



AMABHUBESI
CONFERRING & TRAINING
In Association with Beaver and Beaver Management Solutions (Pty) Ltd
An Events, Training and Conference Company

Strategically bridging the gender gap and advancing

Women in Agriculture Summit

*Providing sustainable food securing initiatives
and promoting community development*

27 – 28 October 2011

Southern Sun Grayston Hotel, Sandton, Johannesburg

This prestigious event will ensure you:

- Establish practices that lead to the commercialization of female farmers
- Identify natural solutions for climate change
- Discuss avenues for the economic empowerment of women in farming
- Develop enterprise for women cooperatives
- Create partnerships which enhance the sustainability of food provision

Key highlights include:

- 2 case studies on turning that business idea into a thriving success
- 1 Shoprite Woman of the Year award winner
- 2 Shoprite Women of the Year award finalists
- 1 Stockholm Junior Water Prize
- 1 L'ORÉAL/UNESCO Women in Science Sub-Saharan Africa fellowship for 2011/2012



REGISTER NOW FOR EXCLUSIVE EVENT

WHO SHOULD ATTEND:

The target audience includes local and provincial government departments; university departments involved in agriculture research and humanities; research councils and institutes; as well as;

- Farmers
- Managing Directors
- Landowners
- Researchers
- Advocates

INSPIRATIONAL SPEAKERS



Hercu Bloem,
Managing Director:
AFGRI Africa,
AFGRI Operations



Claire Reid
Director,
Reel Gardening



Jeanne de Waal
L'ORÉAL / UNESCO
Women in Science
Sub-Saharan
Africa fellowship
for 2011/2012
Award Winner



Mandla Nkomo
Business Development
Manager: Agribusiness
and Food Security,
Technoserve



OVERVIEW

Persistent droughts, floods, climate change and the global economic meltdown are some of the major factors that have aggravated the vulnerability of women involved in farming. Seen as an avenue to provide for their families, farming can be a source of income for these women and an opportunity to alleviate the effects of poverty and food insecurity. However, women farmers are time and again discriminated against in this industry, as resources such as land, technology, financial support and training are often not made available to them. And as a result of this, they are unable to maximize the full potential of their capabilities as farmers.

An antithesis is that women play a critical role in ensuring the sustainability of agriculture as an industry in Africa. Not only do they provide for their families, they ensure food is also made available to their communities. However, they are still facing constraints that hinder the full-scale potential of their farming activities. Apart from being marginalized because of gender, they are often overlooked when discussing one of the most pertinent global challenges which directly affect them, climate change.

"Of the millions of dollars spent on climate change projects in developing countries, little has been allocated in a way that will benefit women. According to United Nations data, about 80 percent of the continent's smallholder farmers are women. While they are responsible for the food security of millions of people, agriculture is one of the sectors hardest hit by climate change."

Women excluded from climate change projects in Africa, UN experts warn

- Kristin Palitza for IPS (guardian.co.uk, Tuesday 28 June 2011)

Amabhubesi Conferencing and Training is hosting the inaugural Women in Agriculture Summit to address not only climate change and how women farmers can add value in curbing this critical issue but will also focus on improving access to resources, alleviating poverty, and capacity building, and most importantly, the global crisis regarding food security.

Research has indicated that a great deal still needs to be done to alleviate the food crisis, much of which involves government participation in facilitating trade and approving agricultural innovations. By attending this gathering, you will be afforded the opportunity to discuss strategies for increasing the productivity of existing farming communities. Bridging the gap here, small improvements in productivity can turn poor and struggling farmers in Africa and other emerging markets into entrepreneurs who will help alleviate poverty and contribute to a global increase in food supply.

PANEL OF EXPERTS:

Prof Phindile Lukhele-Olorunju
Rudolf Badenhorst

Director: Research and Innovation, Africa Institute of South Africa
Industry Affairs Manager for Subtrop,
Subtropical Growers' Association of South Africa

Willie Shumba
Claire Reed
Sabhina Khoza
Karabo Mabe
Hercu Bloem
Margaret Angula

Senior Programme Officer: Customs, SADC
Director, Reel Gardening
Director, Fair Deal Agriculture
Programme Coordinator, North West University
Managing Director: Afgri Africa, Afgri
HOD: Geography, History and Environmental Studies,
University of Namibia

Jeanne de Waal

L'ORÉAL / UNESCO Women in Science Sub-Saharan Africa
fellowship for 2011/2012 Award Winner

