



## Trust for Community Outreach and Education – TCOE

### *Supporting small scale farmers in rural communities*

Originally established 31 years ago to address the challenges that existed in the education system in the late 70's, the focus of the organisation has now shifted to providing access, in all its forms, to the rural poor. The TCOE works with 6 affiliate organisations active in 3 provinces (Limpopo, Eastern and Western Cape) to deliver on its mandate.

The TCOE operates 6 programmes that support their service portfolio that includes movement building, policy advocacy and local economic development. These programmes are Land Access, Food Sovereignty, Rural Labour, Water Rights, Environmental Rights and General Mobilisation. Through these programmes farmworkers are able to negotiate the inherited inequities of the past and are enabled to improve conditions that impact positively on their livelihoods and that of their families. They are able to access water resources and sustainable land practices that allow them to take advantage of all resources that are available to them.

Small-scale growers are given support to enable them to gain independence in production and gain market access where possible which all leads to becoming financially independent. The TCOE works with small scale community based organisations to keep the skills and achievements within the community.

Small scale farmers in the Overberg have been helped to successfully reclaim their impounded livestock and they have also been given support to gain access to market.

The TCOE is very proud of the fact that one of its direct beneficiaries received an invitation from the Policy Land and Agrarian Studies Institute (PLAAS) at the University of the Western Cape to share their experiences in small-scale farming in rural communities. The invitation had previously been reserved for the TCOE so this bears testament to the efficacy of the active learning processes that take place between the organisation and its beneficiaries.



**TRUST FOR COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND EDUCATION**

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