Agriculture against Disasters



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"Dare to Care Fund" provide drought assistance to all farmers

The "Dare to Care Fund" was established in 2000 to provide at that time assistance to victims of veld fires by members of the agricultural sector. Since then the Dare to Care Disaster Fund has assisted many victims of flood areas, farm attacks, San Bushmen, etc.

The whole agricultural sector, including the Namibia Emerging Commercial farmers Union (NECFU), Namibia Agricultural Union (NAU), and the private sector in Namibia, decided to join hands under the "Dare to Care" umbrella to make a contribution to all drought stricken farmers to survive the drought. These include communal, emerging commercial and commercial farmers across the country.

Namibia is facing a national crisis in the agricultural sector due to the current drought conditions which started already in 2013. Livestock and game farmers across the country are extremely grateful for the first big rain showers that were received in some parts. However the biggest part of Namibia still received little or no rain and even in the areas where rain was received, a long path of recovery of rangelands still lies ahead.

To survive a drought, farmers need assistance to fatten their animals for the market and remove it from the rangelands, whilst trying to save their core breeding herd for when the rain comes again. To fatten only 5% of Namibia's national herd over a period of 2 months, in order to remove them off the land, would cost about N\$170 million, which emphasises the enormity of the crisis.

Thus the whole agricultural sector, including the Namibia Emerging Commercial farmers Union (NECFU), Namibia Agricultural Union (NAU) and the private sector in Namibia, decided to join hands under the "Dare to Care" umbrella to make a contribution to all drought stricken farmers to survive the drought.

We set ourselves an ambitious target to collect N\$10 million by end of March 2019. It is our goal to subsidise the feed cost of farmers in order to help farmers to fatten livestock for the market, while also assisting them to maintain their core breeding herd. Another important principle of the assistance would be not to donate feed to farmers, but make certain feeds more affordable through subsidization. The agricultural retail outlets (Kaap Agri & Agra) with their retail branches countrywide would be used to reach farmers, and these subsidized prices will be available in all branches.

The management of the Fund has appointed SGA Chartered Accountants and Auditors to perform a full scope financial audit on the Fund to ensure accountability of all monies received and the distribution thereof.

We are appealing to everyone to support this national project in the interest of our country, our farmers and their workers.

Funds can be contributed to the following bank account:

Dare to Care

FNB Commercial Suite Branch code: 28 19 72 Account N: 62021119509

Pease fax your deposit slip to Fax No 061 220193 or mail to evg@agrinamibia.com.na