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Please consult the table below for abbreviations used in this report:
COP: Causes of Poverty
CV: Community Volunteer
CVC: Community Volunteer Coordinator
EDP: Entrepreneurial Development Programme
EO / EC: Extension Officer /Extension Co-ordinator
FG: Farmer Group
G5: Group of 5
HBC: Home Based Care
HFS: Household Food Security
IGA: Income generating activity
ILP: Integrated Livelihood Programme
SAP: Sustainable Agriculture Programme
SLG: Savings and Loans Group
ZIC: Zone Implementation Committee
ZSIC: Zone Savings and Implementing Committee

Well done to all who have worked so hard to achieve these amazing results.

All photographs are taken by our ACAT team.

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There is little doubt that the events of 2018 have contributed to a deepening gloom over the global economic and political outlook, which includes excessive government debt of many countries around the world.

In recent years, the world has gone through frequent shocks each year, many of which have been caused by all the natural disasters, which seem to be on the increase, in spite of all that is being done to mitigate against climate change. 2018 was no different. Mudslides, excessive flooding, destructive hurricanes, tornadoes and earthquakes caused untold human suffering, placing further pressure on struggling economies. A new review reported on Health24 on climate change, describes its clear impact on human health, calling it a ‘health emergency’, quoting injuries, illnesses and deaths from heat waves, infectious diseases and food and water insecurity as being some of the results of climate change.

In spite of all these extraordinary challenges, God’s gift to mankind of creativity continued to flourish. We saw many remarkable inventions, some of which have been or have the potential to be life changing. Relevant examples include life saving delivery drones with the provision of medical supplies, robotics, 3 - D printing, and the opening of the first cashier-less convenience store.

In South Africa and KwaZulu, circumstances that made some people describe the nation as being in a state of ‘national exhaustion’ at the end of 2017, continued unabated into 2018. We witnessed a new president step into a swamp of corruption and mismanagement, the extent of which has boggled the minds of many citizens. The reasons for having three finance ministers in just 12 months was merely one of the indicators of the level to which the governance of the country had sunk.

By year-end, astonishing revelations of ‘state capture’ and financial mismanagement appeared in the media following the activities of the Zondo Commission of Inquiry. These revelations continued into 2019 and have been serious enough to prompt a strong response from various influential quarters of the international community, calling for appropriate prosecutions. These circumstances are a far cry from the freedom the ruling party was calling for in South Africa many years ago.

Given this global and national context, one is often hard pressed to find reasons for hope. This is why one of the highlights of last year was the national day of prayer, which was purportedly attended by over one million people. This was the second of its kind after the first one in 2017. It is this focus on God that is and always has been, the only true hope for humanity.
Closer to home, KwaZulu faced undesirable escalation in crime, unemployment, climate change, economic instability and poverty. An example of crime was reported to the media by one of the leading stores in South Africa and KwaZulu, that last year alone they had to deal with the setbacks linked to nearly 500 armed robberies! Inflation was recorded at 5.2%, of which the biggest impact on ACAT’s operations was the 23.1% increase in fuel prices during the year. This is according to the latest information released by Stats SA. The fluctuating rand also had an impact on ACAT’s work, as much of the annual income is received from international funders.

Even well qualified students with a tertiary education are no longer able to find employment. The labour market is unable to absorb 20% of these graduates, which is of deep and growing concern. To exacerbate matters, the World Bank expects the SA economy to grow by only 1.3% in 2019.

Other statistics from Stats SA, an Early Childhood Review and a Provincial Review, which provide appropriate context for this report, is that about 63% of young South African children live in poverty, 6 million of the 11 million people in KwaZulu live in the rural areas, and only 24% of working-age people in the former "homeland" regions of KwaZulu were employed.

These figures help explain why ACAT’s work through its vision and mission is still so relevant, as they highlight the very people and their context, which make up ACAT’s target group and target area, namely people living in former ‘homeland’ rural areas including the children and youth, which are increasing in numbers in the programme.

In spite of climate change and its impact on our rural people, the sustainable practices taught by ACAT have made it possible again this past year for people to feed their families, and to improve their general quality of life. In addition to ACAT’s impact on food security, the programmes are also addressing the unemployment crisis and related income deficiencies by providing opportunities to become self employed.

An overview of ACAT since its inception in 1979

KwaZulu was the first area since 1979 where ACAT implemented its programme aimed at improving the livelihoods of rural families. A Non Profit Trust was registered in 1979, and as a start, the core strategy was to form and use savings clubs to enable people to mobilize themselves and their resources to achieve defined goals, which if realized, improved the quality of life of participants, their families and the wider community.

This was followed up in 1984 with the first one-week long skills training courses on vegetable and crop production, how to start and run a savings club, harnessing water resources, handicraft skills, broiler and poultry production, sanitation and fence making. Six years later, a seven year Integrated Development Programme was designed and implemented, which incorporated all the principles we felt were needed for savings club members and their clubs to become sustainable.

The next development model ACAT adjusted to and implemented, was a specialized programmatic approach, which was implemented in the late 1990’s. Out of this arose the programmes of Sustainable Agriculture (SAP), Entrepreneurial Development (EDP), Education and Training (ETP), and the Partnership Programme (PP). Since then ACAT has on an annual basis, sought to improve its relevance, delivery, effectiveness and impact, by constantly assessing and adjusting these programmes.

The savings concept was not ignored, but became part of the overall programme, rather than being the starting point. This specialized approach enabled people to identify and follow their preferred line of interest.

The core focus and foundation of ACAT interventions has however never changed, namely the facilitation of internal transformation through Jesus, which in turn will bring about the behavioural change needed for sustainable development.

Activities, Results and Impact of ACAT’s work

ACAT’s VISION is ‘To be an instrument in God’s Hand in the transformation of the rural poor people of KwaZulu’. This in turn is implemented through our MISSION, which is ‘to design and implement training and mentoring programmes aimed at equipping people to be sustainable in every aspect of their lives and to influence, motivate and assist others to achieve the same’.

ACAT continued to implement this God-given vision and mission in seven of the eleven magisterial districts of KwaZulu, where 150 different communities benefited
from one or more of ACAT’s programmes. 1185 NEW family members, representing an estimated 8,000 – 12,000 new family beneficiaries, received tangible benefits from ACAT’s training and mentoring this past year, and over 600,000 since our work began. These figures only represent the direct input of ACAT and does not include the non-recorded knock-on effect of all those who have been impacted by the participants themselves, including their extended family, friends, neighbours, churches, schools and clinics.

