Chief without any problem. The problem was experienced on the side of the beneficiaries of Mabunda Citrus Project. The researcher was intending to interview all twenty-five (25) beneficiaries but interviewed twenty-one (21) only. Two members of the beneficiaries were critically ill, and they were at their homes. For these reasons, they were not part of the interviews or study. One of the beneficiaries found a new job in Johannesburg and the last one was not interested in participating to this study.

4.2 PRESENTATION OF THE FINDINGS

The findings of this study were organised under the following headings:

- Profile of the participants
- Duties performed by the beneficiaries of Mabunda Citrus Project in the project
- General understanding of Mabunda Citrus Project
- Contribution of Mabunda Citrus Project in the development of the beneficiaries
- Impact of Mabunda Citrus Project on poverty alleviation in the community of Xitlakati.
- Capacity building
- Challenges experienced in Mabunda Citrus Project
- Possible strategies to overcome the challenges

4.2.1 Profile of the participants

The profile of the respondents is of paramount importance to the focus of the study, which is poverty alleviation. Since the beneficiaries had to satisfy certain requirements for poverty status in order to be included in the Mabunda Citrus Project, age, educational qualifications, gender, marital status, disability, and number of dependants were analysed in conjunction with the project goal towards its beneficiaries. Analysis of the participants' profiles is hereunder displayed:

4.2.1.1 Age of the participants

The age of the respondents were analysed in order to assess the impact of the project of the age category that needs more intervention on poverty alleviation.

Table 1 reveals the age distribution of the beneficiaries of the project

Table 1: Age profile of the participants

Age	Participants							
	Mabunda Citrus Project participants		Deputy Chief		Civic Members		Youth Members	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Below 20 years							7	100
21-35 years	1	5						
36-50 years	11	52			3	43		
51 years & above	9	43	1	100	4	57		

N=Number

%=Percentage

This table shows that eleven (11) members of the project had an age range of 36 to 51 years old. A further analysis shows that there is a substantial number of the beneficiaries who were quite old since 9 (43%) out of 21 members were 51 years old or above. Eleven (52%) of the members were aged between 36 and 50 years old. If closer to a half of the beneficiaries (43%) were 51 years and older, one deduces that the knowledge base of the project will be lost when these beneficiaries go out for pension. Two (2) people are no longer participating in terms of skills provisioning and salary in the project. On the contrast, the youth category between ages 21 and 35 years old are underrepresented with on 1 (5%) of the youth beneficiaries partaking in the project. Upon further probing, the researcher found that the youth represented in the project was participating by chance; that is, serving as a replacement for a deceased sister. It is noteworthy that the age category of the current beneficiaries seems to be skewed towards old age beneficiaries whose poverty status may not be as acute as the youth beneficiaries who still need to raise children. The researcher deduces that succession plan is not taken into consideration in the project. The incorporation of the youth in the project can promotes information sharing because the youth are more exposed to new technology.

Table 1 also illustrates that most of the civic members' ages (committee) were 51 years and above (4: 57%). It further reveals that 3 (43%) civic members were between 36 and 50 years. This means that the Xitlakati Civic Structure has no youth representative in the committee. For the sake of getting new ideas in the Civic structure committee, the youth should be well represented.

A fourth observation from Table 1 above is that the members of Xitlakati Youth Structure committee ages were ranging from 21 to 35 (7: 100%), which is normal. This implies that they all qualified to be youth members. According to the results of this study, the Xitlakati Community youth were highly concerned with the Mabunda Citrus Project, although they are not fairly represented in the membership of the project. For example, one of the respondents has mentioned that

“Mabunda Citrus Project is the father to the most households of Xitlakati community because most of the community members in the village are employed there”.

The above stated comment suggests that Mabunda Citrus Project plays a role of the father in the community of Xitlakati. The father is regarded as a provider in the family; provider in terms of food, clothing, education and so on. This means that Mabunda Citrus Project has a positive impact in the welfare of the community of Xitlakati.

There is evidence that the youth of Xitlakati Community had positive feelings about Mabunda Citrus Project because they believed that no one could steal in the project in their presence. That is, the youth presence in the project would have an added advantage not only for future continuity and efficacy of poverty alleviation, but also for security of the citrus products. Taken together, the age distribution of the participants in the focus group discussion and interviews show that age is a threat to the future of the project and its intended outcomes of poverty alleviation. After a period of 10 years or so, the present beneficiaries will be outside of the salary scale and skills provisioning cycle as pensioners.

4.2.1.2 Educational qualifications of the participants

Education qualification and levels of literacy among the beneficiaries was not a factor in the selection of the beneficiaries; but it was expected that people with professional qualifications might not be ideal for poverty intervention programme through the Mabunda Citrus Project. However, there was a qualified teacher amongst the beneficiaries. Table 2 below presents the qualifications of all the participants of this study.

Table 2: Educational qualifications of the participants

Educational qualifications	Participants							
	Mabunda Citrus Project participants		Deputy Chief		Civic Members		Youth Members	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
None	2	10			1	14		
Grade 1-7	8	38	1	100	1	14		
Grade 8-10	3	14						
Grade 11-12	6	29			3	43	7	100
Tertiary level	2	9			2	29		

N=Number

%=percentage

Table 2 above reveals that there were two (10%) of the beneficiaries of the Mabunda Citrus Project never went to school. This means that they could not read nor write despite a further revelation that the Adult Basic Education Training (ABET) was at their disposal from within the project. Eight (38%) of the beneficiaries had a primary school education background up to grade 7 through the ABET provision in the project. Three (14%) of the beneficiary members were had an education background ranging from Grade 8 to Grade 10. Six (29%) members of the project had passed Grades 11 and 12 with only about 2 (9%) beneficiaries having had tertiary education level. However, it is noteworthy that the qualifications of one of the beneficiaries were acquired during the life of the project through correspondences. His qualifications can therefore be associated with the achievements of the project in capacity development and skills support system. He was appointed as the Human Resources manager. The second beneficiary who was a qualified teacher did not

reveal how he came to participate in the project. In other words, his education qualifications cannot be classified as an achievement of Mabunda Citrus Project. Upon further probing, the teacher did not receive any salary from the project, meaning that he serves on a voluntary basis. However it was surprising that the teacher-beneficiary is on the list while there could be someone deserving of intervention through the project.

The project could achieve more if the six (6) project beneficiaries those who have passed grade 11 and 12 can further their studies through correspondences. The courses which could be relevant to the project are project management, marketing, communication, citrus production, financial management and so on. Getting more qualified people in the project could have positive impact in terms of production and also to the beneficiaries in terms of earning better salary. High production will facilitate employment of more community members. Better salary will help beneficiaries to educate their children and improve the status of their houses.

The table also shows that the Deputy Chief has an educational level between grades 1-7 (14%). It shows that 1 (14%) member of civic structure fell under the category of being illiterate and 1 (14%) was between grades 1-7. Three (43%) of the civic structure members had an education level ranging from grade 11 to grade 12. Finally, the table reveals that all the Xitlakati Youth Structure committee members 7(100%) had an educational level ranging from grade 11 to 12. Through probing, it has been found that all of them are not furthering their studies. Three of them are close relatives of Mabunda Citrus Project beneficiaries. Following the succession route, they could be the right candidates or participants

All in all, the data reveal that the majority of the participants in the project do not have professional qualifications, except for one case where one of the beneficiaries is a qualified teacher who, by his own account, is serving on a voluntary basis. One of the achievements of the project is that one of the only two members with tertiary education got his qualifications through correspondences during the life of the project and served as the Human Resources Manager of the project. In-service acquisition of qualification could be beneficial to the sustainability and growth of the project. The rest of the beneficiaries and participants all needed to be empowered through this

project that has provided them with an employment, which they would otherwise not have got if they were looking for jobs without academic qualifications. In this way, the project seems to meet its goal of alleviating poverty among deserving and under-educated beneficiaries.