Mandla Nkomo

Business Development Manager: Agribusiness and Food Security,
Technoserve

Mahendra Kara
Hanlie du Plessis

Sales and Account Management Consultant, Land Bank
Manager, AgriBridge Project & Researcher and
Script Writer SABC2 Living Land TV



Day 1: Thurs, 27 Oct

08:30 – 08:55 Registration & early morning refreshments

08:55 – 09:00 Chairman's opening remarks

09:00 – 10:00 Examining the role of women in alleviating poverty and job creation

- Evaluating and analyzing the research done on women farmers across Africa
- Investigating the impact of initiatives to develop women cooperatives
- Strategies for how cooperatives create opportunities for employment of locals
- A look at women's participation in reducing the margins of poverty through community development

Prof Phindile Lukhele-Olorunju

Director: Research and Innovation, Africa Institute of South Africa

10:00 – 10:15 Mid-morning tea refreshments

10:15 – 11:10 Discussing the necessary steps for infrastructure provision & development

- Identifying the infrastructure needs and requirements for women farmers
- Discussing the challenges in providing adequate infrastructure
- Implementing mitigatory projects that are ideal for development
- Reviewing the compliance of your projects to the necessary regulations



Hercu Bloem,
Managing Director: AFGRI Africa,
AFGRI Operations

Hercu joined AFGRI Operations in January 2008 and currently holds the position of Managing Director of

AFGRI: Africa, a division of AFGRI Operations Ltd. In this role he oversees the company's expansion strategy into the rest of Africa. He also acts as the Chairman of the Board of Directors of AFGRI Corporation Zambia. Hercu previously held various positions in the group including Chief Risk officer, Managing Director of AFGRI Financial Services and Group Treasurer.

Immediately before joining AFGRI Hercu was Head of the Corporate, Commercial and Institutional Banking arm of HSBC for sub-Saharan Africa.

Hercu spent some 5 ½ years of his working career with Mercantile Bank where he inter alia headed up the Securities Banking Division as well as Group Treasury. As part of the rehabilitation process of the Bank, Hercu was appointed as Head of Risk in 2002. Hercu was appointed as Head of Corporate Services in April 2004 with responsibility for Treasury, Card Division, Electronic Banking and Structured Finance where he managed to grow the net income from these activities by 44% and 113% per year since he assumed responsibility for those portfolios.

Hercu is well respected in the local market and served as a member of the Executive Committee of the Bond Exchange of South Africa for 3 years. Immediately prior to joining Mercantile Bank, Hercu held the position of Group Treasurer at ABSA Bank. In this position he was

responsible for managing the global treasury activity on behalf of ABSA Bank. During his career of fifteen years with Transnet, Hercu made rapid progress being promoted from the position of a clerk through the ranks to his last position as Deputy Treasurer, Risk Management within a time period of only six years.

11:10 – 12:00 Examining the impact of farming operations on a community

- Accessing land and other productive resources through improved access to rural financial services
- Discussing the impact of technology on productivity output
- Benefits of practical and experiential learning to learners participants 30% Theory & 70% Practicals
- Starting your own business and ensuring sustainability with limited resources

Sabhina Khoza

Director, Fair Deal Agriculture

12:00 – 13:00 Case study: Reel Gardening – making small-scale vegetable more accessible to those living in peri-urban area

- Discussing how to save 80% water and enable a higher yield
- Going from conceptualization to making your product a reality
- Empowering women through production
- Examining case studies of implementations throughout South Africa
- Overcoming the challenges that arise



Claire Reid
Director, Reel Gardening

Reel Gardening was developed in 2002 by Claire Catherine Reid at the age of 16 to solve the problems she encountered when starting her own vegetable garden. Claire was encouraged by her teachers to enter her then newspaper and flour invention into the Eskom expo for young scientists. Claire won a gold medal at the national finals in Pretoria. She was asked how much water the product saved so she conducted a series of tests which concluded that Reel Gardening saves 80% water in the germination phase. The department of Water Affairs selected Claire as the South African Youth Water Prize winner and she was sent to Stockholm in 2003 to represent South Africa and The Stockholm Junior Water Prize. Claire was the first South African to win the international award, beating 28 other countries and receiving the award from HRH princess Victoria of Sweden.

