Address of Registered Office:

Old Government Printers No.5 Textile Road Vulindlela Heights Mthatha 5100

Postal Address:

P.O Box 1134 Mthatha, 5100



**Tel**: +27 (0) 47 531 0346

Fax: +27 (0) 47 531 4121

E-Mail: info@ntinga.org.za

Website: www.ntinga.org.za

**MEDIA STATEMENT** 

For Immediate Release

Date: 18 June 2021

SUBJECT: IMPROVING WOOL PRODUCTION IN A SUSTAINABLE MANNER

Ntinga O.R. Tambo Development Agency in partnership with Ingquza Hill Local Municipality successfully handed over Implements and production inputs to Ingquza Hill Woolgrowers on the 17 June 2021 at Ingquza Hill Local Municipality. In this initiative Ntinga was supporting the local municipality which provided funding to assist local farmers and improve wool production.

Flagstaff Wool Growers and White Diamond Cooperative benefited in this program. These key stakeholders received different items that are key for development in the district such as wool pressers, sorting table as well as seedlings to improve wool production and food production.

The initiative fits in well with the district wide wool improvement program funded by the District Municipality and Ntinga as the implementing Agency. Local farmers across the district are encouraged to venture into wool production. There is an ongoing O.R. Tambo District Municipality funded Rams Exchange Program which aims to assist local farmers and improve wool production. This great program also aims to ensure genetic improvement and to provide wool sheep to communal areas. Wool production plays a central role in the local economy as job opportunities are being created during sheep shearing season.

This is also part of supporting provincial government intervention of proving shearing sheds throughout the province. Essential equipment is necessary in shearing sheds to ensure local farmers work in clean environment, receive high income, wool classing improve, and clean wool is obtained.

The main objective of this program is to improve both the quality and quantity of wool produced

in the O.R. Tambo District. Shearing sheds in rural communities assist to ignite the spirit of

working together among local farmers for the benefit of the entire District.

It is the interest of the entity working close with all the municipalities in the O.R. Tambo District to

meet the farmers aspirations and needs by adding value to the wool and meat produced by

constantly providing support and making tireless efforts for the betterment of the district.

Local farmers are encouraged to take good care of these instruments even in testing times of

protests.

For more information contact Communications and PR Officer: Siphosethu Tikana at 064 900

8392 / siphosethut@ntinga.org.za

Issued by Ntinga O.R. Tambo Development Agency SOC Ltd, Office of the CEO.

Issued by:

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Loyiso Mbiko

**Acting Chief Executive Officer**