4.2.1.3 Gender of the participants

The gender of the participants was a factor within the criteria of poverty alleviation through a community project. Ideally, it is expected that the majority of the beneficiaries should be women as they tend to be the ones who deal with everyday challenges of poverty in child rearing and providing for the families. This factor too has to do with the history of gender imbalances where women had fewer opportunities to advance professions as they tackle domestic chores with their male counterparts often living outdoors. Table 3 presents the gender of all the participants of this study:

Table 3: Gender profile of the participants

Gender	Participants							
	Mabunda Citrus Project participants		Deputy Chief		Civic Members		Youth Members	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Male	16	76	1	100	3	43	5	71
Female	5	24			4	57	2	29

N=Number

%= percentage

Table 3 shows interrelated results. First, it shows that 16 (76%) beneficiaries of the Mabunda Citrus Project were males and that only 5 (24%) were females. Obviously, this shows a greater gender imbalance among the beneficiaries. Upon further probing, it was found that gender was not taken into consideration during the

establishment of the project. This was surprising given the history of women rights and empowerment in South Africa and the continued need to redress the gender imbalances of the past. However, as will be seen later, gender is balanced by the requirement that the beneficiaries should be married. In this case, it is a family unit that benefits, not specific individuals. Secondly, male dominance in the project is further illustrated by the fact that the Deputy Chief was also a male.

Thirdly, Table 3 further indicates that the Civic Structure Committee had 3 (43%) males and 4 (57%) females, the Xitlakati Youth Structure committee had 5 (71%) males and 2 (29%) females. Overall, the Mabunda Citrus Project is male dominated with very few female representatives. As explained above, this imbalance goes against the expectation that more women should be in the project as the most vulnerable group affected by poverty. The requirement that these males should be married (see 4.2.1.4 below) somehow offset the imbalance, but it may be a factor to be considered in future establishments.

4.2.1.4 Marital status of the participants

The Mabunda Citrus Project made it clear that its beneficiaries should be married persons so that the benefits would have a rippling effect towards a family unit, not individual persons. Even though it might not be factually true for all cases, but as conceived in the project, the idea was that married people have more responsibilities involving children rearing compared to individuals outside of the marriage structures. As a result, they are more vulnerable to high poverty conditions compared to the non-married counterparts. Table 4 displays the marital status of all the participants of this study.

Table 4: Marital status of the participants

Marital status	Participants							
	Mabunda Citrus Project participants		Deputy Chief		Civic Members		Youth Members	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Married	16	76	1	100	7	100	1	14
Single								
Unmarried	2	10					6	86
Separated								
Widow	2	9						
Widower								
Divorced	1	5						

N=Number

%=percentage

Table 4 shows that 16 (76%) beneficiaries of Mabunda Citrus Project were married. 2 (10%) members were unmarried and 1 was a divorcee. There was no single or separated beneficiary in the project. Likewise, there was no widower amongst the males. Upon probing during the focus group discussion, it was pointed out that one of the criteria to be the member of the project was that one should be married. The Deputy Chief was also married.

However, it is noteworthy that 6 (86%) committee members of Xitlakati Youth Structure were not married with only 1(14%) member married. This result was expected since the participants fell under the youth category. In other words, the marriage criterion would only apply to the actual beneficiaries of the Citrus Project and not to the Civic and Youth structures. 16 members of the project were married,

which implies that 16 couples including their beneficiaries, 05 single parenting families and their beneficiaries were depending on the project for the living.

This criterion proves to be hard to stick by as, at the time of the study, one member was a divorcee while two were unmarried. For example, it would be difficult to exclude the beneficiaries who either become divorced or widowed while in the life of the project. Upon further probing, it was evident that the criterion was restricted to the first time entrants.

4.2.1.5 Living with disability

Disability of the beneficiaries was also investigated in the study. This section has something to do with checking the participation of disabled people in the Mabunda Citrus Project.

Table 5 addresses how disability is treated, for example number of disable people amongst the respondents of the current study.

Table 5: Disability

Disability	Participants							
	Mabunda Citrus Project participants		Deputy Chief		Civic Members		Youth Members	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Disability	21	0	1	0	7	0	7	0

N=Number

%=percentage

Table 5 displays that there were no representatives of persons living with disability in Mabunda Citrus Project, Xitlakati Civic Structure Committee and Xitlakati Youth Structure Committee. The Deputy Chief of Xitlakati community was also not living

with disability. This finding implies that in Xitlakati Community disability was not taken into consideration in employment, committees, and so on. Just like the results on gender, exclusion of people living with disabilities seems to go against the popular view of redressing imbalances and empowering disabled communities in South Africa. Unlike the female categories that may still benefit due to the involvement of their husbands, the disabled community does not have similar probability of benefitting from the project even though it is well-known that the disabled community is one of the vulnerable groups when it comes to poverty.

4.2.1.6 Dependants

This study will assess the impact of the project on poverty alleviation through checking the number of dependants of the beneficiaries, Deputy Chief, Civic members and Community youth committee. There is close relationship between poverty and size of the household. It has been found that households with many dependants are much poor (de Beer and Swanepoel, 2000) the findings in this regard will assist to reveal the impact of the project.

Table 6 displays the dependants of all respondents of the study.

Table 6: Number of the dependants of the dependants of the participants

Number of dependants	Participants							
	Mabunda Citrus Project beneficiaries		Deputy Chief		Civic Members		Youth Members	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
None							1	14
1	1	5	1	100	5	71	3	43
2	1	5			2	29	1	14
3	6	29					1	14
4	10	48					1	15
5	2	10						
6	1	5						
7 and above								

N=Number

%=percentage

Table 6 above reveals that 1 member of the beneficiaries of the Mabunda Citrus Project had 1 (5%) dependant, 1 (5%) member had 2 dependants, and 6 (29%) members had 3 dependants each. According to the age of the beneficiaries, having 1 to 2 dependants was expected. The table further reveals that 10 (48%) of the beneficiaries had 4 dependants each, 2 (10%) had 5 dependants each and 1 (5%)

had 6 dependants. This implies that most members of the beneficiaries had 4 dependants. Considering the age of the beneficiaries, one can conclude that the dependants (10 or 48%) are not biologically theirs. According to table 6 illustrations the Deputy Chief had 1 dependant. This was normal in considering his age of 51 old and above category.

Regarding the civic members, Table 6 reveals the following: 5 (71%) members of the civic structure committee had 1 dependant each, whereas 2 (29%) members had 2 dependants each. With regard to the youth members, 1(14%) had no dependant, 3 (43%) had 1 dependant each, 1 (14%) had 2 dependants, 1(14%) had 3 dependants and 1 (15%) had 4 dependants.

The findings of the study reveal that one youth member had 3 dependants. In considering that she is not employed, it will mean that indirectly the project will have more responsibility because the youth tend to seek job when they are frustrated. Taken together, the participants had dependants (4 on average), which makes them vulnerable to poverty. As discussed previously about the aging category of the beneficiaries as a notable factor, the number of the dependants is on the age progression of the beneficiaries. Once the beneficiaries pass the child rearing age, their responsibilities start to reduce gradually. The study reveals that the age of beneficiaries does not correlate with the number of dependants. The researcher may conclude that the dependants are not directly theirs, but belongs to their children (grand children). It would seem that the project needs to target the younger category in order to take care of their own children and resolve poverty challenges by putting more of their strength on the project and reduce birth rate.