Each year, including 2018, existing and new families implement numerous activities, all of which are designed to achieve ACAT’s purpose of improved livelihoods for poor rural families.

Examples of activities in 2018 included:

237 New Groups of 5 (G5s) were started, which means that 1185 NEW families ‘joined’ the programme.
500 New household farmers and 685 new entrepreneurs joined the programme this past year.
969 New food gardens were started. In addition, 429 new food gardens were started by the youth, making it a total of 1398 new food gardens in 2018, and 20,203 since the programme started.
753 New income-generating activities were started. In addition, 531 were started by the youth, making it a total of 1284 in 2018.
123 Savings and loans groups (20 new) were functioning by the end of the year, with R2,160,462 saved.
179 Community Volunteers were actively assisting their communities by the year-end.
16 Zone Savings and Implementing Committees were trained by year-end.
2476 One-day workshops were conducted in food gardening and income generating activities.
6150 Extension visits were made by community volunteers.
203 Exchange visits were conducted between programme participants and community volunteers to facilitate learning from each other.
34 Week-long courses and workshops were held at the ACAT centre.
17 Asilimeni (‘let us farm’) days were held to promote to the wider community topics such as food security, income generation and spiritual development. This year, these days have also served as market days, especially since pension payout days have been moved to urban supermarkets.

Flowing from these activities, we have again been witnesses of transformation and change in the lives of participating families, which is reflected in new attitudes, motivation and behavior towards their own families, the community, and the implementation of best practices. For ACAT, it is this internal change that starts the process of authentic sustainable development. For ACAT, real transformation begins with a commitment to Christ, and we are delighted to report on 735 such commitments this past year.

Physically and materially, these activities have had the impact of self employment, increased income levels, improved homes and homesteads, improved food security and resilience, better health of adults and children and the influencing of other members in the community.

Due to the drought in recent years, which has reared its ugly head again in some areas, ACAT raised extra funding to subsidize water tanks and fencing. To date, 143 subsidized water tanks (mostly 2000-2500 liters) and fencing for 75 household food-producing units has been provided. This year alone, 32 water tanks and 58 fences for food gardens were subsidized by ACAT’s funding partners. This has made a significant contribution to the improved daily lives of families and increased their resilience.

In terms of financial sustainability, the wealth-building savings and loans system continued to enable participants to purchase assets, pay for or subsidize their small business ventures, or pay for some essential services, all of which will improve their livelihoods. Examples include schooling, water tanks, fencing, home improvements and livestock.

The Youth

An encouraging increase in the numbers of younger adults participating was observed, both in the field and in the attendance at the various ACAT courses. During their school holidays, 319 young people attended week-long courses (Mondays to Thursdays), with 305 having made a commitment to Christ. 429 New food gardens and 531 new income-generating activities were started by the youth. The learning areas they are exposed to include food gardening, nutrition, starting and running a business, HIV and AIDS, spiritual regeneration, the causes of poverty and exposure to career guidance.
Chairman's Report

HIV and AIDS

3447 People received relevant exposure to information on HIV and AIDS last year. We have managed to achieve this through training at the ACAT centre, field training workshops and separate DVD screenings. Group members also continued this year to care for sick family members as well as caring for families, which are not involved in the Programme.

Partnership Programme

In total, 389 people were trained in 8 different types of courses, with Partners attending 11 courses in total. Learning areas included leadership, governance, management, administration, fundraising, strategic planning, sustainable development, food production, enterprise development, Sunday school teaching, report writing, programme implementation and how a church can improve on implementing the Great Commission of Jesus. In addition, funds were given for ACAT to assist our partners with training materials for their target groups, including Bibles and training aids that will enhance the impact of their programmes on their respective target groups.

2019 and Beyond

Detailed Work Plans have been compiled for the purposes of implementing, monitoring and evaluating every aspect of each programme, which is then used as a reporting instrument for those donors who are interested in such detail or for those who have requested updated annual plans for each programme. However, in spite of all our plans, we know and acknowledge that only God knows the future and our dependence on Him remains our prime focus for the years ahead.

Thank you!

ACAT has had the privilege and honour of being supported by so many people, both in the past and in this year under review. This has come from prayer partners, funders, board members, staff, community volunteers, programme participants as well as our friends and partners throughout the world. Thank you to all of you, who have made it possible to achieve what has been recorded in this report. But most important of all, words are inadequate to express our gratitude to God for His support in 2018 and we trust and pray for further Divine intervention in 2019 and beyond.

S Radebe
Chairman: ACAT KwaZulu
CENTRAL SERVICES

The specialized functions of governance, strategic management, centre training, fund raising and administration are essential to the well-being of an organization, but too costly and unnecessary to decentralize or duplicate. In 2018, these services were diligently and successfully provided to all our programmes from ACAT’s centrally based training centre at Lidgetton, which is close to Pietermaritzburg, the capital of the Province of KwaZulu-Natal.

This report provides information on these centrally based services, how they contributed to the overall vision and mission, and to present a brief summary of the combined programme activities.

Governance

The full Board met three times during the year for ordinary board meetings, where matters of policy, planning, budgets, finances, reports, partnerships, and statutory issues were addressed. The Annual General Meeting considered the overall progress and position of the Trust after the completion of the 2018 financial year. In addition, between the three board sub-committees, nine meetings were conducted to prepare for all the groundwork so that informed decisions can be made by the full board. This means that to ensure sound governance of ACAT, a total of 13 board and sub-committee meetings were held during 2018.

Central Training Services

Centre Training

A total of 1022 learners (including 319 youth) attended various training courses at ACAT’s centre. As in previous years, the courses offered focused on ACAT’s target group of G5 members, community volunteers, staff and partners, which included NGOs and churches. Due to the demand in 2018, additional partnership courses were run for NGOs and churches in KwaZulu-Natal and beyond.

The remarkable value of ACAT’s training facility was again experienced this past year, which contributed significantly to ACAT fulfilling its vision and mission by providing a strategic venue for the purpose of training, mentoring, workshops and meetings. Its multi-purpose nature enabled ACAT to support each of the programmes and partners with a unit to demonstrate the growing of various food types using different growing and fencing techniques as well as examples on how to process vegetables to prolong their shelf life and on how to produce vermi-compost. Of particular benefit for our partners, the centre successfully served as an example of how to plan for, build, manage and sustain such a facility.

