

# Livelihood aspects - Opportunities to optimise on livestock development activities



# Introduction to SaveAct 1 / 3

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- ❖ SaveAct is a registered non-profit organisation with a vision to *‘empower poor and vulnerable groups through social and economic mobilisation to become drivers of positive change’*
- ❖ SaveAct achieves this vision by building on an existing savings culture by training mainly women in poor rural South Africa to form savings groups, become financially literate and develop *enterprise opportunities*
- ❖ The model helps to *create and keep* wealth within communities, as opposed to resorting to the use of exploitative loan-sharks and less accessible formal systems

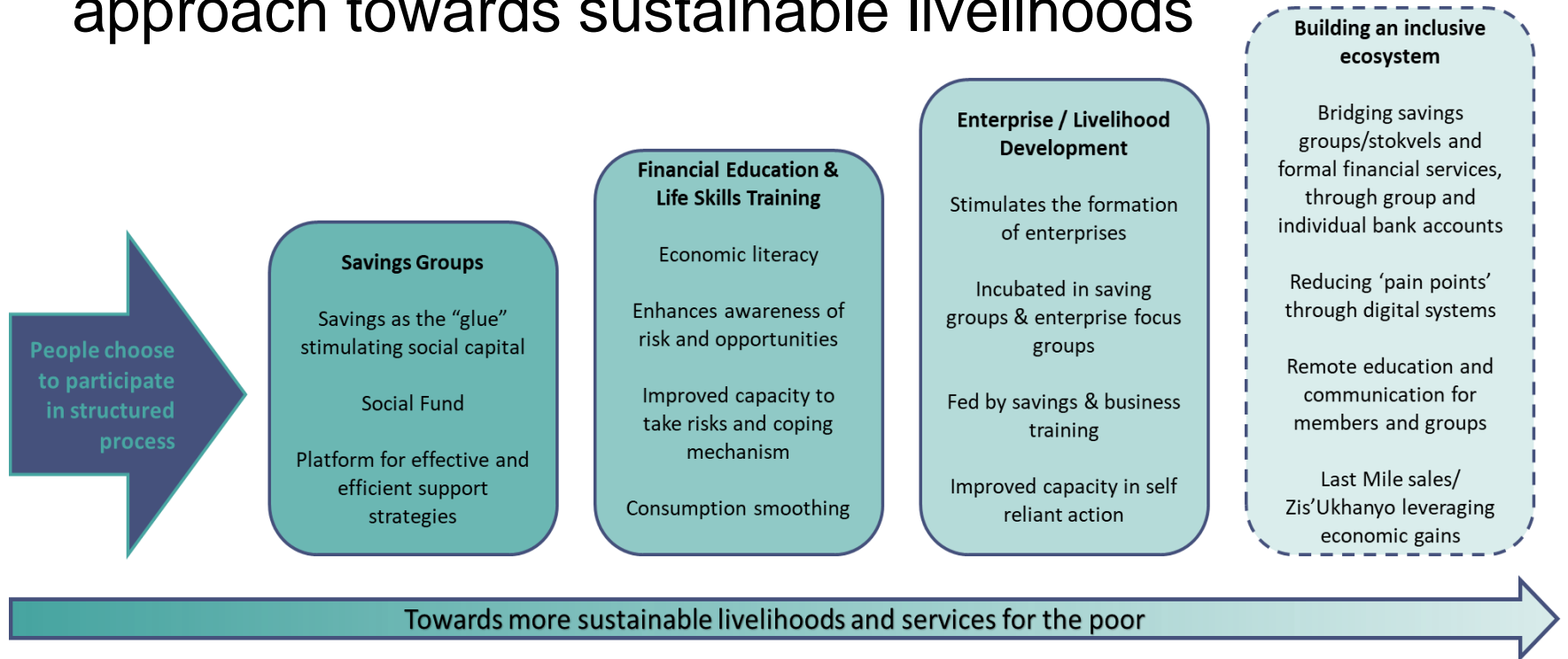