4.2.1.7 Employment history

Employment history of the current beneficiaries and the participants of the study (civic and youth structures) was scrutinized in order to gauge the success rate of the project in its attempt to alleviate poverty. Categories of poverty stricken beneficiaries such as previously employed and never employed present different dimensions of poverty lines. The researcher was interested in finding out the employment history of all the participants of this study. Table 7 presents the employment history of all the participants:

Table 7: Employment history of the participants

Employment	Participants							
	Mabunda Citrus Project participants		Deputy Chief		Civic Members		Youth Members	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Previously employed	19	90	1	100	2	29	1	14
Previously not employed	2	10			5	71	6	86

N=Number

%=percentage

Table 7 shows that that 19 (90%) members of the Mabunda Citrus Project were previously employed whereas 2 (10%) were not previously employed. The researcher has found that most of them were previously employed by neighbouring white farmers before joining the project. They were doing various works such as plumbing, tractor driver, welding, cash crops planting and harvesting of oranges. About the Deputy Chief, he was previously employed as an assistant electrician before being appointed to the current position. The table further indicates that 2 (29%) of civic structure committee were previously employed and 5 (71%) were not previously employed. About the youth committee structure members, 1 (14%) had been previously employed and 6 (86%) had not previously employed.

The findings of the study on the history of employment show that the majority of the beneficiaries were previously employed with quite an experience in farming. The experience could be beneficial to the citrus project; the fact that they were once employed implies that the challenges of poverty were greater due to their used lifestyle of expecting a salary at the end of the month. They seem to be the needy category of the employees compared to those who were never employed before.

With regard to the youth, as shown elsewhere, it is expected that they would not have had a life experience and thus, a project of this kind might provide them with necessary skills to eke out a living in future.

The project has a positive impact on employment because on probing there is evidence that the project employs members of the community in the following manner: 25 beneficiaries (project owners), 69 permanent workers and 250 casual workers. This implies that most members of the community of Xitlakati were depending on the project for the living.

4.2.2 Data obtained from focus groups and semi structured interviews

Under this section, there are qualitative data obtained from focus group interviews and semi-structured one-one- interviews. The researcher conducted two (2) focus groups interviews and two (2) semi-structured interviews. The focus group interviews were conducted with the members of the civic and youth structures committees of the Xitlakati community. Semi-structured interviews were conducted with the beneficiaries of project and the Deputy Chief of Xitlakati community. The aim of the interviews were to find out the general understanding of Mabunda Citrus Project, employment history of the participants, criteria used for selecting beneficiaries, contribution of the project to the development of Xitlakati community, the roles played by the participants in the project, the purpose of establishing the project, achievements of the project in line with the intended purpose, challenges experienced in the project and strategies to be implemented in order to overcome the challenges.

The semi structured interviews were conducted in order to find out employment history, whether the participants were original members of the project, finding out whether the participants in the project were original members, whether the beneficiaries were receiving payment from the project or not, type of work performed by the beneficiaries, duration of membership of the beneficiaries, changes experienced by the beneficiaries in the initiatives of the project, contribution of Mabunda Citrus Project in the development of Xitlakati community, capacity building in the project, challenges experienced and possible strategies to overcome those challenges.

4.2.3 General understanding of Mabunda Citrus Project

Views on general understanding of the Mabunda Citrus Project were contributed by the respondents from the focus groups as follows:

4.2.3.1 Criteria used for recruiting the participants of Mabunda Citrus Project

The researcher sought to gather the views about recruitment criteria for the participants of the Mabunda Citrus Project. The views given on the criteria used for recruiting beneficiaries of the Mabunda Citrus Project were that, one should be without descent job, be poor, married and must be between 21 years and 50 years old.

These criteria were developed in order to ensure that the beneficiaries not only met the poverty yardstick, but also had potential to help others; for example, children and dependants in marriage and while in the productive years of one's life with responsibilities.

When asked about the education and skills background, one of the respondents had smiled before uttering these words:

“Educational qualifications were not taken into consideration during recruitment period.”

Education was not seen as an important variable as it was assumed that poor people were not likely to have tertiary qualification. Similarly, educated people would likely to have decent jobs and therefore, it was not necessary to put it as a criterion since they would not meet the criterion of being poor.

One of the respondents said the following words:

“No jokes about that, the main aims of establishing Mabunda Citrus Project were job creation and poverty alleviation”.

The findings of the study, after observations and a series of interviews, revealed that all the criteria mentioned above were true. The following table illustrates the criteria used for recruiting the participants of the Mabunda Citrus Project and the results of the study:

Table 8: Criteria and results of the study

Criteria	Results of this study
<p>One should be poor, community member and without descent job</p>	<p>Most of them were poor; they were community members and employed in the neighbouring white farmers (there was a qualified teacher amongst them).</p> <p>The results were illustrated as follows:</p> <p>Nineteen (90%) out of 21 members were previously employed.</p> <p>Out of the previously employed there was 1 teacher the rest did qualify to the criteria.</p> <p>Two (10%) were not previously employed.</p>
<p>One should be married</p>	<p>16 (76%) out of 21 were married.</p> <p>2 (9%) were widows. 1 (5%) was divorced.</p> <p>Only 2 (10%) were unmarried. Out of these two unmarried there was a youth person who replaced his late sister. These results proved the truthiness of the criterion.</p>
<p>To qualify one should be more than 21 years but less than 50 years</p>	<p>The project had 12 years; there were 2 pensioners not participating on the day-to-day</p>

	<p>activities and in terms of salary. This implies that they were 48 years old during the establishment of the project</p>
<p>Educational qualifications</p>	<p>Educational qualification was not taken into consideration during the establishment of the project. The comment of one of the respondents: “No jokes about that, the main aims of establishing Mabunda Citrus Project were for job creation and poverty alleviation”.</p> <p>Adult Based Education Training had played an important role in the project.</p> <p>The numbers concerning education are as follows:</p> <p>Two (10%) total illiterate.</p> <p>Eight (38%) Grade 1-7.</p> <p>Three (14%) Grade 8-10.</p> <p>Six (29%) Grade 11-12.</p> <p>Two (9%) Tertiary level.</p>

Table 8 confirms the truthiness of the criteria given by the two focus groups.

4.2.3.2 Impact of Mabunda Citrus Project on poverty alleviation in the Xitlakati community

Data collected from both focus groups as well as individual interviews showed that Mabunda Citrus Project has had a positive impact on the community of Xitlakati. The positive impact is reflected in different ways:

- reflected in different ways:
- Improvement of nutrition in the community.
- Access to jobs.
- Improved income.
- Skills development.

The respondents revealed that Mabunda Citrus Project donates school uniforms to the poverty stricken children yearly, the beneficiaries of the project are members of the community which means that the project had provided employment to the community members (self employment to the beneficiaries), and the project alleviated crime in the community because many members of the community gained employment. One of the focus groups respondents commented in this way:

“Oranges are regarded as food; oranges are provided to schools, seasonal workers and Deputy Chief freely time to time. This implies that Mabunda Citrus Project contributes in food security to the community.”

The statement shows that schools and seasonal workers were extended beneficiaries of the oranges produced in the farm. This has increased food security not only to the direct beneficiaries, but also to the community at large.

