

BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT

BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

CONSULTATION FOR THE PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF FUMANI ORCHARD PLANTATION AT KA-DINGA VILLAGE(Farm Ireland 210 LT) 5KM EAST OF THE TOWN MALAMULELE WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF COLLINS CHABANE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY,LIMPOPO PROVONCE.



**BIOMENTAL
SERVICES**

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LIST OF ACRONYMS:

ACRONYM:	DESCRIPTION:
AEL	Air Emissions License in terms of NEM: AQA
A&IPs	Affected and Interested Parties
BA	Basic Assessment (process or report)
BID	Background Information Documents
CARA	Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act (Act 43 of 1983) as amended
COP	Codes of Practice
DWS	Department of Water Affairs and Sanitation
EA	Environmental Authorisation in terms of NEMA
EAP	Environmental Assessment Practitioner
ECA	Environmental Conservation Act (Act 73 of 1989) as amended
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment (process or report)
EIA Regs.	Environmental Impact Assessment Regulation published under NEMA
EIS	Ecological Importance and Sensitivity
EMF	Environmental Management Framework
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GIS	Geographical Information Systems
GN	General Notice (issued under an Act, providing notice or information)
GNR	General Notice Regulation (issued under an Act, providing instruction)
HA	Hectors
IAIA SA	International Association of Impact Assessment South Africa
IDP	Integrated Development Plan
IWUL	Integrated Water Use Licence
IWULA	Integrated Water Use Licence Application
IWWMP	Integrated Water and Waste Management Plan
LED	Local Economic Development
NAEIS	National Atmospheric Emissions Inventory System
NEA	National Energy Act, Act 34 of 2008
NEM: AQA	National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act (act 59 of 2008) as amended

NEM:BA	National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act (Act 10 of 2004) as amended
NEM: PAA amended	National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act (Act 57 of 2003) as amended
NEM: PAA amended	National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act (Act 57 of 2003) as amended
NEM: WA	National Environmental Management: Waste Act (Act 39 of 2004) as amended
NEMA	National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998) as amended
NHRA	National Heritage Resources Act (Act No. 25 of 1999) as amended
NPAES	National Protected Area Expansion Strategy
NWA	National Water Act (Act 35 of 1998) as amended
PES	Present Ecological State (usually followed by category A-F)
PPP	Public Participation Process
Rod	Record of Decision (for specific application)
RWQO	Resource Water Quality Objectives
SACNASP	South African Council for Natural Scientific Professions
SAHRA	South African Heritage Resource Agency
SAMRAD	South African Mineral Resources Administration System
SANBI	South African National Biodiversity Institute
SANS	South African National Standard (followed by standard number)
SAWIS	South African Waste Information System
SDP	Spatial Development Plan
SEMA	Specific Environmental Management Acts
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
SPLUMA	Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act (Act No.16 of 2013)
StatsSA	Statistics South Africa
WMA	Water Management Area
WML	Waste Management Licence in terms of NEM: WA
WUL	Water Use Licence

1. WHAT DOES THIS DOCUMENT TELL YOU?

The document aims to provide you, as an Interested and/or Affected Party(I&AP),with information regarding the Environmental Authorisation process being undertaken for the proposed establishment of Fumani Orchard Planatation.Any person,company,authority or other entity that might be directly or indirectly affected by the proposed activity is invited to register as an Interested or Affected Party(I&AP).This includes, but is not limited to landowners,tenants,municipality and provincial authority, traditional authority, interest groups, Non-Government Organisations and conservation groups.

This document details how you can become involved in the project, receive information, and raise any issues of concern or interest regarding the proposed establishment. The sharing of information forms the basis of the Public Participation Process (PPP) and offers you an opportunity to become actively involved in the project from onset. Input from I&AP ensures that all potential environmental issues are considered within the context of the proposed Fumani Orchard Plantation.

2. STUDY AREA

The study area is situated 5km east of the town of Malamulele at Ka-Dinga Village within the Jurisdiction of Collins Chabane Local Municipality, Limpopo Province. (Refer to *Appendix A: Project Locality*). The Study area is located at Farm Ireland 210 LT of SG Code (TOLT0000000002100000).

