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WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS

In order to increase participation of women in the mainstream economy, several information dissemination sessions in all sectors of the economy are conducted e.g. LEDET hosted a seminar on "Women and the Green Economy", with the purpose of increasing awareness among women entrepreneurs of the business opportunities in the Green Economy.

AGRO-PROCESSING

Limpopo developed its agro-processing strategy in 2012 with the aim of transforming the agricultural sector from being a raw produce of agricultural products into a commercialisation sector. The strategy also recognises that small holder and emerging farmers need to be supported to be able to compete profitably along their entire commodity value chains.

Three thousand emerging tomato growers were assisted with the formation of the Limpopo Tomato Growers Association (LTGA) in order to improve their bargaining power and to take advantage of economies of scale within the agricultural value-chain. The LTGA has in turn established the Agro-processors of Limpopo Ltd as its commercial arm and was supported by the Department of Agriculture to acquire 51 percent equity shares in the Neotech Tomato Processing Plant in Tzaneen.

"SMALL HOLDER AND EMERGING FARMERS NEED TO BE SUPPORTED TO BE ABLE TO COMPETE PROFITABLY ALONG THE ENTIRE COMMODITY VALUE CHAINS."

PRODUCTION AND PROCESSING

Two tea estates in the Vhembe and Mopani
Districts were targeted with the aim of activating
the rural economy and to keep the industry alive.
The Tshivhase Tea Estate belongs to the Tshivhase
community and is located in the Vhembe District.

The Tshivhase Tea Estate has been successfully developed and has produced the branded Midi Tea, which is now being sold at national retail supermarkets and provides between 2 500 – 3 000 jobs to community members during the production season.

AGRI-PARKS PROGRAMME

The Limpopo Department of Agriculture and Rural Development identified key Agricultural Development Zones (ADZ) in Limpopo, taking into account available resources, competitive