Finally, the contribution on this issue was that the beneficiaries were employing both permanent workers and seasonal workers from the community. Both workers and project owners were able to “bring food on the table” every month. This implies that Mabunda Citrus Project has a positive impact on poverty alleviation in the community of Xitlakati because most members of the community were depending on it in terms of employment (job creation), financial wise for education of children and food,

providing for poor children in terms of school uniforms and food security by providing oranges free to some members of the community.

The responses of the focus groups regarding benefits were that the beneficiaries gained employment and empowerment because they attended many courses on orange production. One of the respondents commented that

“Njiya ayi fani na miroho” (Xitsonga)

English translation: “Half a loaf is better than no bread”

The above statement shows that the respondents are relatively satisfied with the benefits of the project. Half a loaf however implies that the project does not meet all their needs, yet they are satisfied that they get salaries and related benefits at the end of the month. For example, all the employees also get a bag of oranges at the end of the week for consumption. Giving away of oranges to the employees could be of food security reason and also as a strategy to discourage theft in the project.

The salary received by the project owners monthly, has an important role in the poverty alleviation to the community of Xitlakati.

4.2.3.3 The role of the civic and youth structures in Mabunda Citrus Project

The responses from the civic reveal that the structure participated in recruitment of both permanent and seasonal workers. The structure also participated in motivating the community to take care of their livestock not to enter the project and destroy the fruit trees in the project. About the youth structure responses on their involvement in the project were as follows: most of the security guards in the project were members of youth structure, the majority of the youth members were seasonal and permanent workers (only one youth member amongst the project owners). The respondents further indicated that they had sided with the beneficiaries of Mabunda Citrus Project on the solidarity that the members continued to use the land for development of the community.

The strong support by both Civic and Youth structures gives courage to the beneficiaries to work hard and also boost the project to have high yield, for example the Civic structure participate in recruitment of the workers and the youth structure

assists in theft prevention in the project. All of the above have a positive impact in poverty alleviation in the community of Xitlakati.

4.2.3.4 Purpose of establishment of Mabunda Citrus Project

The responses from the focus groups reveal that the Mabunda Citrus Project was established to alleviate poverty and job creation to the community.

4.2.3.5 Achievement of the intended purpose

According to the responses of the focus groups, the project was achieving what was intended for because the beneficiaries were self employed and in return employed many members of the community in permanent and casual statuses.

4.2.3.6 The challenges in Mabunda Citrus Project

Most of the responses about the challenges in the project from the focus groups were total different from those contributed by the beneficiaries. The focus groups revealed that the challenges in Mabunda Citrus project were hippopotamus because they were harvesting fruits in the project; snakes because they were biting workers while on duty; leaders of the project had no leadership skills; the permanent workers were not sufficient, segregation by the beneficiaries in employment of some of the community members; the beneficiaries did not recognise the skills of permanent workers; insufficient courses related to citrus production; lack of financial assistance; and lack of infrastructure such as orange packing house in the project.

4.2.3.7 Possible strategies to overcome challenges

The researcher was able to extract possible strategies to resolve the challenges experienced in the project. These are shown in Table 9 below:

Table 9: Challenges and possible strategies contributed by focus groups interviews

Challenges	Possible strategies
Hippopotamus harvesting fruits	An electrical fence is necessary, and the gates should be kept closed during the night.

Snakes in the project	There is a special tree originated from Zimbabwe; if planted in the surrounding it could repel snakes.
Unskilled leadership	Full course on leadership skills should be provided by the government or NGOs
Insufficient permanent workers	More permanent workers should be employed.
Segregation by the beneficiaries in employment of some of the community members	The beneficiaries should employ any person rather than considering minor issues.
The beneficiaries were not recognising the skills of permanent workers	The beneficiaries should employ the permanent workers with relevant skills and this can be successful through interviews.
Insufficient courses related to citrus production	The government and NGOs should participate fully in the empowerment of beneficiaries and workers
Lack of financial assistance	The government and NGOs should intervene in terms of finance because Mabunda Citrus Project is the development project
Lack of infrastructure such as orange packing house in the project	The beneficiaries should apply loans from the banks and also apply sponsorship from the government and NGOs

Concerning the challenges and possible solution, the researcher concludes that the civic and youth structures value Mabunda Citrus Project because the challenges

mentioned above were all genuine. The possible strategies stated have potential to resolve the challenges. The challenges are reducing the strength of production. High production has something to do with poverty alleviation. The researcher may conclude that the committee of the project should engage the relevant stakeholders to assist where possible. Solving of the concern challenges will lead to increased production. Increased production leads to poverty alleviation.

4.2.4 Involvement in Mabunda Citrus Project

The researcher interviewed twenty-one beneficiaries of the Mabunda Citrus Project and the Deputy Chief one by one. The main aim of interviewing the project beneficiaries one by one was to obtain in-depth information of how each member benefits out of the project, what each member does in the project and what he/she thinks or feels about the project. Regarding the Deputy Chief, the researcher wanted to find out how far of his involvement in the project and what he thought at the project.

4.2.4.1 Original members of the project

The researcher was interested in finding out whether the Project beneficiaries were original members of the project. If not, the researcher wanted to know what happened to the original member. It was revealed out of twenty-one beneficiaries; only two beneficiaries were not original members of the project. The two original members had passed on. One of them was a husband to the beneficiary and the other one was a sister to one of the beneficiaries. The one who was replacing her sister was the youngest beneficiary in the project. The researcher gained in-depth information because the data were collected from the original members.

4.2.4.2 Monthly salary of the beneficiaries

The research reveals that all the beneficiaries had received salary every month with the exclusion of two pensioners. All those who were receiving salary at the end of the month were beneficiaries, but their salaries were not equal. This research did not establish why the beneficiaries were not getting equal payment at the end of every month. Instead the research established that the beneficiaries were earning from R1001, 00 up to R1501, 00 and above per month. The researcher also

established that female beneficiaries were under paid as compared to male beneficiaries. Table 10 below displays the salary distribution of the beneficiaries

Table 10: Number of participants and amount received per month:

Number of participants	Mabunda Citrus Project participants		Amount received per month
	N	%	
2	2	10	0
5	5	24	R1001,00 - R1500,00
14	14	66	R15001 and above

N=Number

%=percentage

Table 10 above reveals that 2(10%) members of the project were not receiving the monthly salary from the project (pensioners). The results reveal that they were not earning salary even though they were still members of the project. The table further illustrate that 5 (24%) members of Mabunda Citrus Project were earning a monthly salary raging from R1001, 00 to R1500, 00. Out of 5, 4 were women; which means that only 1 woman was earning from R1500I and above. 14(66%) were earning R15001 and above. This implies that 13 were males and 1 female. It was revealed in this study that some of the beneficiaries were not satisfied with the salary deference. One of the beneficiaries commented as follows:

“There is no transparency on the cash flow of this project, the

Production is high every year but there is no salary increase”.

Regarding the salary, the researcher may conclude that the female beneficiaries were under paid. In consideration of the number of their dependants, the salary of

R1001, 00 to R1500, 00 is not sufficient. The male beneficiaries were living better life as compared to female beneficiaries. The salary under general contributes positively in the poverty alleviation to the members of the community. The problem experienced was unequal distribution of project resources amongst the beneficiaries; in this regard women were marginalised. Transparency was necessary in the project to avoid suspicions.

