

16 October 2023

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Re: Request to assist new HSRC field research from 20 October – 30 November 2023

Dear Madam/Sir

The purpose of this request is to ask your help with a new research study on the working conditions and living standards of small farmers, farm workers and people living on farms. The Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) is reaching out to you because you are a strategic stakeholder in the agriculture, land and food sector.

It will be appreciated if you can:

- *Avail yourself for an interview* on your experiences and observations about developments in this sector;
- *Share databases* of small farmers and farmworkers in the locality where you operate;
- *Encourage stakeholders in your networks to participate* in this important investigation into agrarian livelihoods.

Due to the tight deadlines for the completion of this assignment, please share relevant information with the HSRC fieldwork coordinators by 20 October 2023. From 20 October – 30 November 2023, HSRC research teams will visit the area where you operate for data collection.

Please note, the HSRC is a statutory research organization governed by an act of the South African parliament. HSRC researchers are mandated to treat all information with strict confidentiality. Information will be used for research purposes only. More importantly, our request for contract databases and information has been legally vetted to be consistent with the Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act.

Tshintsha Amakhaya, a nationwide alliance advocating for land agrarian rights, commissioned the HSRC to conduct this research in support of their campaigns for pro-poor policies.

Please do not hesitate to contact the HSRC fieldwork coordinators: Mr Matume Maila (MMaila@hsrc.ac.za), Ms Nolukholo Mabharwana (NMabharwana@hsrc.ac.za) and Ms Jamie-Lee Mckay (JMckay@hsrc.ac.za).

Yours sincerely,



Peter T. Jacobs, PhD
Strategic Lead: Equitable Education and Economies
Principal Investigator: ARHE 2023