

PROVINCE OF THE EASTERN CAPE



**DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
AND AGRARIAN REFORM**

**AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND
PUBLICATION POLICY**

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ABBREVIATIONS

DPSA	Department of Public Service and Administration
PFMA	Public Finance Management Act
GPSSBC	General Public Service Sector Bargaining Council
DDG	Deputy Director General
DRDAR	Department of Rural Development and Agrarian Reform
PGDP	Provincial Growth and Development Plan
PMDS	Performance Management Development System
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
NDP	National Development Plan
MOU	Memorandum of understanding

DEFINITIONS

Agriculture – is the science or practice of farming, including the growing of crops and the rearing of animals

Research – is a formal, systematic application of the scientific approach to the study of a problem to solve it, discover new information or expand and verify existing knowledge.

Basic research – Basic research is research that addresses a fundamental issue (research problem) that may be implemented in practice over an extended period.

Applied research – Applied research is a scientific approach where basic research results are applied under practical conditions.

On-farm / Adaptive Research – Research that is conducted on/in farmers environments, with their direct participation, to evaluate a set of technologies and provide relevant feedback.

Production scientist / Researcher – In terms of this policy, these are professionals that by their profession/registration and employment are mandated to conduct research on behalf of the Department, and is determined by the Department of Public Service and Administration and set out in terms of section 3(3) (c), read with section 5(4) of the Public Service Act, 1994, and in accordance with the Natural Scientific Professions Act, 2003 (Act No 27 of 2003).

Intellectual property – It refers to creations of the mind in any discipline: inventions (patents), discoveries, literary and artistic works (copyrights), symbols, names, images and designs.

Indigenous knowledge property rights – are aimed at protecting the knowledge base of indigenous peoples.

Stakeholder – It is any individual, grouping, co-operation, institution or organization affected by research directly or indirectly and which has vested interests in the happenings within the research fraternity.

Technology – products, processes and systems emanating from research activities and inventions that when deployed and/or adopted leads to the improvement in the quality of human life.

Technology development – It is the development of new systems, products and / or patents emanating from the direct results of basic and applied research.

Technology transfer - This is the point where the products of research meet the end-user which is the individual or group of farmers or the agricultural industry. It may take the form of demonstration trials, simplified material / brochures, training or the exposure to a new product (animal genetics, new cultivar, improved production system, etc.).

Publications - the process and medium by which research findings are published and communicated to the scientific and other end-user communities to create awareness, stimulate discussions and enhance knowledge acquisition and development.

Research Committee – a committee responsible for approving all research proposals and their monitoring and evaluation, as well as technology generation for adoption and dissemination.

1. PURPOSE

To provide guidelines for the efficient and effective management of all agricultural research activities conducted under the auspices of the DRDAR and influence the broader agriculture research in the Province.

2. BROAD POLICY OBJECTIVES

To regulate agricultural research within the boundaries of the Eastern Cape Province through:

- 2.1. Collaborations with nationally/internationally-based public, private, non-governmental and community-based organizations, and other research institutions and stakeholders in the agricultural sector.
- 2.2. Publication, documentation and dissemination of outcomes and outputs of research programmes and projects.

3. REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

- 3.1 Eastern Cape Agricultural Development Act of 1999
- 3.2 Strategic Plan 2014-2019
- 3.3 Communal Land Rights Act no. 11 of 2004
- 3.4 Biodiversity Act 10 of 2004
- 3.5 Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act (Act 43 of 1983)
- 3.6 Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act, 16 of 2013
- 3.7 National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998) as amended
- 3.8 Public Service Act, 1994GPSSBC resolutions 3 and 5 of 2009
- 3.9 Agricultural Pest Act, 1983 (Act 36 of 1983)
- 3.10 Animal Protection Act (Act 71 of 1962)
- 3.11 Public Finance Management Act 1 of 1999
- 3.12 Provincial Development plan (2014 - 2030)
- 3.13 National Development Plan 2030
- 3.14 Intellectual Property Laws Amendment Act (Act No. 28 of 2013)
- 3.15 Statistics Act no 6 of 1999
- 3.16 Citation of Constitutional Laws Act 5 of 2005

- 3.17 Treasury Regulations issued in terms of PFMA
- 3.18 The Natural Scientific Professions Act (Act 27 of 2003)
- 3.19 Veterinary and Para – Veterinary Professions Act 19 of 1982

4. PRINCIPLES & VALUES

The research and development programme will be guided by the DRDAR core principles and values:

- 4.1. **Innovation:** Commitment to keep abreast of new developments in relevant field of expertise and be innovative in carrying out the mandate of the Department;
- 4.2. **Excellence:** We are committed to exceeding our customer's expectations for quality, responsiveness, efficiency and service excellence;
- 4.3. **“Bambisanani”:** We believe that the sum of our collective efforts will be greater than the total of our individual efforts;
- 4.4. **Mutual respect:** We value each other's contribution as we seek to realise the vision and goals of the DRDAR;
- 4.5. **Honesty & Integrity:** Commitment to be transparent with all stakeholders;
- 4.6. **Inclusivity:** “Bonke abantu esisebenza nabo, siya kusebenzisana nabo ngokufanelekileyo nangokulinganayo.”