Due to the expansion of facilities in recent years, higher learner numbers can now be accommodated and the centre’s function has diversified to include workshops,
Central Services

receiving visitors who are interested in ACAT’s work, and to host funders who are now able to get first hand exposure to some of the programme’s centralized activities. Due to theft, further improvements in 2018 included additional security, general renovations to buildings were done, continued efforts were made to improve the water supply and new steps were undertaken to consider becoming sustainable with regard to energy requirements. All this has been made possible by funders again kindly supporting the costs of running the centre as an integral part of the broader ACAT programme, which has gone into Africa and beyond.

The centre has played a meaningful role in helping ACAT’s programmes improve the livelihoods of rural families both in KwaZulu-Natal and further afield and for this we remain ever grateful to God for both the facility and its proven added value to the programmes.

Training materials and sales

The following materials were produced or updated during the year:
• Manuals on: Programme Implementation and Sunday School Teaching.
• A selection of ACAT’s manuals was put on display at training courses held at the ACAT centre.
• Work has continued on material related to parenting and the needs of children.
• Partner organizations continued to make use of ACAT’s programme materials.
• 4204 Modules were sold during the year.

Strategic Management and Human Resource Services (SMS)

Programme monitoring and some highlights

Demographics of programme participants (G5s): based on the baseline survey of each new programme participant in 2018, an analysis of age groups and gender was done this past year of our target group, revealing the following helpful information: 44% were up to 40yrs old, 39% were between the ages of 41-60, 17% were 61 and above, the average age was 44 with women making up 77% and men 23%. This means that the single biggest age group has become the youth and young adults, which is very heartening for ACAT in terms of sustainability.

Commitments

We are delighted to report that 735 people made a commitment to Christ this year, which is a start of the longer-term transformation process ACAT facilitates through all the programme activities. This includes 305 young people.

Monitoring through the use of technology

This is the fifth completed year in which field staff have successfully used computer tablets and smart cell phones to connect them to the central office for improved communication, submission of various monthly reports and returns, recording of photographs, setting up of events, mapping of GPS readings of each new family that joins the programme and for the building up of the overall technological capacity of field staff. Further improvements have been achieved this past year by the upgrading of both hardware and software for field staff to improve on the recording and processing of collected data and information.

Food security survey

From 2011 to 2016 annual surveys in three areas revealed that the food security of participants increased by 87%. In 2017, we collected the baseline information from people in 3 different areas covering three different agricultural and climatic conditions. In 2018, our first survey in these 3 areas revealed that the food security of participants in one year improved by 63% from the baseline data collected in 2017. The annual survey includes the same participants each year and is made up of nine questions, which are designed to assess the food insecurity of families.

Monthly Progress Chart

Due to the many activities that make up ACAT’s programmes, an appropriately reporting instrument is needed to monitor the progress of all these activities for which a detailed monthly performance progress chart
is completed each month. This chart has again in 2018 been a very helpful regular ‘audit’ of progress made as well as providing early warning signals of any concerns that have to be addressed.

**Asilimeni Days (let us farm)**

These days are designed to expose people who are not necessarily part of the programme, to some of the basic elements of ACAT’s work namely, food security, income generation, health and spiritual renewal. This purpose was again successfully achieved in 2018 through 17 such days attended by 1219 people. These Asilimeni days are supported by ACAT’s central services with personnel, finance, transport and the monitoring of quality.

**Savings and Loans Groups (SLG)**

To assist with the financial and economic sustainability of our target group, the formation of SLGs are encouraged. There were 123 groups functioning as at the end of December 2018, with a combined savings of R2,160,462. Unlike the popular Stokvel system, which is driven by annual savings and spending, the SLG system is based on longer-term wealth building, where savings are used to acquire assets that will contribute to the sustainability of their development activities, assist with finance for income generation, or contribute to meeting livelihood needs of families. Examples in 2018 included the purchase of water tanks for household use and food production, fencing to protect food gardens, home improvements, working capital for income generating activities, agricultural inputs and school fees.

**Staff matters**

Based on ACAT’s approach of people development and sustainability, Central Services continued this past year to drive the process of promoting, encouraging and facilitating greater community participation and the ‘up skilling’ of community volunteers rather than focusing only on staff to achieve the annual objectives. This approach we have found promotes a more hands on role by the community and growing evidence each year of increased community capacity and initiative. By the year-end, together with the communities concerned, 15 new community extension officers (CEO) were identified to serve their communities with the ACAT programme. These CEOs had over many years successfully come through the various community structures as well as the training and mentoring provided by the programme and have shown the capacity, initiative and desire to serve their communities through the ACAT programme.

**Fundraising activities and reporting requirements**

Recent research sponsored by Bread for the World shows that emailing remains a globally significant means of communication and has shown to have a return on investment of over 4 times higher than other marketing formats, including social media and direct mail. The research also found that significant benefits are to be found in existing donors doing fundraising for an organization. ACAT is benefiting from both these suggested success models to raise funds, but the challenges toward financial sustainability remain.

To comply with the annual and six monthly reporting requirements, over 140 different donor, statutory and internal reports were completed this past year. The anticipated specific challenges in the years ahead include:

- Stimulating interest given the poor economic climate.
- Increased demand by funders for more and more appropriate data against which to report on.
- The lengthy process for funding applications to be considered.
- Meeting all the contractual obligations from numerous funders.
- Stricter application processes.
- Constant changes in funding criteria.

Raising funds has again been a very testing exercise, especially as there are so many factors these days to attend to, unlike bygone days where the requirements were significantly less. Funders are also requiring more and more detailed and diversified information on achievements. Managing the income from donors has its own challenges, as there have been constant exchange rate fluctuations throughout 2018.

In 2018, fund raising activities included:

- Completing the 2017 annual statutory audit.
- Conducting two donor specific audits for the six months ended December 2017 and June 2018. We were also required to appoint new auditors for one of the donor funds, for which the first audit will be for the period ended December 2018.
- Completing the 2017 Annual Reports and the 2018 six monthly narrative and financial reports, according to each funding contract.
- Tying up loose ends in terms of funding and funding contracts for 2019.
• Submitting proposals to funders for 2019 and beyond.
• Meeting with existing and potential funders, including field visits.
• Ensuring that ACAT fulfills all its contractual obligations, involving over 12 programme funders.
• Finalizing the detailed budgets for 2019 (involving over 40 individual budgets).
• Regular and careful planning of ACAT’s investments.

