Syd assignment 2

In many parts of the world, small farmers are struggling to produce enough food to meet the needs of their families and communities. In Namibia, farmers are facing a number of challenges, including a lack of access to land, water, and other resources; a lack of knowledge about best practices for agriculture; and a lack of access to markets for their products. The government and other stakeholders can help small farmers in Namibia by providing access to land, water, and other resources; by providing training and extension services to help farmers learn best practices for agriculture; and by creating market linkages that allow farmers to sell their products.

The government has already taken some steps to ensure that small farmers have access to land: they have created new lands that are available for farming or grazing use by anyone who wishes to farm there. However, these lands have been designated only for farming purposes—they do not yet have any market linkages or any other opportunities for small farmers to sell their products. It is important that these markets be created so that small farmers can earn money from raising livestock or growing crops on their own land.

The government has made efforts over time to help small-scale farmers gain access to land but these efforts have not been enough because more land is needed for farming activities. The government should continue to create more land for farming and make sure that small-scale farmers have access to this land. In addition, the government should provide training and extension services to small farmers so they can learn best practices for agriculture. Finally, the government should create market linkages that allow small farmers to sell their products. These steps will help small farmers in Namibia to produce more food and to improve their livelihoods.

Namibia, which is categorized as an upper-middle-income nation, experienced consistent economic development between 2000 and 2015. However, a number of obstacles still stand in the way of reaching Zero Hunger, including pervasive inequality, malnutrition, and poverty.

A growing number of the poor lack access to food and fundamental social services as a result of rapid urbanization and persistently high unemployment rates, which currently stand at 34% of the labor force and primarily affect women and young people. The poverty rate was 17.4 percent in 2017.

Namibia is heavily dependent on imports and only produces roughly 40% of the food it eats. This indicates that although food is readily available, 28 percent of Namibian families may find it challenging to obtain it due to price changes. The 80 percent of the population that relies on markets to meet their food needs is particularly impacted by this. Due to frequent droughts and floods, low production, and restricted access to land, smallholder farmers also have limited access to nutrient-rich food.

These restrictions result in inadequately varied diets with insufficient vitamin and mineral intake, which is the cause of persistent malnutrition. Stunting rates for children under 5 are 24 percent nationwide, with peaks of above 30 percent among vulnerable populations and in some rural locations. Additionally common, anemia affects 48% of children under the age of five. Nutritional difficulties are further exacerbated by a 13.4% HIV incidence rate (down from 17%).

In Namibia, farming is a difficult task because only 2% of the country's land receives enough rain to support crop growth. Additionally, inland rivers only flow during periods of intense rain. Only valleys and rivers near Namibia's border, like the Orange, Kunene, and Okavango rivers, can provide irrigation for cultivation. For farmers, a drought can be harmful.

We went to the farm PATRIA Boerdery in the Stampriet region, which is owned by industrial farmer Jimmy O'Kennedy. We discovered that a three-year drought had impacted his crops while touring his farm. In order to save water and ensure that the water reaches the roots, Jimmy employs drip irrigation.

Farmers insurance is not available to Namibian farmers the way it is in the US. Farmers insurance reimburses them for lost livestock or crops as a result of unforeseen natural disasters. So that farmers may continue farming, this insurance protects them from experiencing significant losses. Jimmy does not, however, get paid by the government. He provides for the needs of his farm on his own and is totally independent.

Namibia's water scarcity is uninsured, but there are initiatives like The Green Scheme Project, run by the Minister of Agriculture, Water, and Food. Using the Kavango, Kunene, and Zambezi rivers, this strategy was created to support irrigation development in the Grootfontien, Tsumeb, and Otavi regions as well as the northern regions.

Large commercial farms and ranches that are dispersed throughout the southern areas of Namibia are the main types of farming there. Additionally, some farmers in the north pay fees to use common lands for agricultural. The utilisation of communal land has its own problems. Rich farmers who illegally fence off a portion of the land or overgraze their property cause conflicts.

Men and boys typically take care of the livestock on farms, while women handle the majority of the agricultural work and food preparation. When a farmer simply raises the number of animals and crops required to sustain his or her family, the practise is known as subsistence farming. This is carried out on communal areas where millet, sorghum, corn, and peanuts are the principal crops. On the other hand, commercial farming is done on a much larger scale. In Namibia, there are roughly 4,000 commercial farms. In previous years, these farms produced 5%–6% of Namibia's GDP. About 11% of all Namibian exports are made up of livestock, agriculture, and animal product exports.