3. SITE DISCRPTION

The site is situated 1.9 km eastward of the R81 road and traversed by D3647 road (an un-surfaced road) connecting with R81 road. The study site is largely vacant land utilised for communal grazing of livestock (Cattles, goats, sheep). The topography of the study area is relatively flat sloping down to a gentle valley bottom in which matangari drainage line runs (west to eastwards). The soil type is as a result of Soutpansberg group of sandstones and smaller amount of conglomerate, shale and mostly basalt. The study area consists of deep sands to shallower sandy litho-sols, with a few limited areas displaying B-horizons and soil property (*Nesbitt,2014*).

The study area falls within the greater savanna biomes, commonly known as the bush veld with some small pockets of grassland and forest biomes. The most dominate species observed at the study area; Mopane shrubs(*colophospermum*) occurs on the eastern end along the D3647 road. The *colophospermum mopane* are 1-1.5 m tall, very limited and other woody species are present. This type of vegetation is restricted to low-lying sodic soil causing it to be ecologically sensitive. Other observed plant species includes, Jakalberry (*diospyros mespiliformis*) and other bush shrubs.

4. PROJECT DISCRPTION

The proposed establishment entails the clearing of 10ha of indigenous vegetation for the establishment of Fumani Orchard Plantation at Ka-Dinga Village within the Jurisdiction of Collins Chabane Municipality, Limpopo Province. This activity has triggered listed activity 27 of GNR 983 of 2014 in terms of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)Regulations 2014 promulgated under the National Environmental Management Act,1998 (Act no 107 of 1998) as amended. R983-Activity 27 “*The clearance of an area of 1 hecter or more, but less than 20 hecters of indigenous vegetation*”

5. PROJECT NEED AND DESIRABILITY

The proposed Fumani Orchard plantation will provide economic stimulation within the Collins Chabane Local Municipality, through demands of goods and services associated with increased agricultural production. The establishment will also make a substantial contribution to the Collins

Chabane Municipality rates base, improving the capacity for service delivery to residence in the respective municipality and also make contribution to South Africa gross domestic product (GDP), and contributes significantly to the country tax base and South African food security. It is envisaged that additional permanent or temporal employment opportunities will be created and will assist in skills development to local communities. The employment opportunities to be generated at Fumani Orchard will improve the buying power of individuals employees in the local community, which in turn, may boast the local economy directly or indirectly and also improves the livelihood of the community.

The Collins Chabane Municipality IDP(2018/2019) highlighted and defined key sectors as Economic Growth Strategies (EGS) with potential to grow Local Economic Development (LED) in the Municipal area. The agricultural sector is identified as a key sector that can provides opportunity for economic growth and employment for the citizens within the municipality area.

Furthermore, the establishment of Fumani Orchard plantation will not only positively impact on a socio-economic level, but also transforms the ecological settings of the proposed area. One of the major ecological concerns in rural areas is deforestation as the main contributor to land degradation, soil erosion, land infertility exacerbated by environmental unfriendly human practices. It is noted that majority of households at Ka-Dinga relies on firewood and grass harvesting for domestic purposes. The demand for these resources for day-to-day needs have a significant impact on the baseline line environment. The establishment of Fumani Orchard plantation will result in optimal land-use through best agricultural practices and methods for production and the protection of the ecosystem by reducing further degradation and erosion. Allocation of pierces of land in respect to the proposed application of 10ha at Farm Ireland 210 LT will assist in curtailing and reduce land degradation, deforestation and erosion.

6. POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT

The potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed establishment have been identified. As part of the Basic Assessment Report, these potential impacts will be assessed through the following specialist studies:

SPECIALIST FIELD	ORGANISATION
Ecological Impact Assessment	Max xox (Pty) Ltd
Heritage Impact Assessment	Vuako Solutions (Pty) Ltd

7. BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT

A Basic Assessment Report (BAR) is an effective planning and decision-making tool which allows for the identification of potential environmental consequences of a proposed activity, and its management through the planning process. In terms of the National Environmental Management Act (NO.107 of 1998) and associated Regulations (GNR R983 of 2014) there are listed activities which may not commence without environmental authorisation. Listed activity triggered by proposed clearing of 10ha of indigenous vegetation is detailed below:

LISTED NOTICE	ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION OF LISTED ACTIVITY
GNR 983	27	The clearance of an area of 1 hectore or more, but less than 20 hecters of indigenous vegetation”

8. BIOMENTAL SERVICES AS INDEPENDENT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER

Biomental Services (Pty) Ltd is an environmental consultant that provides consultation services on various range of environmental aspects in mining, construction, renewable energy and agricultural sector. Through strategic partnerships we offer business sustainability solutions to our client. We help clients manage environmental impacts, and move forward in their business with the assurance they need. We are full-service Environmental Management Company that partner with clients to offer independent services and specialized business solutions that improves quality, safety and productivity, reduce risk and facilitate more sustainable and environmentally friendly operations.