Funding, cash flow and sustainability

Once all the funders had approved ACAT’s proposals for 2018, some of whom only finalized their decision after mid-year, we were able to receive and use sufficient funds as per the budget. For this we are grateful to each of our funders and the Lord for his provision through these generous donors.

In terms of 2019, various donors have not yet approved our request. Whilst the preferred budget has therefore not been secured by way of approved contracts, there are positive signs that the budget will be met or at least the bulk of it.

ACAT’s sustainability fund has this past year proved to be a remarkable asset for ACAT’s cash flow, especially to cover those months for which donors had not yet sent through the funds approved by them.

Overall day-to-day Leadership of ACAT

These activities have not changed from the previous year. Strategic Management Services provided ACAT with leadership and direction in terms of:
Implementing board and board sub-committee decisions.
Managing the daily affairs of ACAT through the Leadership Forum activities – agendas, minutes, and follow-up action specifically aimed at the monitoring of the ACAT programmes and the Centre.
The day-to-day financial management of donor funds, income generating activities, investments, retirement funds and medical aids.
Increasing the capacity of staff by organising and facilitating staff workshops.
Facilitating staff disciplinary procedures to address matters of work performance and behaviour.
Addressing any problems that emerge in terms of programme implementation as well as managing any adjustments that are necessary to improve the programme. Detailed programme work plans were updated for 2019 and submitted to donors.
Implementing and monitoring the Partnership Programme with its activities.

Networking

Shared information and experiences, access to new ideas and services, and exposure to helpful solutions were some of the benefits this past year from networking activities. These activities included those arranged by ACAT and by funders. This networking has taken place at the organizational as well as community levels and many points of contact have provided mutual benefits.

Partnership Programme

Individuals, NGO's and churches have over many years repeatedly approached ACAT to assist them in addressing the poverty of their respective target groups. ACAT’s Partnership Programme was established for this purpose. This programme has this year again multiplied ACAT’s impact to address poverty through its partners by supporting partners through the provision of training, mentoring and the supply of resource materials, which included Bibles.

Skills in governance, management, administration, sustainable development, and programme design and implementation have been transferred through courses and mentoring. As in the previous year, most of our time in 2018 was spent on a few active partners. We have described below some of the highlights of this programme:
• ACAT continued to support and/or engage with 2 Formal Partners, 31 Informal Partners (2 new and 1 exited in 2018 as the organization closed) and 38 Potential Partners (8 new).
• Two Leadership Skills courses were conducted attended by a total of 75 people from 7 organizations.
• 64 People attended the Basic Life Skills (BLS) courses from 5 organizations.
• 25 People from 5 organizations attended the course on How to Implement a Programme using ACAT as the example or case study.
• 140 People attended the Sunday School courses, impacting 1936 children, which is part of ACAT partnering with local churches to equip the children from an early age.
• 8 People attended Community Volunteer courses at ACAT.
• By the end of the courses, positive responses from learners again confirmed the value of these courses to individuals, NGOs and churches.
• Meetings were arranged to monitor partnership activities, which included the leadership forum.
• The impact of these courses is being multiplied as some Partners are now running their own training courses using ACAT’s modules.
• Some of the ACAT manuals have been translated by partners into the language of their local target group and these to date include French, Kirundi, Creole, Chichewa, English, Zulu, Shona, Spanish, Bemba and Amharic – a total of ten languages.

Two funders have in 2018 provided grants for the purchase and supply of Bibles and special training aids to ACAT’s target group, some of their children and to some of ACAT’s partners.

In total, 389 people were trained in 8 different types of courses, with Partners attending 11 courses in total. Learning areas included governance, management, administration, fundraising, strategic planning,
sustainable development, food production, enterprise development, Sunday school teaching, report writing and programme implementation. Participants represented 8 organizations, 108 local churches (excluding 32 churches in Burundi and 43 in the DRC) and 7 countries. Of those trained, 77 were Community Volunteer Coordinators and Zone Savings and Implementing Committee members, who were trained by ACAT at 3 courses as part of our partnership with local rural communities.

Administration

Audit, accounting and statutory matters
The annual statutory audit for 2017 was completed early in 2018. Two additional donor specific audits were carried out, one for 2017 and the other for the six-month period ended June 2018.

These audits have again confirmed from an external opinion, that the financial management structure, systems, policies and procedures developed and improved over many years, are effective and efficient, which has again last year resulted in reasonable fees being charged. These systems include the management of 30 bank accounts, most of which have been opened to satisfy the donor requirements of dedicated bank accounts for each funder.

A year-end surplus has been recorded. This was not due to income exceeding the expenditure budget, but due to delaying some of the planned expenses, one example of which is the use of the community resource fund, which enables participants to acquire water tanks and fencing.

As in 2017, the prudent daily financial management of resources and wise investment decisions by one of the board's sub-committees, contributed to a healthy Balance Sheet at year-end.

Other centrally based services for all programmes
These included reception, secretarial backup, computing, purchases, management of training resources and general office duties.

Conclusion

In spite of numerous challenges along the way, we are pleased to report that the overall objectives for the year have been achieved. In addition to this, opportunities have arisen and taken to engage in activities that were not originally part of the work plan and in this way extended the impact of ACAT’s work. An example of this was the demand for extra courses in certain learning areas, which has produced very encouraging outcomes.

Without the sustained support of prayer partners and funders, the faithful commitment of board members, and the diligent work of staff and community volunteers, this report would not be possible - thank you!

Above all, God’s intervention this past year ensured not only the provision of everything we needed to achieve the reported results, but led to the miraculous transformation of many programme participants.

Gerald Dedekind
Director
The overall purpose of this programme is to use sustainable agriculture as a means to enable disadvantaged small farmers to overcome poverty in a sustainable way, and for them to influence and assist others to do the same. This involves:

- Promoting and teaching sustainable agricultural practices,
- Applying specific development principles, and
- Considering the context, needs and problems facing small-scale rural farmers, which include past, present and future circumstances.

