

The Tsitsa Project (TP) continues to engage with its staff and partners through online platforms as a result of Covid-19 pandemic. Nevertheless, the Project continues to produce the required outcomes, and to meet its objectives. Below is a highlight of some of the key activities happening in the Tsitsa Project. Work in the Tsitsa catchment is made possible by our implementing partner, LIMA, which regularly maintains in person contact where possible, and uses online resources that are currently available to our colleagues in the catchment.

Tsitsa Project Social and Livelihoods Annual Survey Pilot

The [Pilot survey](#) covered a wide range of socioeconomic, livelihoods questions, and also featured some questions that speak to Climate Change Adaptation. The survey aims to come up with Social indicators to help the Tsitsa Project, Tsitsa River catchment residents and a team of researchers to track social impacts coming from a range of activities that seek to give effect on land restoration, sustainable land management and improved livelihoods. Thirty-three people participated in the Pilot survey which was conducted by Community Liaison Officers (CLOs). After the Pilot survey was completed, the CLOs, Tsitsa Project team and LIMA held a feedback meeting to discuss how the survey can be improved so that it can be rolled out in future. The meeting was conducted via Zoom and CLOs met at the LIMA offices in Maclear and used one Zoom profile to engage.



Picture 1: CLOs during and citizen monitor during the meeting at Maclear office

Facilitating Social Learning and Stakeholder Engagement in Natural Resource Management Contexts. Introductory Course ("Training of Trainers" Course)



The course ended on the 7th May 2021, the final day for Module 4 Assignment submission. The course is currently being evaluated using the Wenger-Traynor Value Creation Framework (VCF), to identify the kind of value that was derived by participants and the coordinating team taking part in the course. A peer reviewed paper is expected to come out of this process.

The "Training of Trainers" team is also currently doing moderations so that they can award certificates to participants that have completed the course. There are about over eighty participants that are expected to receive their certificates competence or participation in the course.



Activities in the catchment

The Tsitsa Catchment continues to engage with the Tsitsa Project through the Senior Social facilitator from LIMA and the Tsitsa Project Catchment Coordinator.

Farmers in Lower Tsitsana showed a keen interest in forming a grazing association (Shed Association of Farmer), and met with LIMA to get information on what the processes are to form a grazing association, and what the benefits of an association, in terms of accessing wool markets and auctions, are. LIMA shared a detailed presentation of the requirements of forming a grazing association and discussed the benefits with the group. (Picture 1)



Picture 1: Farmers from Lower Tsitsana and LIMA during the meeting about grazing association agreement

Livestock farmers from Sinxaku and Tsitsana attended a livestock auction held in Matatiele to get exposure and experience on how the auction is conducted and the benefits of having grazing association in place (Pictures 2 and 3).



Picture 2: Briefing from CSA and Meat Natural officials to farmers from Tsitsa Project and Bulwer during livestock auction at Maluti.



Picture 3: Farmers from Tsitsa Project observing during auction and Headman Mnyazane from Lower Tsitsana asking questions during briefing at livestock auction at Maluti.

Latest Publications

Libala N, Palmer CG, Odume ON (2021) The evaluation of biological indices to assess the condition of hillslope seep wetlands in the Tsitsa River Catchment, South Africa. PLoS ONE 16(5): e0251370. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0251370>



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**TSITSA
PROJECT**



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