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Gronddebat: Nou is daar feite op die tafel
LAND DEBATE: THE FACTS ARE ON THE TABLE

1 November 2017

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Voorheen benadeeldes besit nou 26,7% van die totale aantal hektaar landbougrond in Suid-Afrika. Dit is beduidend meer as die 14,9% van landbougrond wat in 1994 in voorheen benadeeldes se besit was. Voorts besit wit boere nou 73.3% van landbougrond, teenoor 85,1% daarvan in 1994.

Dít is van die bevindings van 'n omvattende grondoudit wat deur Agri Development Solutions (ADS) in samewerking met Agri SA en Landbouweekblad gedoen is.

Dié oudit, wat gefokus het op transaksies van landbougrond tussen 1994 en 2016, is Woensdag by Agri SA se kantore in Centurion bekendgemaak.

Agri SA het sowat `n miljoen rand bygedra sodat aktekantoor-data tussen 1994 en 2010 aangekoop en verwerk kon word. Die oudit wys dat vraag en aanbod – gewillige verkoper en gewillige koper – wel werk om grondhervorming te laat plaasvind.

Agri SA is lankal bewus van die noodsaaklikheid van 'n grondoudit. Beleidsformulering word deur emosie en persepsie gedryf en feite skiet tekort. Sedert 2005 het daar dadels gekom van talle pogings om 'n deeglike grondoudit die lig te laat sien. Gugile Nkwinti, minister van landelike ontwikkeling en grondhervorming, gaan blykbaar binnekort die regering se grondoudit bekendmaak.

ADS het die aktekantoordata wetenskaplik verwerk. Die eindresultaat is 'n databasis wat onder meer aantoon hoeveel landbougrond deur wie teen welke waarde tussen 1995 en 2016 gekoop en verkoop is. Agri SA het 'n eksterne oudit deur die ouditeursmaatskappy Nkonki laat doen.

Die verslag wat Woensdag bekendgemaak is bevat ook inligting oor die persentasie landbougrond per provinsie wat al aan voorheen benadeeldes oorgedra is.

ADS se navorsing het ook die waarde van die grond in ag geneem en het bevind 29% van die waarde van landbougrond word nou deur voorheen benadeeldes besit.

In sommige provinsies is tot 50% van die waarde van landbougrond nou in voorheen benadeeldes se besit.

Voorts toon ADS se studie `n kommerwekkende afname in die hoeveelheid beskikbare landbougrond in Suid-Afrika. In 1994 was daar 79 miljoen hektaar landbougrond, maar dit het afgeneem tot 76 miljoen hektaar. Dít terwyl kommersiële boere na verwagting teen 2035 vir 80 miljoen mense sal moet kosgee.

Dan Kriek, Agri SA se president, het Woensdag gesê dat grondbeleid in Suid-Afrika te lank gegrond was op persepsie en emosie eerder as feite. "Gesonde, volhoubare beleidsformulering moet op 'n feitebasis gebaseer wees. Hierdie grondoudit verskaf nou feite. Verdere navorsing oor watter soort grondhervormingsprojekte volhoubaar is en watter in die hek gaan duik, sal onderneem word" het Kriek gesê.

Kriek het vir Johan Bornmann, direkteur van ADS, bedank vir die baanbrekerswerk wat hy met hierdie grondoudit gedoen het. Voorts het Kriek gesê dat die werk in landsbelang is. Omri van Zyl, uitvoerende hoof van Agri SA, het verder daarop gewys dat die data sonder twyfel bewys dat markkragte uiters effektief kan wees om grondhervorming te laat plaasvind. Agri SA het 'n finansieringsplan ontwikkel wat dit moontlik sal maak om die mark nog effektiewer te maak en vir baie meer opkomende boere toegang tot markte te gee.

Agri SA sal 'n grondplan te ontwikkel wat met die Nasionale Ontwikkelingsplan en die Grondwet strook, het Van Zyl gesê.

Uitgereik deur Agri SA, Direktoraat: Korporatiewe Skakeling

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LAND DEBATE: THE FACTS ARE ON THE TABLE

Previously disadvantaged people now own 26,7% of all farmland in South Africa. This is significantly more than the 14% which this group owned in 1994. White farmers now own 73,3% of farmland compared to 85,1% in 1994. These are findings of a comprehensive land audit done by Agri Development Solutions (ADS) in conjunction with Agri SA and *Landbouweekblad*. The results of the audit, which focused on agricultural land transactions between 1994 and 2016, were released at Agri SA's offices in Centurion. Agri SA contributed R1 million towards the purchase and processing of deeds office data for the period 1994 to 2010. The audit revealed that the supply-and-demand mechanism – willing seller and willing buyer – does in fact work to bring about successful land reform.

Agri SA has long been aware of the need for a land audit. Policy formulation is driven by emotion and perception, rather than facts. Since 2005 nothing has come of the many attempts to facilitate a thorough

land audit. Gugile Nkwinti, minister of rural development and land reform, will apparently soon be releasing the results of the government's land audit.

ADS processed the deeds office data in a scientific manner. The outcome is a database which indicates the amount of agricultural land purchased and sold, as well as by whom and at what cost, between 1995 and 2016. Agri SA commissioned an external audit to be conducted by the auditing firm Nkonki.

The report, which will be released on Wednesday, also contains information of the percentage of agricultural land per province transferred to the previously disadvantaged.

ADS's research also considered the value of land and found that 29% thereof is now in the hands of the previously disadvantaged. In some provinces up to 50% of the value of agricultural land is now owned by the previously disadvantaged.

ADS's study also shows an alarming decrease in the amount of available agricultural land in South Africa. In 1994 available farmland totaled 79 million hectares, but this has declined to 76 million hectares. This is worrying, because commercial farmers will have to produce food for an estimated 80 million people by 2035.

Dan Kriek, Agri SA's president, said on Wednesday that land policy in South Arica has been based on perceptions and emotion instead of facts for far too long. "Sound, sustainable policy formulation must be based on facts. This land audit now provides these facts. Further research will be conducted to determine which types of land reform projects are sustainable and which types fail," said Kriek.

Kriek thanked ADS director Johan Bornmann for the pioneering work he has done with the land audit. Kriek also said the work was in the national interest.

Omri van Zyl, chief executive officer of Agri SA, pointed out that the data proved indisputably that market forces can be extremely effective to bring about land reform. Agri SA has developed a financing plan to make the market even more effective and which will help emerging farmers gain access to markets. Agri SA will also develop a land plan which is aligned to the national Development Plan and the Constitution, said Van Zyl.

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