**Long and Short term Objectives**

- To provide the active disadvantaged small farmers who show potential, with the opportunities, passion and capacity:
  - To be members of sustainable community structures.
  - To achieve self-reliance and sustain an ever-improving quality of life.
  - To address the causes of poverty.
  - To become food secure by having at least a basic food garden, or a profitable agri-business for those who want to make farming a career.
  - To use sustainable business and agricultural practices, which will also mitigate against climate change.
  - To be aware of, understand and actively address the HIV and AIDS pandemic with a special focus on causes, symptoms, transmission, avoidance, stigma, alternate lifestyle, management of the virus.

- To promote community based support and care for children, the sick, elderly and the disabled.
- To promote, encourage and offer an alternate lifestyle and the reconstruction of families.
- To facilitate the process of transformation in the lives of our target group members.
- To influence, motivate and assist others to do the same in ALL the above objectives.

**Strategies used to achieve the Objectives**

Certain strategies have been carefully selected which, if implemented well, will achieve the overall purpose of each of the above objectives.
**Strategy One**  
Identify the area and the target group and form Groups of 5

SAP has not identified any new area during this reporting period. However, ACAT’s programme has expanded into 8 new zones in 6 of the 8 areas where SAP is operating. The new zones are in Ntumeni 2, Ethekwini, Maphumulo and Nquthu, Taylors and NhlaZuka.

100 New additional groups of five have been formed against the target of 80. 20 More groups than required have been formed, due to the need and the programme being more relevant. Of the 100 additional groups, 8 groups are from Nkandla where ACAT is currently partnering with the community in the implementation of the programme. The 100 groups formed make up the total of 500 additional families that SAP is impacting. All new groups have been introduced to local community structures i.e. ZSIC, SLGs and in some areas, area committees.

**Strategy Two**  
Equip Groups of 5 towards sustainable homesteads – through the 4 phases of ACAT’s Household Food Security Approach (HFS)

As mentioned above, all 100 new groups of 5 have sent their representatives to the ACAT Centre for the Basic Life Skills Course. ACAT carefully selected 5 learning disciplines i.e. Agriculture, Health, Business Practices, Life Skills and Spiritual Development.

**Survivalist food gardens (Phase 1 of ACAT’s home food security approach)**

The SAP team has motivated and equipped 444 farmers against the target of 400 who achieved phase one of ACAT’s home food security approach (HFS).

Through the Savings and Loans Groups, SAP continues to facilitate the provision of water tanks and fencing materials to protect their plots and to save water. To date a total of 143 tanks and fencing materials for 75 gardens have been facilitated by ACAT to the target group members using funding from various donors.

**Food secure homestead (Phase 2 of ACAT’s food security approach)**

The SAP team has motivated and equipped 255 farmers against the target of 200 to achieve food secure homesteads.

The introduction of a market day during the Asilimeni day (Let us farm) has confirmed to some farmers that if they work hard on their production, they can improve their lives. For example, one farmer in Emnambithi area has committed herself to save not less than R300 a month. She raises indigenous chickens and grows and sells vegetables. Every month she makes sure that she sells enough to reach her target of R300.

**Sustainable homesteads (Phase 3 of ACAT’s home food security approach)**

For this reporting period, SAP has planned to assist 100 new additional farmers to achieve sustainable homesteads. The previous planting season received good rainfall in all areas where SAP is operating. This has enabled the farmers to increase their livestock. Farmers were also able to save enough for their families and where possible, sell the surplus.

**Commercial Production (Phase 4 of ACAT’s home food security approach)**

SAP have not yet set a target for this phase, however, SAP will continue to encourage and motivate farmers to sell the surplus and where possible to grow for marketing.

To ensure the smooth and effective running of the meetings, CVCs, Extension Officers, and Extension Coordinators plan and organise all meetings. During this reporting period, the following meetings were conducted and/or attended by the SAP team:

- Combined group meetings: a total of 309 with 3338 participants.
- ZIC /ZSIC meetings: a total of 354
- CV mentoring meetings: a total of 221 with 1501 participants.
- Area reporting meetings: every month in each area.

**Zone Savings and Implementing Committee Meetings (ZSIC/ZIC)**

During this reporting period, the SAP team implemented the programme through 66 ZIC/ZSICs and they collectively ran 354 monthly reporting and savings meetings that were attended by the SAP team.

**Savings and Loans Groups (SLG)**

To date, ACAT has assisted in establishing and equipping a total of 123 SLGs who have 1380 members. Collectively these savings groups have saved R2,160,462. Most of this is currently out in loans to members.
Sustainable Agriculture

Spiritual Development
Spiritual Development training filters through all learning subjects and levels of training provided by ACAT. Through these training sessions, 62 new Bible study circles have been started.

Causes of poverty
During this reporting period, causes of poverty were raised and discussed at 471 meetings/workshops, and 3440 group members and community members participated to discuss these issues and how to address them.

HIV and AIDS issues
The SAP team continues to create awareness and give training on issues related to HIV and AIDS. During this reporting period, HIV and AIDS issues were discussed at 392 meetings and 3102 members participated in these discussions.

Networking and referrals
The SAP team continues to facilitate and promote networking and referrals to help the target group address those issues that are outside the scope of SAP activities. During this reporting period, ACAT SAP continued to network with various Government Departments, other NGOs, CBOs and church organisations.

Strategy Three
Stimulate economic farming and profitable agri-business activities
During this reporting period, 294 new survivalist agri-businesses were established through SAP’s motivation and guidance. In addition to these, 177 survivalist businesses were established by the youth. To date, 255 target group members are actively producing for selling. They have identified different avenues for selling. These avenues are:
- Supermarkets
- Pension pay points
- Schools for the teachers and for the feeding scheme,
- Selling within the neighbourhood.

Strategy Four
Identify and capacitate Community Volunteers to assist in implementing the Programme

Community Volunteers (CVs)
During this reporting period, the SAP programme was implemented through 88 Community Volunteers who are actively motivating and encouraging the newly identified members to implement the programme. Of the 88, 29 new CVs were identified during this reporting period, and have attended 3 of the 5 week Community Volunteer Courses at the ACAT Centre.

Community Volunteer Coordinators (CVCs)
During this reporting period, SAP was implemented with and through 16 CVCs, who were coordinating different development activities through the CVs within their communities. All CVCs attended 2 x 1 week refresher courses at the ACAT Centre. However, 2018 has been our last year of implementing through this structure as it started showing some weaknesses that needed to be addressed. Individuals concerned will continue servicing their community but in a different form.