Biomental Services has grown apace with the increased market for environmental advisory services in South Africa, our principles area of expertise lies in assessing the risk and impacts of the development process on the natural, social and economic environment through, among other instruments, the environmental impact assessment (EIA) process. We believe in offering these services, we contribute meaningfully towards sustainable development.

We adopt a scientific approach to our studies, underpinned by an informed and holistic view of the environment and a pragmatic approach to sustainable development. This results in deliverables that are robust, defensible and credible. This is important for both the development and EIA processes, and as a result, the outputs of our studies demonstrate objectivity, sincerity and professionalism. We believe that a balanced between development and environmental protection can be achieved by skilful and careful planning and that our outputs reflect these. Our experience in mining and construction advisory services have contributed to deep understanding of the environment and social challenges associated with the establishing and operation of facilities and infrastructure in the emerging market

Biomental Services have been appointed as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioners (EAP), responsible for the completing the environmental authorisation and Basic assessment process.

9. PROJECT PHASES

The project will consist this 4 major phase:

- 1) Pre-consultation with the competent authority
- 2) Circulation of Background information Documents for public participation process
- 3) Draft Basic Assessment Report; and
- 4) Final Basic Assessment Report and Environmental Management Programme (EMP)

10. WHAT IS YOUR ROLE?

If you consider yourself an I&AP for the proposed project, we encourage you to make use of the opportunity created by the Public Participation Process to become involved and raise any issue or concern which affect and /or interest you.

By completing and submitting the accompanying registration form, we will ensure that you are registered as an I&AP for the project, and that your concerns or queries regarding the project will be noted. We will also ensure that you are provided with future information pertaining to the project as well as the availability of the draft and final Basic Assessment Report (BAR) for review purposes.

11. COMMENTS AND QUERIES

Please direct all comments, queries or issues to:

Tiyiselani Macebele

33 c/n Pixley ka same & Jenne

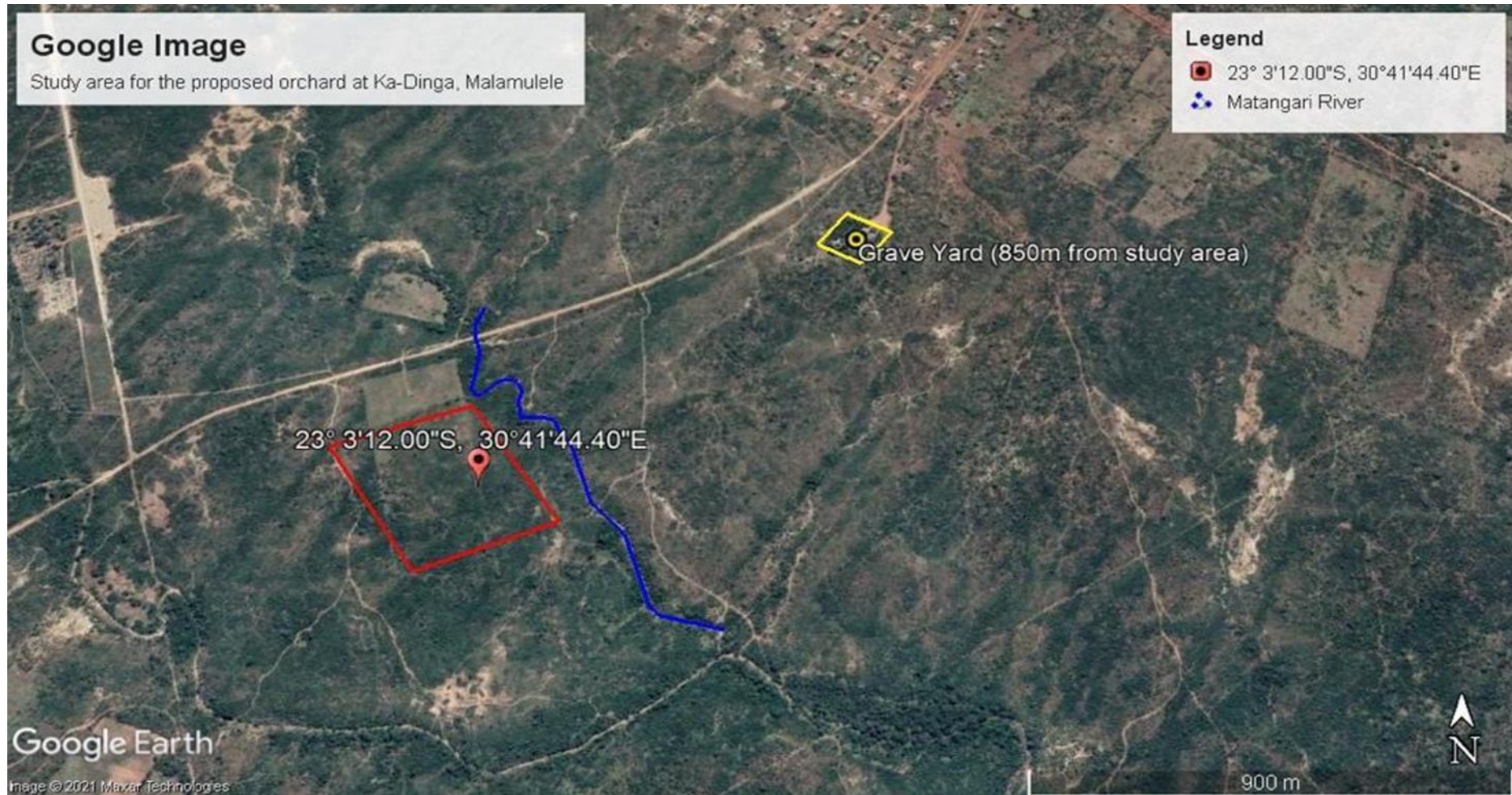
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Tel: 068 321 4288

