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## **Leadership development programme launched**

As one of the first companies in the agricultural environment to offer a leadership development programme for South African land reform projects, the Capespan Group has launched the Capespan Academy.

Focusing on mainstreaming and building capacity of previously disadvantaged individuals on land reform projects, the Capespan Academy has established a partnership with the AgriSeta. The latter has provided funding of R4,5 million for training over a two- to three-year period.

Under the leadership of Abraham Moitse, Academy activities have commenced with pilot projects in the Western, Eastern and Northern Cape.

Said Capespan empowerment executive Angelo Petersen, "We intend to be a human resource development leader, entrenching the Capespan promise of delivery. Objectives are to reduce the skills gap between management and general workers; develop previously disadvantaged managers; train existing farmers as mentors to aspiring black farmers; and create a human resource model for future land reform projects. Achieving these goals will contribute to enhancing the quality of life and standard of living of farm working communities.

"Through the Academy's work, Capespan will contribute towards sustainability in farming communities, the industry and the country. Productivity and profitability on the farms will increase and service standards improved further. In short, the programme will add value all-round."

In its first year the Capespan Academy will serve only those farms in the process of empowering their workers and which are managed by Capespan Farm Management Services, as well as projects administered under the Capespan land reform programme. The Academy offices are based at Applethwaite farm in the Grabouw area of the Western Cape.

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