Community Extension Officers (CEOs)
During this reporting period, 6 CEOs have been identified to serve their communities.

Strategy Five
Establish and equip Sustainable Community Structures and partner with them

Groups of Five
100 G5s have been formed during this reporting period and are currently being equipped towards the sustainability of their homesteads.

Savings and Loans Groups
To date ACAT has facilitated the formation of 123 SLGs with a total membership of 1380. Collectively they have saved R2,160,462.

Zone Savings and Implementing Committee (ZSIC/ZIC)
SAP is implementing the programme through 66 ZSIC/ZICs and collectively they ran 354 monthly reporting meetings that were attended by the ACAT SAP extension team. 12 ZSIC representatives attended the one week course at the ACAT training centre.

Nkandla
During this reporting period, SAP continued to mentor the Nkandla community in partnering with them as they implement development activities. They sent representatives to various training courses at the ACAT Centre.
### Summary of Achievements, which also serve as Indicators to measure progress

- **100** New groups have been formed and are currently being equipped and given the appropriate skills they need to develop themselves. This makes up a total of 500 new families that ACAT SAP is impacting.
- **500** New families have been provided with the basic life skills manual and the Bible for them to start their process of development.
- **100** Groups have sent their representatives to the ACAT Centre for the one-week training in Basic Life Skills.
- **500** Baseline surveys, including GPS waypoints, have been completed.
- **444** New home food security plots have been started.
- **149** Additional gardens were developed by the children / youth as SAP motivates them to be productive and responsible.
- **294** New income-generating activities have been started. In addition to these, 177 income generating activities were started by the children / youth.
- **575** One day food security workshops have been facilitated by the SAP extension team where 4265 groups members and potential group members were given agricultural skills relevant to their circumstances.
- **616** One day business workshops have been conducted with 4850 members benefiting from these workshops.
- **2804** Extension visits to group members have been made to motivate and encourage them.
- **59** Local and 42 area exchange visits were conducted, making a total of 101, with a total of 742 members participating.
- **471** Meetings discussed the Causes of Poverty where 3440 group members participated.
- **392** Meetings were held where HIV and AIDS issues were discussed benefiting 3102 members.
- **524** Meetings were held where spiritual training was done benefiting 4244 members.
- **221** CV mentoring meetings / workshops were conducted by the SAP team.
- **62** New Bible study circles were formed.
- **79** Members committed their lives to Jesus.
- **354** ZIC/ZSIC meetings were attended by the SAP team.
- **277** Child protection awareness workshops were facilitated, and 2739 group members participated.
- **160** Group members who are caring for sick family members.
- **120** Child headed families are being cared for by group members.
- **270** Non G5 families, who are sick, were cared for by group members.
- **8** Asilimeni days (Let us farm) were held, where 612 members participated.

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**Gugu Ngema**  
Programme Leader
ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (EDP)

The objective of this Programme is to provide the most vulnerable rural families who demonstrate potential, with the opportunities, passion and capacity:

• To be members of sustainable community structures;
• To achieve self-reliance and sustain an ever-improving quality of life;
• To address the causes of poverty;
• To have a food garden, using sustainable agriculture practices;
• To engage in an income generating activity, using sustainable business practices;
• To create an awareness and understanding of HIV and AIDS with a special focus on causes, symptoms, transmission, avoidance, stigma and management of the virus;
• To promote, encourage and offer an alternate lifestyle and the reconstruction of families, which includes child protection;
• To promote community based support and care;
• To influence, motivate and assist others to do the same in ALL the above objectives.

Climate change has this past year had its harsh impact on many of ACAT’s target group. Some of our communities have not received sufficient rain, and their crops are not doing well. Other areas have suffered heat waves, violent winds and destructive storms, characterised by increasing intensity.

In spite of these setbacks, we are happy to report that the livelihoods of participating families have improved. All the Programme activities carried out in 2018 are summarized below under the headings of the respective strategies, which are designed to achieve the above stated objectives.

Strategy One
Identifying the Target Group and the formation of Entrepreneurial Groups of 5

Forming Groups of 5
There were 137 new groups formed in the EDP in 2018, exceeding the target of 110 groups by 25%! This year, two areas in particular have exceeded their targets by 60%, based on a strong demand among community members living in close proximity to one another and to existing Groups, to benefit now from joining the Programme, rather than having to wait another year. In each case, the extension team are confident that they will be up to
the task of caring for the new Groups. The 2019 targets will be proportionately reduced in these areas, in order to ensure that the quality of support and care for this year’s new members is not compromised.

By the end of 2018, then, the total number of G5 groups formed since inception of the Programme was 2,190 (or 10,950 group members). A Baseline Survey form is completed for each group member joining the Programme, which means that 685 Baseline questionnaires were completed in 2018.

Visits to group members
The CVs paid 3,346 visits to individual group members at their homes in 2018. In addition, the CVCs held 425 Combined Group meetings during the year, with an attendance of 4,280 group members.

Group Training of G5 representatives at Basic Life Skills Courses
There were 6 Basic Life Skills courses held in 2018, attended by 137 G5 representatives from the EDP areas. Five Youth Basic Life Skills courses (Likusasa Lami) were held, attended by a total of 319 young people from families participating in the Programme. Most of these children returned home transformed and empowered, and have once again been some wonderful stories of changed lives, and of gardens and income generating activities (IGAs) started by children.

Of the new participants who joined in 2018, 77% are women, and 44% of new participants are under the age of 40. The average age of a programme participant is 44 years.

Strategy Two
Promote, Teach and Facilitate Household Food Security
Establish new home food security (HFS) gardens

Of the 685 new group members who joined the Programme in 2018, 525 established new gardens (77% of new participants). These gardens, added to the December 2017 figure of 8,554 brings the total of all gardens established since the inception of the Programme to 9,079, which is 82.9% of the 10,950 group members who have joined since inception. In addition, 280 food gardens were started by children of G5 families at their homes during 2018.

HFS Workshops
635 one-day HFS workshops were conducted by Community Volunteers in 2018, attended by 5,009 people.

Asilimeni Workshops
There were 17 Asilimeni (“Let us Farm”) workshops held in 2018, involving 61 zones, and attended by a total of 1,219 people. Altogether, 118 people accepted Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour at the Asilimeni workshops. The “Market Days” which have formed part of these events, have been largely successful, making both seller and buyer aware of what goods and produce can be bought and sold locally.

