

The ComMark Trust is a dynamic organisation with the objective of alleviating poverty in the Southern African region.

We work with Governments, the private sector and partner organisations throughout the Southern African Development Community (SADC). ComMark supports policy development, regulatory impact assessment, institutional support and operational initiatives that improve the operation of commodity and service markets for the benefit of the poor in Southern Africa.



ComMark has a number of exciting positions to fill in the Eastern Cape. In appropriate circumstances, the Trust is willing to negotiate secondment arrangements with present employers.

THE EASTERN CAPE AND UMZIMVUBU RED MEAT PROJECTS

Promising opportunities exist for emerging and communal cattle farmers in the Eastern Cape to increase their income by making more extensive use of formal red meat marketing channels. Through the Eastern Cape Red Meat Project (currently operating in Amathole and O.R. Tambo District Municipalities) and, in partnership with WBHO Construction, the Umzimvubu Red Meat Project (operating in Alfred Nzo District Municipality), ComMark is engaged in helping farmers to take active advantage of these opportunities by:

- enabling farmers to understand the structure, operation and requirements of formal red meat markets
- developing marketing channels that will increase their participation in formal red meat markets
- improving the age, health and breeding of the cattle that they market.

To strengthen its capacity to work with farmers and other important role-players, the projects wish to recruit the services of:

1. Animal Health Specialist

The position may be based in either of the projects' offices - in King William's Town and Mount Frere - although the incumbent may reside elsewhere and will involve extensive travel within the province.

Key Performance Areas

- Building and maintaining efficient animal health systems that improve herd survival patterns and reduce the impact of erosion diseases
- Providing comprehensive animal health support to the projects' custom feeding programmes
- Developing and implementing systems and programmes improve herd composition, age profile and quality
- Assessing the condition of livestock to be offered for sale and examining abnormalities that may impair price
- Designing an animal health component for and supporting the projects' livestock auction programmes
- Planning and implementing a sustainable 'paravet' programme to help improve the health of livestock
- Setting up and operating a sound record-keeping system and submitting monthly reports to ComMark.

Qualifications

- Bachelor of Veterinary Science or equivalent tertiary qualification.

Experience

- At least 3 years of post-graduate field experience, including work with large or small farm livestock
- Familiarity with the design and operation of record-keeping and administrative systems related to veterinary health care
- Demonstrated ability to lead, motivate and manage small teams of staff successfully

Competitive remuneration packages are offered, commensurate with the successful candidates' qualifications and experience. General information on the operation of ComMark is available from the ComMark website (www.commark.org) or from Mike de Klerk (mike@commark.org).

Applications, in the form of a letter of motivation, accompanied by a detailed CV and current contact information for 3 referees, should be sent to rozale@commark.org. Please make it clear in the letter which position you are applying for. Open-dated application process.