4.2.4.3 Type of work done by the beneficiaries in the project

The researcher was interested in finding out what type of work done by the beneficiaries in the project. The research reveals that most of the beneficiaries are working as supervisors in different sections such as irrigation supervisor, sectional manager, workshop manager, production manager, scouting supervisor, marketing manager, store-man, and human resource manager. The research also revealed that 19 members of the project members had twelve years working in the project except the two beneficiaries who replaced their relatives. The orange production experiences acquired by the beneficiaries from the previous employers (white farmers) had an important role in production of quality fruits. Quality fruits have proven to be rewarding because they have been donated a big beautiful hall for appreciation. The hall had been recommended to be used by both beneficiaries and the community. This means that the community benefitted out of the beneficiaries work well done.

4.2.4.4 The changes in the family lives of the beneficiaries since joining Mabunda Citrus Project

Interviews with the beneficiaries of the Mabunda Citrus Project revealed that 10(48%) members of the Project are regarding the project as their provider whereas 11 (52%) members of the project are not satisfied.

The comments of the beneficiaries who were positive about the projects were as follows: food provider of the family (this was supported by the member of the focus groups during discussion); the salary from the project had educated children up to grade 12; every month there are food in the family, but it is insufficient for buying clothes for the entire family; and Finally, the monthly salary obtained from the project

had educated three children at the tertiary level.

4.2.4.5 Contribution of Mabunda Citrus Project in the development of Xitlakati community

The responses from the one-to-one interviews about the contribution of Mabunda Citrus Project in the development of Xitlakati community indicated that the project contributed a lot in job creation for both permanent and seasonal workers. One of the respondents was smiling when was saying the following words:

“Mabunda Citrus Project is very good in pleasing the community, just imagine Presently the project has employed 69 permanent workers and 250 casual Workers. The workers are earning wages not too far from our salary as Beneficiaries”

The beneficiaries used to donate school uniforms to the poverty stricken children in the local schools (supported by the focus groups participants). Besides the school uniforms to the poor children, the schools were also given oranges ones per season. The Deputy Chief also received oranges from the project ones per season. Workers were given oranges every Friday. Oranges were also sold to the community at a low price.

The big beautiful hall has been built by the NGO for the beneficiaries and the community in the complement of the beneficiaries for exporting quality oranges abroad. This implies that the project has placed Xitlakati community on the map.

The researcher may conclude that Mabunda Citrus Project has played a very important role in the development of Xitlakati community. Most of the community members cannot sleep without food in their stomachs. The hall has been built to benefit both beneficiaries and the entire community.

4.2.4.6 Capacity building

The researcher was interested in knowing whether the participants were receiving training relevant to their daily activities. The responses from one-to-one interviews revealed that the beneficiaries were trained on pest control, scouting management,

workers management, harvesting of oranges, conflict management, weed control, occupational health and safety, workshop management, adult based education, marketing of oranges, computer literacy, handling of chemicals, first aid and production management.

All the above mentioned courses were relevant to the beneficiaries' day-today activities; though their comments were that the courses were too short. Concerning the comments of the beneficiaries about the production courses are as follows:

“Through the experience gathered in White farmers and the current Production courses we are able to produce quality oranges.”

The findings are in line with the observations that quality produce has positive impact in poverty alleviation. The evidence from the findings of the study revealed that the beneficiaries and workers got salary out of the production and also given a hall as a complement for exporting quality oranges.

4.2.4.7 Challenges experienced in Mabunda Citrus Project and possible strategies to overcome them

The challenges and possible strategies from the semi-structured interviews with the beneficiaries of the Mabunda Citrus Project and the Deputy chief will be illustrated in the table below.

Table 11: Challenges and possible strategies contributed by the semi-structured interviews :

Challenges	Possible strategies
Lack of pack house in the project	At Masalala there is an old abandoned pack house, the Department of Agriculture should renovate it or build the special one in Mabunda Citrus Project.
Bad road between the project and the	The local Municipality should include it

hired pack house	in its plans (tarred road)
Lack of financial management skills	Full course for financial Management should be organised for all beneficiaries.
Fluctuating of market price	The Department of Agriculture economist should organise courses on marketing.
Gap between the government and Mabunda Citrus Project	The Department of Agriculture should employ a specialised technician for bridging the gap.
Insufficient training courses by the Department of Agriculture	The department should consult the beneficiaries to find out what types of courses are needed and agree about the quantity per year.
The activities of the general manager in the project are not clear (the general manager is employed by the beneficiaries)	The General manager should involve all beneficiaries in all plans of the project. Report the success and failures of the project
Insufficient support by the Department of Agriculture	The Department of Agriculture should advertise a post for the technician specialised in orange production, especially for the project.
There is no member of the project at the hired pack house for managing the tons and tons transported daily from Mabunda Citrus Project to the hired pack house	The beneficiaries should deploy one of the beneficiaries to report at the hired pack house for monitoring and writing reports.
There was a suspicion that some	Transparency is needed to avoid

members of the project are getting very high salary on the expenses of other beneficiaries in the project	suspicious. One of the participants responded in the following manner “we are all equal because each member have 10 hectares, so why different salary?”
The beneficiaries working as field workers are more committed than those who are working in the office	Sharing of information is needed in order to solve all the problems related to the project.
The leadership have no leadership skills.	The government and NGOs should intervene by providing relevant workshops.
Expelled 05 members of the project with the allegation that they did not abide with the constitution	The Deputy Chief is ready to intervene. According to him the expelled beneficiaries are starving.
Production is high, but there is no salary increase	The leadership should be trained on feedback culture on money transactions is needed for the beneficiaries to evaluate whether money is sufficient for salary increase.

Table 11 above reveals that there are many challenges experienced by the beneficiaries in the project. The participants also provided the possible strategies to overcome the challenges. The researcher may conclude that challenges are not threat if one is aware of the possible strategies. Most of the possible strategies given are valuable to solve the challenges in the project. The researcher recommends that the committee should take a lead in implementing the possible strategies; the Department of Agriculture should be there for support. That is how Participatory Extension Approach works.

4.3 DISCUSSION

The Mabunda Citrus Project was a blessing to the community of Xitlakati because during its initial stage it was able to accommodate thirty people in a well situated three hundred hectares. The area where the project is situated was well surveyed because it is near the river with enough irrigation water and the soil was suitable for oranges. The beneficiaries felt blessed because they were transferred from being white farmers' labourers to be owners of ten hectares each. Although each farmer had ten hectares each, they worked as cooperative in this way: one constitution, one committee, working together and banking together.

Education qualifications during recruitment was not taken into consideration, but this study has found out that ABET has contributed a lot in the project, more especially to those who were between grade 1 and 7. In the project those who were between grade 1 and 7 were 8. Those who were completely not educated were 2. Out of 21 beneficiaries only 2 people could not write. The Human Resource Manager in the project had up-graded himself up to tertiary level; this is a great achievement in the project.

The gender part was not taken into consideration in the project because out of 21 beneficiaries, only 5 who were females. This implies that the project had male domination. There was only 1 youth (between 21 and 35). In the project there were 9 beneficiaries who had 51 years and above. This implies that succession plan should be taken into consideration. If possible, aged beneficiaries should orientate their young relatives on what is taking place in the project. Most of the beneficiaries were old but they were still having dependants. The focus group interviews revealed that marriage was one of the criteria to be the possible candidate of the project; that was true because amongst 21 beneficiaries, 16 were married, 2 widows, 1 divorced, 2 unmarried (including the youth who had replaced his deceased sister). Disability was not taken into consideration because there was no beneficiary in the project living with disability. Pensioners were regarded as members because their orchards were still contributing in the project. The beneficiaries were on the technical part of orange production; they might be lacking on management skills.