Claire then went onto with the Women in water award for scientific research below the age of 35. Claire was also a finalist in the Shorpipe Checkers woman on the year award in the science and technology category. Claire secured a start up loan through Anglo Zimile and Reel Gardening began research and development in 2008. Reel Gardening opened the doors of its first Business premise in Illovo Johannesburg on the 12th of February 2010. Reel Gardening now operates from its own pre mise in Blairgowrie Johannesburg, where trial gardens are conducted & anyone is welcome to pop by.



Day 1: Thurs, 27 Oct

13:00 – 14:00 Lunch

14:00 – 15:00 Sustainable solutions: 'Fail-Safe' and 'Safe-to-Fail' pest management technologies

Intensive agricultural production has led to an overuse of pesticides all over the world, exposing hazards for both peoples' health and the environment. However, with a growing population to feed and a changing climate, production needs to be increased on existing arable land without posing hazards to the environment or the people. In Africa, pests and diseases have been estimated to account for 20–30 percent of field losses, with another 10–20 percent lost in storage. It is evident that pest management is at the top of the agenda if we want to fight against hunger across the world. Since the negative effects of misuse and overuse of broad-spectrum chemical pesticides became known, alternative systems and technologies for pest control have been developed and investigated. Integrated Pest Management (IPM) connects sustainable production methods with safe use of pesticides. This talk will therefore focus on the general safe handling of pesticides and also introduce the audience to alternative and more biological pest management technologies.



Jeanne de Waal
L'ORÉAL / UNESCO Women
in Science Sub-Saharan Africa
fellowship for 2011/2012 Award
Winner

She has received numerous prestigious awards nationally and internationally for both her academic excellence and community involvement, of which the most recent, includes being chosen as one of the top ten women in Science in Sub-Saharan Africa and thereby receiving a L'ORÉAL/UNESCO Women in Science Sub-Saharan Africa fellowship for 2011/2012. She was also selected as one of the winners in the Green Talents International Forum for High Potentials in Sustainable Development by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research, received South Africa's National Department of Trade and Industry's Student Technology award for the best female student working on a THRIP project, Stellenbosch Golden Key's Chapter Award for academic excellence and community involvement, scholarships and grants to present her work at numerous conferences both locally and abroad and several best paper presentation awards. While pursuing her PhD full time, she is also involved as a student research assistant at a diagnostic Nematology laboratory, Nemlab, located in Durbanville. She has also lectured at Elsenburg Agricultural College on a part-time basis and assisted with student practicals at the University of Stellenbosch and the UP With Science School Science Programme at the University of Pretoria. Besides her scientific work, Ms de Waal was actively involved in the Anna Foundation, an NGO providing academic support and mentorship to children from previously disadvantaged backgrounds.

15:00 – 16:00 Food crisis management: Identifying opportunities for women farmers to make an effective contribution

- Quantifying the global crisis and determining strategies for increasing participation of women farmers
- Improving access to agricultural inputs and technology
- Ensuring more women farmers have access to land and land rights
- Reinforcing existing farming organizations through skills development and education

Mahendra Kara

Sales and Account Management Consultant,
Land Bank

16:00 End of day one

Day 2: Fri, 28 Oct

08:30 – 08:55 Registration & early morning refreshments

08:55 – 09:00 Chairman's opening remarks

09:00 – 10:00 Accessing financing for small-scale agribusinesses

- Assessing the financial requirements of your agric-project
- Examining the different opportunities for project finance
- Quantifying the financial risks of your agric-project
- Discussing the requirements for making an application



Mandla Nkomo

Business Development Manager:
Agribusiness and Food Security,
Technoserve

Mandla is an Agribusiness executive with over 14 years experience in establishing agribusinesses, and facilitating market linkages between established commercial entities and rural communities. He has worked in agribusiness consulting conducting industry studies within South Africa and Zimbabwe. Currently Mandla has the role of Business Development Manager for Agribusiness & Food Security at TechnoServe South Africa, and previously an AfterCare Business Advisor. This role entails providing entrepreneurial support and advice to graduate trainees of the Believe Begin Become programme. The entrepreneurs are assisted in accessing Business Development Services, and securing investments for their businesses. A budget of R1.45m is allocated to 20 top entrepreneurs who are in the AfterCare programme for 12 months. The entrepreneurs are spread over all the provinces of the country they represent, Agribusiness and Food processing, Tourism, Light manufacturing,



Day 2: Fri, 28 Oct

and Construction. Mandla also has oversight over 160 alumni of the programme.

