



maintenance centre for each garden, thus ensuring that the gardens do not fail from a lack of expertise or poor technical facilities.

### **DEVELOPMENT OF WATER SOURCES.**

Assistance has been provided to or has continued with the development of twelve water sources. Essentially dependent on the suitability of the area, these range from water harvesting tanks and weirs, sand abstraction schemes and tube wells to boreholes and piped water schemes. Each involves a community and where ever possible the nearest workshop group has participated, primarily as a training session, preparatory to members undertaking such work for themselves.

### **FOOD SECURITY.**

Following a reasonable harvest in many areas we were able to swap or purchase a variety of indigenous small grain cereals, particularly bulrush millet. We have further purchased an "improved" open pollinated variety of sorghum. Both millet and sorghum seed will be either sold or multiplied particularly in the traditional small grain growing areas where we mainly work. However this seed will also be made available to farmers in areas which frequently suffer from inadequate rainfall but are areas which no longer grow the more drought tolerant small grains. Excessive bird damage, changes in taste preference and the extra work associated with small grains will however be working against us.

### **FOOD PROCESSING.**

With the better cereal harvest the programmes service / maintenance work which is regularly carried out on sixteen grinding mill units has been most worthwhile. The combined de-hulling and milling units considerably ease the labour and tedium which rural women have to put into the preparation of the daily meal. There are virtually no opportunities for the owners of rural based engines to get units serviced with any reliability. By providing this service, which the owners pay for and where possible, by involving the workshop groups we are able to keep these food processing units operational to the advantage of rural women. Requests have been received for the programme to service a further seven mills. Before we undertake work on too many units however, we would like to pass the servicing of some units, either on to workshop groups or onto the better operators.

### **NETWORKING.**

We have continued to work with a number of other organisations, particularly the Salvation Army at the hospital in Tshelanyemba. We have assisted with distributing drought relief food to schools in the District for the hospital and with them are involved in water development work and the development of an irrigated garden which is being used as a plot for training in permaculture. We have further links with the Catholic Church and the Anglican Church. Organisations we are involved with are; YWCA, ORAP, Hlekweni, ENDA, Women's Institute and ITDG.

Staff have attended meetings or training sessions involving ITDG, Warwick University, OXFAM, Agritex/GTZ. FAKT/GTZ/Ministry of Water. UNICEF (Namibia) and TFSR.

### **FEASIBILITY STUDIES AND SURVEYS.**

This year with the assistance of a university student from Sussex University in the U.K. we have been able to develop a number of questionnaires to better assess the potential of a locality to support a workshop and of a group to operate one. Information yielded to date has been most interesting and beneficial to the programme. Hopefully such data will assist in both the selection and the support we can offer interested groups.

### **BUSINESS MANAGEMENT.**

This is presently the Achilles heal of the programme but is a factor which is of great concern to us all and one which we will strive to set right.

### **TRANSPORT.**

Thankfully at the commencement of 1993 the programme was able at long last to acquire new vehicles which were both immanently suitable and dependable for the support work we undertake. Through a drought relief programme we now have an 8 tonne truck for distribution and general haulage work. A double cab pick-up for general and personnel transport, a regular pick-up for general light work and a 4x4 pick-up particularly for the longer journeys on remote roads. The older vehicles which had cost so much to put in working order were kept in an effort to "save" the new vehicles, this has hardly been the case and they must now be sold. At any one time three or four of the vehicles are involved in extension work but we would now, to encourage and build on group experience, particularly appreciate a mini-bus to allow us to transport new and interested groups to visit and discuss with established groups.

### **STAFF.**

We are again seven members of staff:

|                             |                              |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Douglas Dube                | Programme Promoter           |
| Stephen Hussey              | Programme Co-ordinator       |
| Noble Moyo                  | Water & Technical Supervisor |
| Bonnie Mxotshwa             | Programme driver             |
| Donald Ncube                | Production Worker            |
| Thelma Ntini                | Community Worker             |
| Jabulani Sibanda            | Mechanic                     |
| unfortunately we have lost: | Business Advisor             |
|                             | Programme Assistant          |

Hopefully we will be able to replace these people and also to fill the still vacant positions of:

|                            |
|----------------------------|
| Product Development worker |
| Water Resource Worker      |

Part-time staff are:

Inez Hussey

Christopher Mennell

We also have a watchman  
and a trainee / willing person

Secretary

Accountant.

Jabulani Maseko

Mandlankosi Tshabalala.

### **CENTRAL OFFICES.**

The home premises of the Programme Co-ordinator have been out-grown and a sub-division has been purchased which over time will be developed as a central facility. We expect to be renting some temporary workshop and secure storage space during 1993 / 94.

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