**Mediaverklaring**

12 Julie 2018

# Boere kap misdaad deur tegnologie

Die Agri Securitas Trustfonds het onlangs geld vir die beskerming van boere en hul plaaswerkers, deur gespesialiseerde tegnologie, bewillig. Dié geld van die Trustfonds en boere se planne help hulle om hulself en hul plaaswerkers teen misdaad en geweld te beskerm.

Tegnologies gevorderde kamerastelsels word in die Kiepersol- in Mpumalanga, Vierfontein- in die Vrystaat en in die Potgietersrusdistriks-landbou-unie gebied in Limpopo ontplooi om verdagte persone en voertuie in die gebied te monitor. Deur sulke kamerastelsels in te span wat deur 'n beheerkamer gemonitor word, verskaf die kameras in wese 'n permanente observasie vermoë oor die hele gebied, waardeur misdadige aktiwiteite opgetel en daarop gereageer kan word.

**"Die tegnologie wat as beskermingmaatreël ingespan word, is nie 'n waarborg dat 'n plaasaanval of misdaad sal plaasvind nie," sê Japie Grobler, voorsitter van die Agri Securitas Trustfonds. "Maar dit kan 'n aanval vertraag of bemoeilik om die individu die geleentheid te bied om sodanige aanval of misdaad af te weer."**

Van die planne wat tegnologie insluit, behels integriteitskeuringstelsels soos die wat deur Agri Hertzogville in die Vrystaat ingespan word om die veiligheid van die gemeenskap te bevorder. Dié stelsel word gebruik om persone vooraf te identifiseer wat by kriminele aktiwiteite betrokke is en 'n moontlike veiligheidsrisiko vir die gemeenskap kan inhou.

**"In ons boerderygebiede neem misdade soos veediefstal, die diefstal van skroot- en koperkabels, asook die vernietiging van plaasinfrastruktuur toe. Boere lei verder toenemende skade weens die diefstal van groot hoeveelhede plaasprodukte, landbou-insette en toerusting wat uit die gebied verwyder word wat 'n wesenlike invloed het op boere se winsgewendheid," sê Grobler. "Ons landbouers word blootgestel aan gewapende rowe met die gepaardgaande lewensverlies en trauma. Die Trustfonds probeer om met die finansiële bydraes op 'n praktiese en tasbare wyse boere en plaaswerkers te ondersteun in hulle beskermingmaatreëls in die stryd teen misdaad."**

Die Trustfonds gee hiermee ook erkenning aan sy strategiese vennote; naamlik, Nissan SA, Sanlam, CrisisOnCall en Sonfin vir hulle jarelange ondersteuning van die Trustfonds. Maatskappye soos NWK, Senwes en Santam Landbou is jarelange borge van die fonds.

**"Sonder hierdie ondersteuning sou dit 'n onmoontlike taak gewees het om ons boere en plaaswerkers te help beskerm", sê Grobler.**


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**Media release**

12 July 2018

# Farmers curb crime with technology

The Agri Securitas Trust Fund has recently allocated funding for the protection of farmers and their farm workers through specialised technology. The money from the Trust Fund and the plans of farmers help to protect themselves as well as their farm workers against crime and violence.

State-of-the-art camera systems are used in the district agricultural union jurisdictions of Kiepersol in Mpumalanga, Vierfontein in the Free State and Potgietersrus in Limpopo to monitor suspicious-looking persons and vehicles in the areas. The use of these camera systems, which are monitored by a control room, essentially offers a permanent observation capability across the entire area whereby criminal activities can be detected and responded to.

**"Technology employed as protection measure is no guarantee that a farm attack or crime will not occur," said Japie Grobler, chair of the Agri Securitas Trust Fund. "However, it can delay or make an attack more difficult to carry out, offering the individual an opportunity to ward off the attack or crime."**

Some of the plans that include technology entail integrity selection systems such as those used by Agri Hertzogville in the Free State to promote the safety of the community. This system is intended to identify in advance any persons who are involved in criminal activities and who pose a safety risk to the community.

**"In our farming areas there has been an increase in crimes such as stock theft, the theft of scrap metal and copper cables, as well as destruction of farm infrastructure. Farmers also suffer losses due to the theft of large quantities of farm produce and the removal of farm inputs and equipment from the area. This has a significant impact on farmers' profitability," said Grobler. "Our farmers are exposed to armed robbery, accompanied by loss of life and trauma. The Trust Fund attempts to support farmers and farm workers in a practical manner by providing funding for protection measures in their battle against crime."**

The Trust Fund hereby also acknowledges its strategic partners, namely Nissan SA, Sanlam, CrisisOnCall and Sonfin, for their long-time support. Companies such as NWK, Senwes and Santam Agriculture have been sponsors of the fund for many years.

**"Without this support it would have been impossible for us to assist in protecting our farmers and farm workers," said Grobler.**

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