



environmental affairs

Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

(For written reply)

QUESTION NO. 2114 {NW2344E}

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Dr S S Thembekwayo (EFF) to ask the Minister of Environmental Affairs:

Does her department have a policy to provide material and financial assistance to strengthen smallholder farmer capacity and practice in maintaining and building biodiversity; if not, why not?

2114. THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS REPLIES:

Yes, the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) has several policies and strategies for supporting smallholder game farmers and indigenous plant producers/farmers that form an integral part of the Biodiversity Economy. The National Biodiversity Economy Strategy forms the basis for this support.

Furthermore, the Department has the Environmental Protection and Infrastructure Programme's Policy and Procedures Manual, which guides the process of funding infrastructural projects to support, among other stakeholders, emerging game farmers in the Wildlife Economy and the small-scale producers of indigenous plants in the Bioprospecting and Bio-trade Sector of the National Biodiversity Economy.

In addition, Section 42 of the National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act, provides for the Co-Management Agreement Mechanism or Assistance through, among others, benefit sharing and development of local management capacity.

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