4.4 CONCLUSION

Based on the results of the study, the Mabunda Citrus Project has a positive impact on poverty alleviation in the community of Xitlakati because many members of the community are employed in the project. Both the beneficiaries as members of the community and workers are providing for their families through the money obtained from the project. The beneficiaries are donating school uniforms to poor children in both primary and secondary schools. Oranges are given free to the workers, Deputy Chief and schools. The hall has been donated to both beneficiaries and the community because of their effort of selling quality oranges abroad.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE STUDY

5.1 INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this study was to assess the impact of the Mabunda Citrus Project on poverty alleviation in the community of Xitlakati in the Greater Giyani Municipality of Mopani District in Limpopo Province. The researcher wanted to investigate the impact on the livelihoods of the beneficiaries and its contribution towards the development of the community. The researcher formulated the following research questions to satisfy the curiosity of the study:

- What is the impact of the project in the livelihoods of project members?
- What does Mabunda Citrus Project contribute towards the development of the community?

The literature has been reviewed in Chapter 2. The literature reviewed shows that agricultural community projects have a potential to alleviate poverty, develop the communities in which they are located and reduce dependency. However, there are few studies that investigated the development of community projects in Limpopo Province within the South African government's focus on rural development. The current study therefore sought to fill in this knowledge gap by investigating the impact of the Mabunda Citrus Project on both poverty alleviation and community development.

Chapter 3 outlined the research methodology relevant for the purpose of this study. A qualitative research design was adopted as the most relevant design to unearth data on a single case. Purposefully selected as one of the developmental project, the Mabunda Citrus Project represents community agricultural projects under way in Limpopo Province. Various data collection methods were used; namely, semi-structured and focus groups interviews among the direct beneficiaries (n=21), the Civic (n=7) and Youth (n=7) groups and the Deputy Chief (n=1) in the Xitlakati community. Data collected over a period a week, were transcribed and analyzed

thematically. Similar topics were clustered together in all interviews. Data was compared to establish themes, trends and patterns. The themes were categorised into topics. Related topics were put one category. Emerging patterns from the data were supported with verbatim quotes from the participants.

Chapter four presented the data analysis and interpretation of this study. The following categories were identified: Profile of the participants, duties performed by the beneficiaries of Mabunda Citrus Project, general understanding of Mabunda Citrus Project and contribution of Mabunda Citrus Project in the development of Xitlakati community, capacity building, and challenges experienced in Mabunda Citrus Project and possible strategies to overcome the challenges.

5.2 SUMMARY OF THE STUDY

The findings of the study can be summarized as follows:

5.2.1 Profile of the beneficiaries and community stakeholders

The researcher sought to investigate the effectiveness of poverty alleviation strategy of the Mabunda Citrus Project by analysing the profile of the beneficiaries as well as other community stakeholders affected by the project. The results of the investigation were that; the project was male dominated with very few female beneficiaries. The female beneficiaries were under paid as compared to male beneficiaries. Most of the beneficiaries were aged. Amongst the beneficiaries there was only 1 youth, who became a member through replacing his deceased sister.

The majority of the beneficiaries were married and thus having potential to affect more dependants. Most of the beneficiaries had about 4 dependants, which implies that these dependants might not be biological one given the age of 51 years and above. There were no persons with disability in the project. With regard to education, majority of the beneficiaries did not have a tertiary qualification, save for one qualified teacher who claimed that he was working on a voluntary basis. One beneficiary acquired tertiary education during the life of the project through correspondences.

The majority of the beneficiaries were previously employed at local White farms, and

thereby brought with them a wealth of experience to the project. Similarly, they are the most vulnerable category since they were used to getting a salary at the end of the month.

Taken together, the profile of the beneficiaries suggests that the project is targeted to the poverty vulnerable groups and that the impact is likely to have a rippling effect on the dependants and other related categories.

5.2.2 Contribution of Mabunda Citrus Project in the development of the beneficiaries and the community

Under this category, the following findings were recorded:

First the beneficiaries and the workers are getting remuneration from the project every month, poor children are provided with school uniforms, oranges are given free to local schools, workers and the Deputy Chief. Second, the big beautiful hall has been donated to both beneficiaries and the community for complementing Mabunda Citrus Project for exporting quality oranges. Finally, the Mabunda Citrus Project had employed many people from Xitlakati community. For example, by the time of the interviews there were 25 beneficiaries, 69 permanent workers and 250 casual workers.

These findings suggest that Mabunda Citrus Project has a positive impact on poverty alleviation in the community of Xitlakati in terms of job creation to the project owners and the entire community, poor children in the local schools were given school uniforms every year, a hall has been donated to both beneficiaries and community in complement of exporting quality oranges and oranges were provided free to local schools and to the Deputy Chief.

5.2.3 Capacity building

Results within the capacity building domain are as follows:

The beneficiaries of Mabunda Citrus Project were trained on different courses related to orange production and managerial courses. These include pest control, scouting, harvesting of oranges, weed control, marketing of oranges, handling of chemicals, workers management, workshop management, conflict management,

occupational health and safety, adult based educational training, computer literacy and first aid.

The beneficiaries of Mabunda Citrus Project benefitted out of Adult Based Educational Training. One of the beneficiaries was provided with an opportunity to qualify as Human Resource specialist who got a position in the project as Human Resource Manager.

The study revealed that all the above mentioned courses were all relevant to the project's activities but they were too short (provided in the short period of time). The study further established that the production courses provided by the Department of Agriculture are insufficient. Furthermore the study also revealed that the experience gathered from the white farmers and the combinations of the current courses have helped them to produce quality oranges.

5.2.4 Living with disability

The findings of this study reveal that not a single person in the project living with disability. This implies that in Xitlakati community, disability was not taken into consideration and this goes against the popular view of redressing imbalance and empowerment of disable community in South Africa.

5.2.5 Gender impact in the project

The findings of the study about gender impact in the project reveal that the majority of the beneficiaries were men. In percentage there were 76% males and 24% females. The study further reveals that females were under paid as compared to male beneficiaries.

5.2.6 Monthly salary of the beneficiaries

The study reveals that the beneficiaries receive salary every month, but with the exclusion of two (2) pensioners. The salaries were not equal, and it was not clear what criteria were used to determine the decision. As stated under gender impact in the project, the study revealed that women were victims of under payment. The study further reveals that there was a benefit of doubt that amongst the beneficiaries there were some beneficiaries who earn very high salary. Finally, the findings of

this study reveal that production is high every year but there is no salary increase.

5.2.7 Challenges in Mabunda Citrus Project

The challenges revealed by the findings were lack of pack house in the project, bad road between the project and hired pack house, fluctuating market price, gap between the government and Mabunda Citrus Project, insufficient support by the Department of Agriculture, insufficient training courses by the Department of Agriculture, lack of financial management skills , lack of commitment by office bound beneficiaries, mistrust amongst beneficiaries regarding salary package and no salary increase regardless of high production .

Most of the challenges mentioned above are in need of the intervention by the Department of Agriculture, for example insufficient support by the Department of Agriculture, insufficient training courses by the Department of Agriculture, there is a gap between the government and Mabunda Citrus Project and so on.

However the findings also revealed the possible strategies to the challenges, for example in terms of the following challenge “fluctuating market price” The possible strategy was that the Department of Agricultural economist should organise courses on marketing.