Strategy Three
Stimulate Economic Activity and Start Income Generating Activities

Start-up of Income Generating Activities (IGAs)
The target for new income generating units for this reporting period was 440, or 80% of the planned number of new participants. The actual number started in 2018 was 459. Although this number is above the target of 440 IGAs for the period, it is only 67% of the 685 new participants who actually joined in 2018. The reason for this under-performance may be due partly to the increasingly tough economic environment, and also to increasing competition and price-cutting by foreign nationals in certain communities. These factors discourage resource-poor entrepreneurs from starting IGAs. This means that a total of 9,518 income generating units have been started since the inception of the Programme, or 87% of the 10,950 group members.

Children of G5 members, including those who attended the Youth Basic Life Skills Courses at the Centre, have started their own income generation activities at home, and encouraged their peers to do the same. During 2018, 354 children started income generating activities. This is a sign of true sustainable development!

Savings and Loans
There are now 123 functioning Savings and Loans Groups (SLGs) in the whole ACAT programme, with a total membership of 1,380, and a total amount saved of R2,160,462. Their growth in capacity is evidenced not only in these increased figures, but also in their ability to facilitate the process of their members acquiring water storage tanks and fences through ACAT’s subsidy scheme.

Business Skills Training
During 2018, 650 one-day income generation workshops were conducted by CVs, with a total of 5,189 people attending.

Sector/Interest Groups
A “sector group” or “interest group” is formed when a few entrepreneurs within the same business sector or
Entrepreneurial Development

with similar business interests, get together to access economies of scale or to enter, or better service, a certain market. In the ACAT programme, this is evidence of entrepreneurial growth. A sector group may involve entrepreneurs from a number of different Groups of 5 who share a common interest.

There were 58 new sector groups formed in 2018, which, when added to the cumulative total of 380 at the end of 2017, make a total of 438 sector groups formed to date. The main challenges for entrepreneurs and small farmers at this level is that of finding:

- Viable markets for their goods and produce, and
- Affordable and reliable transport for their produce to places where buyers and sellers meet.

**Strategy Four**

**Identify and capacitate Community Volunteers to assist in implementing the development Programme**

At the end of 2018 there were 179 CVs submitting regular monthly activity reports. This is fewer than normal, which we attribute to the discontinuation of the annual CV incentive or “thank you” gift, due to complaints that it was too small. Although some CVs continue to attend the CV training courses to acquire their completion certificates, since this makes them “marketable” for the job market, we believe the positive outcome is that those who really are called by God to volunteer their services to their communities, will continue to do so, with or without the “CV Thanks”.

**Community Volunteer (CV) Training**

The training of CVs in 2018 can be summarised as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Courses</th>
<th>Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CV1 (2 courses)</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CV2 (2 courses)</td>
<td>36</td>
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<tr>
<td>CV3 (2 courses)</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CV4 (1 course)</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CV5 (1 course)</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Community Volunteer Co-ordinators (CVCs)**

At the end of 2017 there were 26 CVCs assisting in the Programme, and 14 “subsidised CVs”, who were CVs serving in more than one zone. During 2018, certain CVCs were selected to serve as Community Extension Officers (CEOs), which is the natural progression intended through the programme. During 2018 we decided to be more proactive in facilitating this progression. No new CVCs were appointed in their place, as we are considering changing their name to something which more adequately describes their geographical responsibility. This whole process, including the “subsidized CVs”, was in transition at the year end.

During 2018, CVCs attended 2 CVC training workshops at the ACAT Centre.

**Community Extension Officers (CEO)**

At the beginning of 2018 there was one CEO on the Field Team, together with 8 Extension Co-ordinators (ECs). There were 7 new CEOs appointed during the first half of 2018, being drawn from the existing team of CVCs. Selection was made on the basis of their good work and Godly lifestyle. A further 8 CEOs were appointed in November 2018, now making a total of 16 CEOs altogether, serving the whole ACAT programme. They are a valuable support for their respective Extension Co-ordinators (ECs), whose responsibilities have been extended to more than one area.

**Strategy Five**

**Promote and Facilitate the Establishment of Sustainable Community Structures**

Zone Savings and Implementing Committees (ZSICs)

The Integrated Livelihoods Programme (ILP), which includes both the EDP and SAP, is currently operating in 150 Zones, and there are 110 ZSICs among these Zones. There are now 123 functioning SLGs. It is encouraging to note that, over the past few years, the numbers of ZSICs and SLGs have been steadily increasing in relation to the number of zones. This is indicative of increasing capacity among community structures.

There was one ZSIC training courses held at the Centre in 2018, attended by a total of 20 ZSIC members. During 2018, the EDP Extension Co-ordinators and/or their CEOs/CVCs, attended a total of 546 ZIC/ZSIC meetings.

**Referrals**

Group members continue to be referred for those needs which are outside of the scope of the Programme, for instance those who have already formed sector groups. They have been referred to various Government Departments, and Municipalities, as well as other NGOs and stakeholders operating in the rural areas.

**Networking**

CVs, CVCs and ZSICs continued in 2018 to develop their own networks with local, municipal and national...
Entrepreneurial Development

government, in order to identify and access the various services available to them, and to find ways in which they can benefit their community. Our 2 Child Protection Advisors have regularly attended workshops held by local NGO in order to gain knowledge and relevant information on the issue of child protection. They have in turn passed on this knowledge and information at our quarterly staff meetings.

Exposure Visits
The term "Exposure Visits" or "Cross Visits" refers to opportunities for member-to-member learning, where members of the programme in an area/community visit programme participants in another area/community, with the purpose of learning from one another, or encouraging one another in a particular aspect of the programme. During 2018, 90 local 'member-to-member learning' visits were undertaken between Zones, involving 566 group members, and 56 exposure visits were undertaken between areas, involving 320 entrepreneurs. There have also been 57 CV cross-visits held.

Mainstreaming HIV and AIDS
HIV/AIDS training was included in 427 meetings and one-day workshops held by CVs in 2018, attended by a total of 3,447 people. There were 150 screenings of various DVDs, attended by 1,519 people. During this reporting period, 123 more G5 members began caring for sick family members. G5 members also began caring for 120 families which are not involved in the Programme. In addition, G5 groups or individual group members began caring for or supporting 68 child-headed homes.