5. SCOPE OF APPLICABILITY

The policy is applicable to all agricultural research activities carried out by the DRDAR as well as organizations/institutions and/ or departments cooperating with the Department in the Province.

6. RESEARCH NORMS AND STANDARDS

The norms and standards that that will apply when doing research are as follows:

- 6.1. Research shall be conducted considering the mandate and strategies of the Eastern Cape Province.
- 6.2. Research shall be performed by suitably qualified professionals and registered scientists as prescribed by National Scientific Professions Act (Act 27 of 2003).

- 6.3. Research shall be conducted within a scientifically sound and ethical manner and must be socially responsible
- 6.4. Research findings shall be published in peer reviewed publications and/or popular magazines/bulletins.
- 6.5. Research findings shall be simplified, for the benefit of intended clients, prior to dissemination.
- 6.6. Collaboration with provincial, national and international academic and research institutions shall be encouraged.

7. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

7.1. The Head of Department

- 7.1.1. As the Accounting Officer, the Head of Department must take effective and appropriate steps to provide comprehensive oversight, including financial supervision and monitoring over the research agenda of DRDAR.
- 7.1.2. Approve and monitor all memoranda of understanding (MOU) between DRDAR with National and international institutions and organizations.

7.2. Deputy Director General (DDG): Agricultural Development

- 7.2.1. The DDG shall periodically review and monitor research programmes and projects, publication of annual research reports, and be responsible for the development and implementation of a comprehensive infrastructural plan for research and development in the Province.
- 7.2.2. Monitor the implementation of the research norms and standards.
- 7.2.3. Constitute the Research Committee and appoint its Chairperson.

7.3. Chief Director (CD): Research and Technology Development

- 7.3.1. Be responsible for the implementation of this policy, in consultation with the Deputy Director General: Agricultural Development.
- 7.3.2. Superintend on the research programmes and projects in the various research directorates and sub-directorates at DADI.
- 7.3.3. Monitor the active participation of all OSD researchers/scientists and scientific technicians at DADI and in the Districts.
- 7.3.4. Implement the norms and standards for research in the DRDAR, including

quality assurance in research and publications.

7.3.5. Develop terms of reference and composition for the research forum and research committee for approval of the Head of Department

8. RESEARCH COMMITTEE

A research committee shall be established to evaluate and approve all research projects. The main responsibilities of the committee are among others:

- 8.1. Peer review all research proposals;
- 8.2. Evaluate and approve all research proposals;
- 8.3. Coordinate all research activities conducted under the auspices of the DRDAR;
- 8.4. Evaluate the quantity and quality of research and technology transfer publications;
- 8.5. Identify and recommend professional development and training programmes to improve knowledge, technical and skills capacitation;
- 8.6. Establish a database of all research activities undertaken by the research component of the DRDAR;
- 8.7. Establish an ethics committee for the ethical consideration of all research proposals and projects;
- 8.8. Conduct an annual research project evaluation.
- 8.9. Ensure relevance of the research activities conducted;
- 8.10. Create opportunity for stakeholders to collaborate in research activities; and
- 8.11. Approve technologies generated and monitor their adoption.

9. COMPOSITION OF THE RESEARCH COMMITTEE

The Chief Director shall recommend the appointment of the Research Committee members and chairperson to the DDG: Agriculture Development for consideration.

10. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

10.1. RESEARCH FUNDING

10.1.1. The Department shall fund research; however, this should not exclude the funding from the private sector.

10.1.2. External funding (national and foreign) is to be sourced to support research activities, and be administered according to the agreed upon mechanisms.

10.2. PUBLICATION OF AND BENEFICIATION FROM RESEARCH FINDINGS

The research findings shall be published to benefit all end-users.

10.2.1. Research findings shall be simplified for the benefit of farmers/end-users and Extension Officers.

10.2.2. Establish a scientific journal with its own editorial board consisting of national and international scientists. This will go a long way towards the upliftment of the Dohne Agricultural Development Institute into a "Centre of Excellence."

10.2.3. Intellectual property and indigenous knowledge property rights governing research in the public space shall apply.

11. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The implementation and performance of the Research Policy shall be through constant monitoring and evaluation.

12. POLICY REVIEW

The policy shall be reviewed after 5 years from the date of approval or when the need arises before that time.

Research and Publication Policy

RECOMMENDED / NOT RECOMMENDED:

Comments...

This policy has been consulted extensively and as such it is recommended for implementation

[Signature]

DDG: AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT

DATE 26/3/2018

APPROVED / ~~NOT APPROVED~~:

Comments...

[Signature]

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT

DATE 26/03/2018