5.3 RECOMMENDATIONS

There are several recommendations that can be derived from the findings of the study. First, the selection criteria of the Mabunda Citrus Project did not take into account the issues of gender, disability and education level. In so doing, structural poverty issues around gender imbalances and discrimination of people living with disability remain unattended to. For projects of this nature, all poverty vulnerable groups such as the disabled and women need to be taken care of as it is nationally recognized.

Second, while there are benefits derived from the project, the study revealed that there are suspicions that some members of beneficiaries are earning too much money during month end. To address this challenge, there is a need for trust to be built in this project. The researcher recommends that the leadership should

communicate with the beneficiaries about the progress and challenges of the project. All the beneficiaries should be trained on Participative Development Approach or Participatory Extension Approach (PEA). This approach will help the entire beneficiaries to share information, trust one another, and have a feeling of ownership and control of their project. This requires a transparent leadership to avoid suspicions as revealed in the study. Suspicions may hamper a good project.

Furthermore, in connection with monthly income, the finding of this study revealed that female beneficiaries are underpaid. The researcher recommends that the committee disclose the criteria used to determine the salary package of the beneficiaries and thereafter discuss in order to reach the consensus. If the decision made is discriminatory, omission should be corrected with immediate effect.

Another challenge experienced is that the beneficiaries in office do not adhere to their work schedule nor does their office work properly. It is recommended that a regular meeting be held to check progress on the tasks listed in advance.

A further finding of the study is that there were two pensioners who do not receive salaries out of their 10 hectares orchard. As mentioned above, it is recommended that the project develops a policy on retirement and succession to owning and benefitting from the project. For example, relatives who meet the criteria of poverty as outlined in the project may be nominated to succeed them.

The study also revealed that there is no specialised government employee agricultural technician in the project. The researcher recommends that the government employs the specialised technician because the project is contributing in the development of the community.

The study further showed that there is no pack house in the project; their products are packed in the hired one where there is no member of the beneficiaries for monitoring the progress. The researcher recommends that the government or the NGO intervenes because the project is rendering a quality service to the community.

Furthermore, the study revealed that there is a lack of financial support in the project: as stated above that the project is rendering a quality service to the community, the researcher recommends that the stakeholders. For example, the Department of

Agriculture, the Local Municipality and NGOs provide a good financial backing to the project. The financial back-up could be in the form of subsidies, sponsorship, and link the beneficiaries with the service providers who can offer small credit to the project on affordable terms.

Finally, the findings of the study revealed that the Mabunda Citrus Project has employed 25 beneficiaries (project owners), 69 permanent workers and 250 casual workers. The researcher recommends that for more impact in the poverty alleviation the project should employ half of the casual workers as permanent ones.

This can be possible if the Department of Agriculture could able to give sufficient support as one of the findings of this study is “insufficient support by the Department of Agriculture.” Mabunda Citrus project is an agricultural project; the Department of Agriculture should take a lead by linking the project with the relevant stakeholders which can give support financial wise.

5.4 RECOMMENDATION FOR FUTURE RESEARCH

This study has achieved its aim, which was to assess the impact of Mabunda Citrus Project on poverty alleviation in the community of Xitlakati in the Greater Giyani Municipality of Mopani District in Limpopo Province. This research has opened up the following avenue for further investigation:

The findings of this study revealed that the production in the Mabunda Citrus Project is high, but salary increment is not considered. The researcher recommends that a quantitative research be conducted to investigate the cash flow of the project. In this way, there will be quantitative measures of the impact of a community-based agricultural project.

5.5 CONCLUSION

The aim of the study was to investigate the impact of the Mabunda Citrus Project in poverty alleviation in the community of Xitlakati. The results showed that although there are structural and practical challenges on the project, its impact is far greater in addressing poverty challenges of direct beneficiaries and related stakeholders in the Xitlakati community. In order to address the threats for a successful project, the

researcher recommends employment of a full time specialised Agricultural technician, revising the beneficiary selection criteria so that women and disabled persons are included, discussion of budget and salaries to avoid misunderstandings, among others. However, due to the qualitative nature of the study, the impact could not be assessed quantitatively. For future research, it is important to conduct quantitative assessment of the impact on poverty alleviation in financial and numerical terms, including studying the cash flow.

Finally, the researcher may conclude that the impact is there, but not enough. All the recommendations made in this study may close the gap.

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INTERVIEW SCHEDULE FOR THE BENEFICIARIES OF MABUNDA CITRUS PROJECT

SECTION A: PROFILE OF THE PARTICIPANTS

1. Age: (Please tick the relevant option

Below 20	<input type="checkbox"/>
Between 21-35	<input type="checkbox"/>
Between 36-50	<input type="checkbox"/>
51 and above	<input type="checkbox"/>

2. Educational status: (Please tick)

None	<input type="checkbox"/>
Grade 1-7	<input type="checkbox"/>
Grade 8-10	<input type="checkbox"/>
Grade 11-12	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tertiary level	<input type="checkbox"/>

3. Sex: (Please tick)

Male	<input type="checkbox"/>
Female	<input type="checkbox"/>

4. Marital status: (Please tick in the relevant option)

Married	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unmarried	<input type="checkbox"/>
Widow	<input type="checkbox"/>
Widower	<input type="checkbox"/>
Divorced	<input type="checkbox"/>
Separated	<input type="checkbox"/>

5. Do you live with disability: (Please tick)

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
No	<input type="checkbox"/>

6. Number of dependants: (Please tick in the relevant box)

0-4 years	<input type="checkbox"/>
5-8 years	<input type="checkbox"/>
9-12	<input type="checkbox"/>
13-16	<input type="checkbox"/>
17-20	<input type="checkbox"/>
21 years and above	<input type="checkbox"/>

SECTION B: EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

1. Have you been employed before joining Mabunda Citrus Project? (Please tick)

Yes

No

2. If yes in question 1, what was the nature of employment?

.....
.....

SECTION C: INVOLVEMENT IN MABUNDA CITRUS PROJECT

Are you the original member of the project? (please tick)

Yes

No

2. If no who was the original member of the project and what happened?

.....
.....

3. Do you receive payment from the project? (Please tick)

Yes

No

4. If yes in question three (3), what is your monthly income? (Please tick in the relevant box)

R200 and below

R201-R500

R501-R1000

R1001-R1500

R1501 and above

5. What type of work are you doing in the project?

.....
.....

6. How long have you been a member a member of Mabunda Citrus Project?

(Please tick the relevant box)

1-4 years

5-8 years

9-12 years

7. Is there any change of your family life since you joined the project? (Please tick)

Yes

No

8. If yes in question 8, please share your experience with us

.....
.....

9. What does Mabunda Citrus Project contributes to the development of Xitlakati community?

.....
.....

10. Have you ever attended training? (Please tick the relevant box)

Yes

No

11. If yes, when and on what?

.....
.....

12. What are the challenges in the project?

.....
.....

13. What do you think can be strategies to overcome those challenges?

.....
.....

