

Minister visits Masikhule (“We can grow”) project

Mr. Cobus Dowrey, Minister for Agriculture, visited Riebeek Kasteel for the Masikhule Vegetable Growing project, an initiative of Riebeek Cellars employees.



These employees from Riebeek Cellars manage the “We can grow” project, while residents of Riebeek Kasteel plant the vegetables in soil and with water made available by the Cellars. Effluent water from the cellars is used and an irrigation system and fencing for the land has been erected by LRAD funds.

Several job opportunities have developed and with a better availability of fresh vegetables, this project should have a positive influence on the

nutrition and health of the local community.

Minister Dowry with Michael Maneli, Koos Heynse, Tobias Amerika and Erric Jacobs.

First Wine Empowerment for the Riebeek Valley

Hot on the track of KWV, Riebeek Valley Wine Partners (Pty) Ltd launched the Riebeek Valley's first wine empowerment action when they planted their first 15 HA of Sauvignon Blanc on 2 September 2004. This combined initiative of Riebeek Cellars, producers, farm and cellar workers from the Riebeek Valley with a shareholding of 20%-40%-40%, entails a wine farm that will be cultivated for commercial means.



Initially 150 farm and cellar workers are involved. With government financing and the capital support of producers, as well as their knowledge and

experience of wine farming, the idea is to develop the farm into a self-sufficient and profitable unit. Eventually producer's shares will be withdrawn and made available for further empowerment until the total producer's shareholding is empowered.



Riebeek Cellars with a 20% shareholding serves as the production and marketing leg of the project en the wine will be released under the label, "Partnership".

The farm, Highlands, now called Partnership Vineyards, is located 8km outside Malmesbury and offers a superb wine farming opportunity with above-average soil potential. The excited new shareholders and other interested parties that attended the launch were all positive about the promise this fertile land keeps for empowerment and co-operation in the

Riebeek Valley.

For more information about this project, please visit
www.partnershipvineyards.com.