Spiritual
We are delighted to report that, during 2018, a total of 735 people committed their lives to Christ, thereby starting the process of true and sustainable transformation in their lives. Another 119 Bible Study groups were formed by Programme participants in 2018.

Conclusion
On the whole, we are pleased with the results reported for 2018. We would have preferred a higher number of IGAs to have been started, but are aware that in the current economic climate, these would-be entrepreneurs face many difficult challenges in their efforts to generate income.

We are very pleased with the way in which our newly-appointed CEOs have embraced their new roles and increased responsibilities. This is for us a "road less travelled" and there are no text-books that explain how this process of sustainable development and empowerment of people should be done!

In closing, we recognise again this year that true sustainable development is not possible without the redeeming work of Jesus Christ in people’s lives. It is only when lives are committed to Him that they are transformed for eternity!

Rick Phipson
Programme Leader
EDUCATION AND TRAINING PROGRAMME

Development of ACAT’s Education and Training Materials
As usual, there were improvements and updates made to various manuals during this reporting period, including the Programme Implementation Manual.

Marketing of ACAT’s Education and Training Materials
No direct marketing activities were undertaken during 2018, but as usual, a selection of manuals was put on display for trainees attending the various training courses held at the Centre. Many “complimentary” manuals have been donated to course participants, based on each individual’s financial circumstances. Sizanani in Vryheid ordered some of our ABET materials in 2018.

ACAT’s Partnership Series
There have been no new manuals compiled in the Partnership Series in 2018.

Spiritual Development Series
Module Two of the Lesson Plans has been DTP’ed in English and is now awaiting translation into isiZulu and isiZulu DTP.

Module Sales
The sales of non-Programme training materials (i.e. ABET, Skills, HIV and Spiritual) in this reporting period amounted to R53,927 for 2,078 modules (about R24,000 less than for the same period last year). The Integrated Livelihoods Programme used 2,126 modules (slightly more than the same period last year), at a value of R127,211. This gives a total sales figure for this reporting period of 4,204 modules at a value of R181,138 as shown below.

Summary of sales

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Qty</th>
<th>Value [R]</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ABET, Skills, HIV &amp; Spiritual (including e-books)</td>
<td>2 078</td>
<td>53 927</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programme series (including e-books)</td>
<td>2 126</td>
<td>127 211</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total:</td>
<td>4 204</td>
<td>181 138</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Rick Phipson
Programme Leader
Nomsa Biyela of Madladlula zone, Ntumeni 1, joined the programme in 2015 because she felt that ACAT would be the right organisation to improve her life since she was in financial trouble. She was in a very abusive marriage with many children. When her husband died, life became even worse. She said she had no money to make ends meet and because of her situation, she had to move back to her parents.

Then her parents rejected her and said they did not have space for such a big family. She had to stay at her neighbour’s homestead until the municipality provided her with a two room wooden plank house. She stayed there with her children until it started to rot.

She then built a small house using cement and stones – at that time she was working on a farm. Then she started borrowing money from loan sharks, unaware that life would become worse because of interest that would accumulate.

While she was in that situation, ACAT came and introduced her to sustainable agriculture. She joined the group, and was lucky to be chosen by her group to attend the Basic Life Skills Course at the ACAT Centre. She committed her life to the Lord and came back motivated and encouraged, and started growing vegetables to feed her family.

Soon she extended her garden with the aim of selling garden produce. Now she sells her produce at the local Municipality. She has fruit trees – bananas, peaches, granadilla, pawpaw, and avocado pears. She attended area workshops where she learned different skills including business skills. She was trained to save to avoid the danger of borrowing from loan sharks. She joined a Savings and Loans group, and with the money from her sales and savings, she bought cement and made enough blocks to build a two-roomed house and a rondavel.

Nomsa says: “I thank God for ACAT’s work. Now I have a strong house and no more shame for myself and my children. Two of my children are at the university, and because of savings, I was able to register them at university.”
Champions

Pastor Smanga Sithole joined ACAT in 2015. He has acquired skills from ACAT’s courses and field staff and now grows vegetables in an expanded garden. He started a profitable block making business as there is a high demand for cement building blocks as people are moving away from mud homes, to build strong block houses. He also started a welding business and makes burglar guards to order. He bought a water tank and fencing material through the savings and profits from his businesses. He attended the Pastor’s course offered by ACAT and has formed four G5s in the area which he is servicing. As a CV he also serves as a chairperson of the area Coordinating Committee.

Thembile Ngcobo joined ACAT as a group member in 2016 when her neighbour invited her. She says: “When I heard the good news that it was possible to find healthy ways to come out of poverty, I immediately looked for friends to make up a G5. My life was boring just sitting at home waiting for my husband to put bread on the table. But now I have seen the benefits of being in the programme. I have learned to think of new ways to make money. Now my home is surrounded with many things that generate money – a vegetable garden, woodlot, and chicken run. I sell surplus vegetables, firewood and indigenous chickens and most days I earn at least R100. This small amount really helps me, as I am able to buy groceries once in a week. At the moment I am not able to save, but I am convinced about the ACAT concept of saving.”

Olwethu Thabethe joined ACAT this year. She was trained by a Community Volunteer and Community Extension Officer. She soon developed an interest in gardening. She started a small vegetable garden, but soon realized that the lack of fencing in her home and community, was hampering her productivity. She then came up with a solution and made a pole garden to protect plants from livestock. Her neighbours were very interested in her ideas, and she would love to form a training team to help teach others in her zone.

Sizakele joined ACAT in 2010 because she wanted to acquire the agricultural skills to produce her own vegetables and look after her small livestock more productively. She says: “Before joining ACAT, I was so desperate. I remember that the ACAT Extension Officer motivated me to at least start by making a vegetable garden so that I could feed my family. Now 8 years later, I produce vegetables and keep small livestock (which I sell) to earn money for my family. My family lifestyle has improved because whenever we need cash, I sell some sheep to get whatever amount I need. I have also got a loan through our savings group which enabled me to buy building material to improve my home”.

Mendy Ngidi was a scholar who attended a Youth Basic Life Skills Course at the ACAT Centre in 2017. She returned home very motivated about farming, and established her own vegetable garden. She now has developed a nursery, and sells seedlings to other G5 members. She says: “I am so thankful to God that I can make money from my own garden”.

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Well done to all who have worked so hard to achieve these amazing results.

And to those who have supported ACAT – thank you for making a difference in the lives and communities of KwaZulu-Natal!