INTERVIEW SCHEDULE FOR THE DEPUTY CHIEF (XITLAKATI HEADMAN)

SECTION A: PROFILE OF THE PARTICIPANTS

1. Age: (Please tick in the relevant option)

Below 20	<input type="checkbox"/>
Between 21-35	<input type="checkbox"/>
Between 36-50	<input type="checkbox"/>
51 and above	<input type="checkbox"/>

2. Educational status: (Please tick)

None	<input type="checkbox"/>
Grade 1-7	<input type="checkbox"/>
Grade 8-10	<input type="checkbox"/>
Grade 11-12	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tertiary level	<input type="checkbox"/>

3. Sex: (Please tick)

Male	<input type="checkbox"/>
Female	<input type="checkbox"/>

4. Marital status: (Please tick in the relevant option)

Married	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unmarried	<input type="checkbox"/>
Widow	<input type="checkbox"/>
Widower	<input type="checkbox"/>
Divorced	<input type="checkbox"/>
Separated	<input type="checkbox"/>

5. Do you live with disability: (Please tick)

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
No	<input type="checkbox"/>

6. Number of dependants: (Please tick in the relevant box)

0-4 years	<input type="checkbox"/>
5-8 years	<input type="checkbox"/>
9-12	<input type="checkbox"/>
13-16	<input type="checkbox"/>
17-20	<input type="checkbox"/>
21 years and above	<input type="checkbox"/>

SECTION B: EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

1. Have you been employed before appointed as the Deputy Chief? (Please tick)

Yes

No

2. If yes in question 1, what was the nature of employment?

.....

.....

SECTION C: GENERAL UNDERSTANDING OF MABUNDA CITRUS PROJECT

1. What criteria were used for finding the participants of Mabunda Citrus Project?

.....
.....

2. Do you think the beneficiaries of Mabunda Citrus Project benefit out of the project? (Please tick)

Yes

No

3. If yes in question two (2), what could be the benefits?

.....
.....

4. Do you think Mabunda Citrus Project contributes in the development of Xitlakati community?

Yes

No

5. If yes in question four (4), please share your experience with us

.....
.....

6. What is your role in Mabunda Citrus Project?

.....
.....

7. Do you think the project is achieving what is intended for?

.....
.....

8. What do you think are the challenges in Mabunda Citrus Project?

.....
.....

9. What strategies could be implemented to overcome challenges?

.....
.....

GROUP INTERVIEW WITH THE MEMBERS OF XITLAKATI CIVIC STRUCTURE

SECTION A: PROFILE OF THE PARTICIPANTS

1. Age: (Please tick in the relevant option)

Below 20	<input type="checkbox"/>
Between 21-35	<input type="checkbox"/>
Between 36-50	<input type="checkbox"/>
51 and above	<input type="checkbox"/>

2. Educational status: (Please tick)

None	<input type="checkbox"/>
Grade 1-7	<input type="checkbox"/>
Grade 8-10	<input type="checkbox"/>
Grade 11-12	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tertiary level	<input type="checkbox"/>

3. Sex: (Please tick)

Male	<input type="checkbox"/>
Female	<input type="checkbox"/>

4. Marital status: (Please tick in the relevant option)

Married	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unmarried	<input type="checkbox"/>
Widow	<input type="checkbox"/>
Widower	<input type="checkbox"/>
Divorced	<input type="checkbox"/>
Separated	<input type="checkbox"/>

5. Do you live with disability: (Please tick)

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
No	<input type="checkbox"/>

6. Number of dependants: (Please tick in the relevant box)

0-4 years	<input type="checkbox"/>
5-8 years	<input type="checkbox"/>
9-12	<input type="checkbox"/>
13-16	<input type="checkbox"/>
17-20	<input type="checkbox"/>
21 years and above	<input type="checkbox"/>

SECTION B: EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

1. Are you employed? (Please tick)

Yes

No

2. If yes in question 1, what is the nature of employment?

.....

.....

SECTION C: GENERAL UNDERSTANDING OF MABUNDA CITRUS PROJECT

1. What do you think were criteria used for finding the participants of Mabunda Citrus Project?

.....
.....

2. How does Mabunda Citrus Project contribute to the development of your community?

.....
.....

3. What might be the benefits of Mabunda Citrus Project members out of the project?

.....
.....

4. What is your role in Mabunda Citrus Project?

.....
.....

5. What is the purpose of establishment of Mabunda Citrus Project?

.....
.....

6. Do you think the project is achieving what is intended for?

.....
.....

7. What do you think are the challenges in Mabunda Citrus Project?

.....
.....

8. What strategies could be implemented to overcome the challenges?

.....
.....

GROUP INTERVIEW WITH THE MEMBERS OF XITLAKATI YOUTH STRUCTURE

SECTION A: PROFILE OF THE PARTICIPANTS

1. Age: (Please tick in the relevant option)

Below 20	<input type="checkbox"/>
Between 21-35	<input type="checkbox"/>
Between 36-50	<input type="checkbox"/>
51 and above	<input type="checkbox"/>

2. Educational status: (Please tick)

None	<input type="checkbox"/>
Grade 1-7	<input type="checkbox"/>
Grade 8-10	<input type="checkbox"/>
Grade 11-12	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tertiary level	<input type="checkbox"/>

3. Sex: (Please tick)

Male	<input type="checkbox"/>
Female	<input type="checkbox"/>

4. Marital status: (Please tick in the relevant option)

Married	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unmarried	<input type="checkbox"/>
Widow	<input type="checkbox"/>
Widower	<input type="checkbox"/>
Divorced	<input type="checkbox"/>
Separated	<input type="checkbox"/>

5. Do you live with disability: (Please tick)

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
No	<input type="checkbox"/>

6. Number of dependants: (Please tick in the relevant box)

0-4 years	<input type="checkbox"/>
5-8 years	<input type="checkbox"/>
9-12	<input type="checkbox"/>
13-16	<input type="checkbox"/>
17-20	<input type="checkbox"/>
21 years and above	<input type="checkbox"/>

SECTION B: EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

1. Are you employed? (Please tick)

Yes

No

2. If yes in question 1, what is the nature of employment?

.....

.....

SECTION C: GENERAL UNDERSTANDING OF MABUNDA CITRUS PROJECT

1. What do you think were criteria used for finding the participants of Mabunda Citrus Project?

.....
.....

2. How does Mabunda Citrus Project contribute to the development of your community?

.....
.....

3. What might be the benefits of Mabunda Citrus Project members out of the project?

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.....

4. What is your role in Mabunda Citrus Project?

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.....

5. What do you think might be the purpose of establishment of Mabunda Citrus Project?

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6. Do you think the project is achieving what is intended for?

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7. What do you think are the challenges in Mabunda Citrus Project?

.....
.....

8. What strategies could be implemented to overcome the challenges?

.....
.....



DZUMERI TRADITIONAL AUTHORITY
LIMPOPO PROVINCE

P.O. BOX 971
GIYANI
0826
TEL. : 015 812 0744
DATE: 2009 . 12 . 15

Ref No. : 18/1
Enq. : Zitha J.C.
Cell. : 083 590 9085

**RE : PERMISSION FOR DOING RESEARCH ABOUT MABUNDA CITRUS
PROJECT: MASHILA D.M.**

1. The above matter refers!
2. This serves to inform you that The Dzumeri Traditional Council do hereby respond to your letter dated 24 November 2009. You are therefore given a permission for doing research at MABUNDA PROJECT which is operating at XITLAKATI village under the jurisdiction of HOSI DZUMERI, of which we believe that an Office will benefit from your research findings.
3. Hoping that you will find this in order.

The Senior Officer


ZITHA J.C.



Mabunda Citrus Project

PO BOX 1844

GIYANI

0826

2009-12-15

To: Mashila Daphney M

Reference: Your letter for Research at Mabunda Citrus project

Your letter dated 24th November 2009 has received our attention. You are welcome to do research as part of your studies.

Thanks for choosing our farm and hoping that it will also benefit us at the end result.

Thanks

Malungane Bennet Sdumo (farm manager)

bennet.malungane@gmail.com

074 74 74 258



BS Sdumo