

Indigenous Knowledge Systems (IKS) and Food Security in South Africa: Is Land Reform a Prerequisite?

H. M. Tirivangasi and D. Tayengwa

University of Limpopo, South Africa

KEYWORDS Indigenous Farming Systems. Environment. Land Access. Sustainability. Local Communities

ABSTRACT This is a historical investigation on the role of land reform in the application of indigenous knowledge systems (IKS) for food security in South Africa. The study used secondary sources to examine inequality in land access. The Basotho and Maolosi agriculture projects were used as case studies to show that given access to land local, communities could practice their indigenous farming systems for sustainable food security. The use of IKS in agriculture was also exemplified in animal health practices. It was recommended that land reforms and IKS need to be taken seriously in policy development and implementation. Existing agricultural projects which are IKS-based should be supported to be best practices.