INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT PLAN AS A CATALYSTTO ENHANCE SMALL SCALE FARMINGAT WINNIE MADIKIZELA MANDELA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

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Abstract - Farming, particularly small scale farming, remains one of the mainstays of food security throughout the world. It ensures better nutrition and reduction of starvation. The South Africa constitution (1996), Section27 enshrines the right to food. At local government level, municipal's Integrated Development Plan should have clear strategies, plans and actions to promote small scale farming to improve the economic and social status of the community. It is evident that the increased local government support for small scale farming through Integrated Development Plan enhances production and farming outcomes. The paper focuses on the role in which municipalities could use their Integrated Development Plan to reduce food insecurities through the promotion of small-scale farming. The study adopted a qualitative research method to collect data from local farmers at Winnie Madikizela Mandela Local Municipality. Moreover, an extensive literature was also conducted to highlight the importance of farming and the role of integrated development plans towards farming. The findings prove that there is a need for municipalities to support local farming. However, challenges such as corruption, political dynamics, and lack of necessary skills, make it difficult for this support to succeed. This study, therefore, recommends external centralisation of powers of local municipalities to strengthen this support, and the establishment of an independent committee to oversee the process.

Keywords - Integrated Development Plans, Winnie Madikizela Mandela Local Municipality, Small-Scale Faming, Support.