As a consultant with Buyisa Agricultural Development Corporation and executive at Khomanani Agribusiness, he has been a facilitator in the land reform space. In Mpumalanga he has worked with community trusts in the Nkomazi (Mjejane Trust, Mhlaba Trust, Hhoyi Trust and the Siboshwa Trust) Most of the work involved capacity building of trusts and facilitating commercial relationships with their strategic partners. In Limpopo, work has been undertaken with the Shigalo, Ratombo, and Valoyi Communities. Work in the KZN has centred around facilitating redistribution deals within the Nkwalini valley.

10:00 – 10:15 Mid-morning tea refreshments

10:15 – 11:10 Investigating the role of women in facilitating climate change projects

- Discussing the advancement in climate change practices
- Examining recent and current programs which have promoted the alleviation of climate change
- Identifying opportunities and strategies that promote the climate change
- Enrolling the cooperation of women in ensuring the agenda of the Kyoto Protocol are achieved

Margaret Angula

HOD: Geography, History and Environmental Studies,
University of Namibia

11:10 – 12:00 Opening channels which facilitate trade and export of South African produce

- Identifying the developments in food safety regulations and requirements
- Discussing the benefits of governments involvement in bi-lateral and multi-lateral agreements
- Examining the common logistical pitfalls and border challenges
- Discovering the potential to do business in Africa and abroad
- Conducting research on markets that are across the borders

Willie Shumba

Senior Programme Officer: Customs, SADC

12:00 – 13:00 Combining different farming projects to enhance community development

- Detecting small scale farming projects which can be combined into a cooperative
- Investing resources into such projects that enable growth
- Identifying risks and opportunities within each specific activity and reinforcing the strengths

Rudolf Badenhorst

Industry Affairs Manager for Subtrop, Subtropical Growers' Association of South Africa.

13:00 – 14:00 Lunch

14:00 – 15:00 Reviewing efforts to reduce the gender gap for development

- Identifying the resource requirements of women farmers
- Creating opportunities for women in agriculture
- Utilizing research and development to ensure sustainable improvements
- Removing constraints in accessing markets and services

Hanlie du Plessis

Manager, AgriBridge Project & Researcher and Script Writer SABC2 Living Land TV

15:00 – 16:00 Capacity building initiatives for Women in Agriculture and Rural Development

- Identifying a need in the community for sustainable food provision
- Pinpointing human resources and enlisting them in cooperatives
- Utilizing government resources to educate and enlighten the women within the community
- Creating avenues which enable local farmers to market their produce

Karabo Mabe

Programme Coordinator, North West University

16:00 End of conference





REGISTRATION FORM

R6499 PER DELEGATE

R5999 NGO's & STUDENTS

Women in Agriculture Summit

27 – 28 October 2011

Southern Sun Grayston Hotel,
Sandton, Johannesburg

Cost, excl.VAT pp

Tel: +27(0)11 326-0353 Fax: +27(0)11 326-0354

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Signature:		Date:	

By completing & signing this form, the authorising signatory accepts the terms and conditions as stated on the registration form

Delegate Attendance Information:

Note: Please provide information as you wish it to appear on your name badge and on the official participant database.

Title	Delegate Name & Surname	Position	Email

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Account name	Amabhubesi Training	Account number	62134658155
Reference	Insert your ref number on the deposit slip please		

Registration fees above include the following entitlements: Entrance to sessions, registration pack, daily lunch and refreshment breaks.

CANCELLATION NOTICE

By signing and returning the registration form, the authorizing signatory on behalf of the stated company is subject to the following terms and conditions.

Delegate Cancellations: All cancellations must be received in writing and are subject to the following conditions:

- Charge of 50% of the registration fee, plus R700 (+VAT) administrative charge will be made for cancellations received in writing at least 14 working days prior to the event
- For any cancellations received less than 7 working days before the date of the event, the full fee will be payable and no refunds or credit notes will be given.
- If a registered delegate does not cancel and fails to attend the Summit, this will be treated as a cancellation and no refund or credit note will be issued.

Substitutions

Delegate Substitution: Substitution is welcome at any time and do not incur any additional charges. Please notify AMABHUBESI in writing of any such changes at least 3 days before the date of the event.

- Please note that the speakers and topics were confirmed at the time of publishing, however circumstances beyond the control of the organizers may necessitate substitutions, alterations or cancellations of the speakers and/or topics.
- As such AMABHUBESI reserves the right to alter or modify the advertised speakers and/or topics if necessary. Any substitutions or alternations will be updated and sent to you as soon as possible.
- Delegate substitutions must be made in writing 7 days before the start of the event.

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