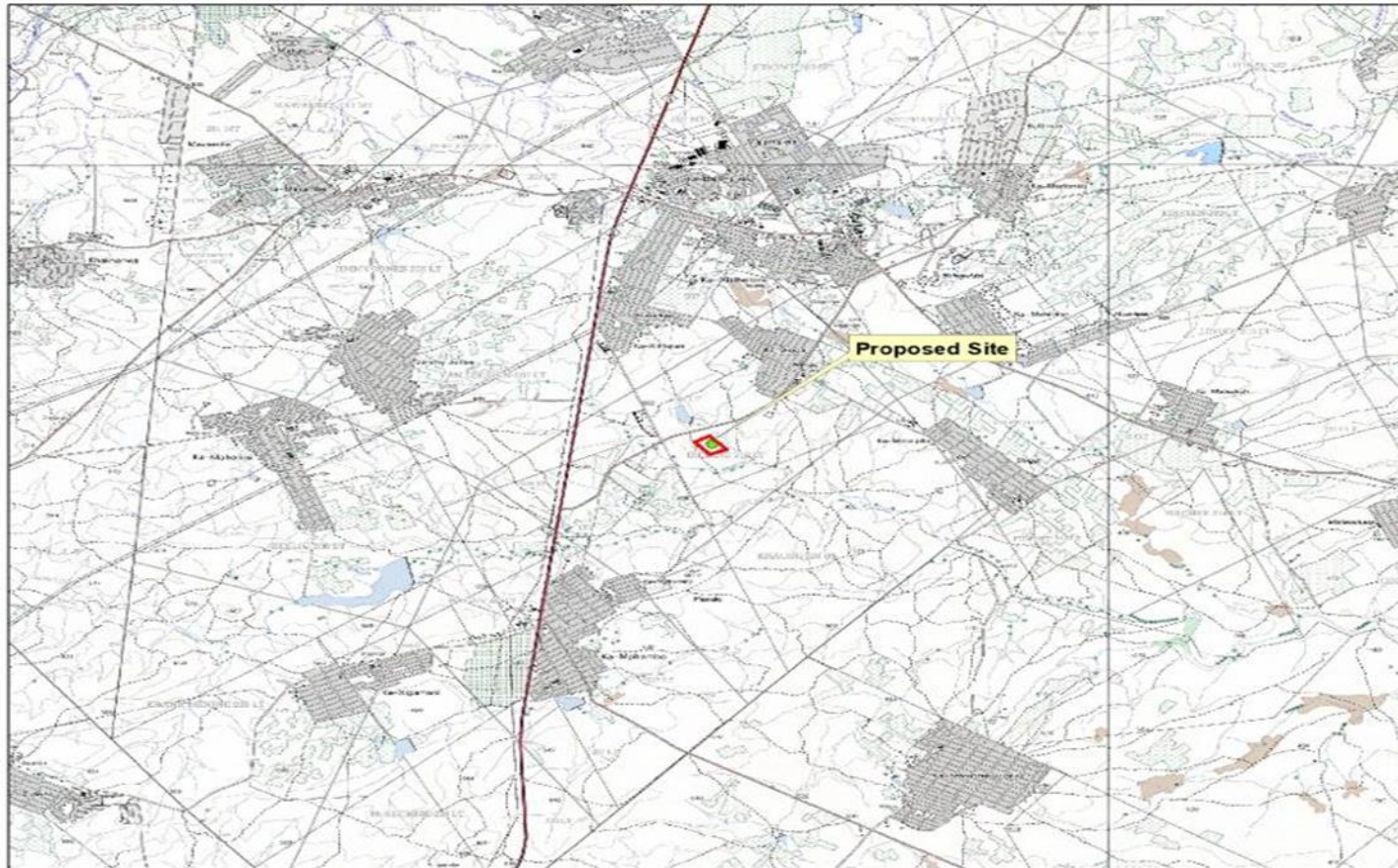
Email: macebele.tiyiselani@yahoo.co.nz

APPENDIX A: PROJECT LOCALITY MAP (Google image)



APPENDIX B: PROJECT LOCALITY MAP(Topographic)

Locality Map for the proposed orchard development at Ka-Dinga village, Malamulele on the farm Ireland 210 LT



SG CODE: T0LT0000000021000000 Farm Name: Ireland 210 LT

LEGEND

Ration of Freeway, National Route	
Arterial Road	
Main Road	
Secondary Road; Bench Mark	
Other Road; Bridge	
Track and Hiking Trail	
Railway; Station or Siding	
Other Railway; Tunnel	
Embankment; Cutting	
Power Line	
Built-up Area (High, Low Density)	
Buildings; Farm	
Post Office; Police Station; Store	
Place of Worship; School; Hotel	
Fence; Wall	
Windpump; Monument	
Communication Tower	
Mine Dump; Excavation	
Triangulation Station; Marine Beacon	
Lighthouse and Marine Light	
Cemetery; Grave	
International Boundary and Beacon	
Provincial Boundary	
Proscribed Area	
Perennial River	
Intermittent Water	
Non-Perennial River	
Dry Water Course	
Dry Pan	
Marsh and Vlei	
Iceberg (above ground)	
Water Tower; Reservoir; Water Farm	
Coastal Rocks	
Prominent Rock Outcrop	
Excision; Sand	
Woodland	
Cultivated Land	
Orchard or Vineyard	
Recreation Ground	
Row of Trees	

Project Location
 30°41'44.4"E 23°3'12"S

Map Scale:
 1 centimeter = 0.5 kilometers



APPENDIX C: REGISTRATION AND COMMENT FORM

BASIC ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED FUMANI ORCHARD PLANTATION LOCATED 5KM EAST OF THE TOWN MALAMULE AT KA-DINGA VILLAGE IN THE LIMPOPO PROVINCE

REGISTRATION AND COMMENT FORM

KINDLY COMPLETE THIS FORM IN DETAIL AND RETURN IT TO :

Telephone: 068 321 4288

Email: macebele.tiyiselani@yahoo.co.nz

Address: 33 c/n Pixley ka same& Jenni street

De Aar

7000

PERSONAL DETAILS:

Title First Name.....

Surname.....

Email.....

Telephone..... Fax.....

Organisation(If applicable).....

Capacity(e.gChairperson,member etc).....

Physical Address:.....

Town.....Code.....

Postal Address.....

Town.....Code.....

1. what is your main area of interest with regard to the proposed establishment?

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2. Do you have any point of concern or support regarding the proposed Yes/NO establishment?
If "yes", please briefly list in point form

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3. Are there any additional stakeholders whom you feel should be consulted Yes/no in regard to the proposed establishment?
If "yes" please list their names and contacts below

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