# Introduction to SaveAct 2 / 3

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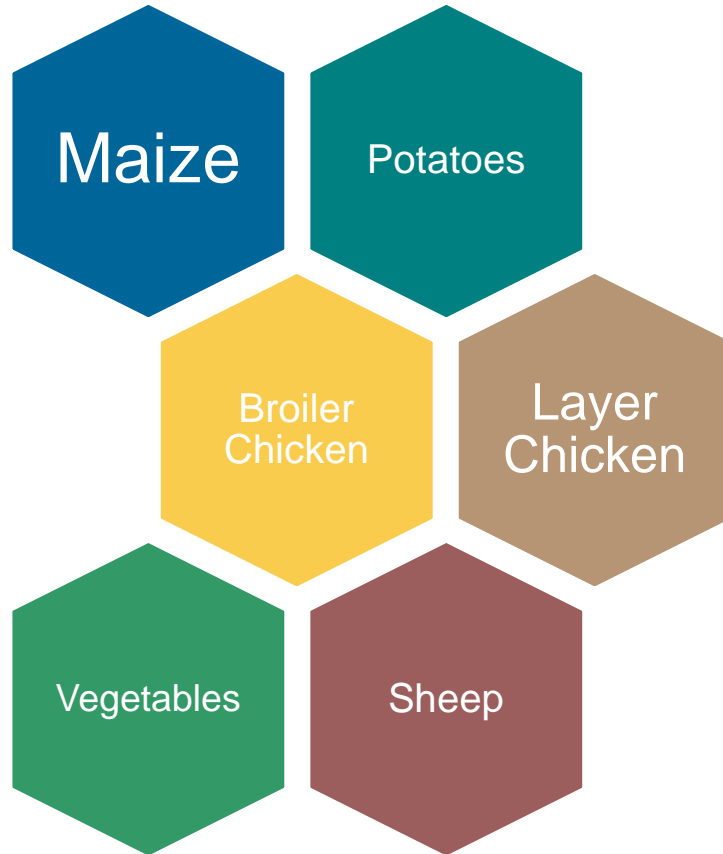
- ❖ As of mid-May 2017, SaveAct has over 60,000 members who:
  - ❖ Save, on average, R200m each year
  - ❖ Grow their capital by 33% and share out approximately R290m to each other, once a year
  - ❖ Operate social insurance funds to assist households in times of bereavement or crisis
  - ❖ Provide loans to members to enable them to afford education for their children, improve their living conditions and invest in farming and other businesses

# Introduction to SaveAct 3 / 3

## ❖ SaveAct's four pillars of operations - a stepped-approach towards sustainable livelihoods



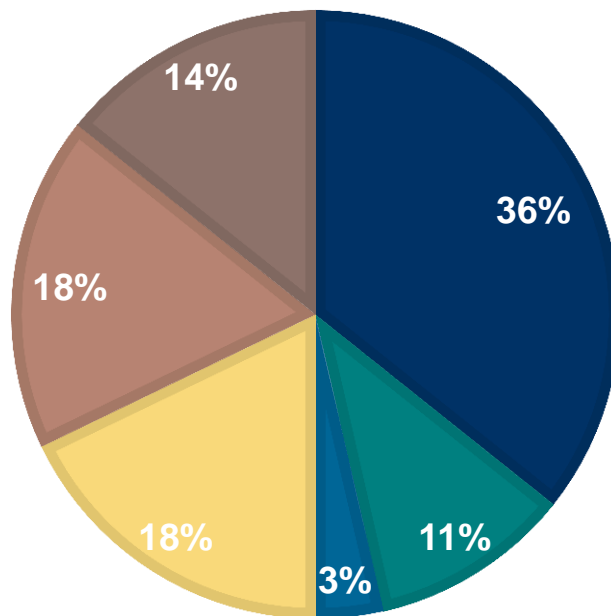
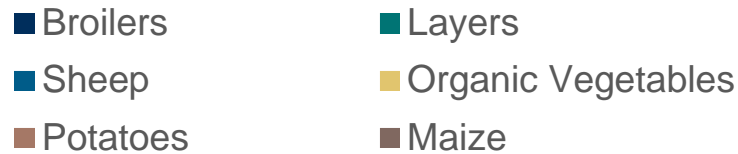
# Enterprise/ livelihoods development at SaveAct 1 / 2



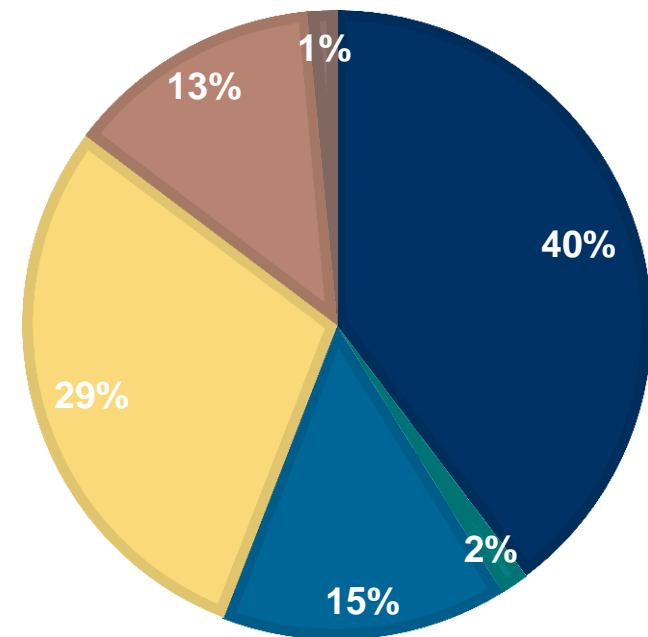
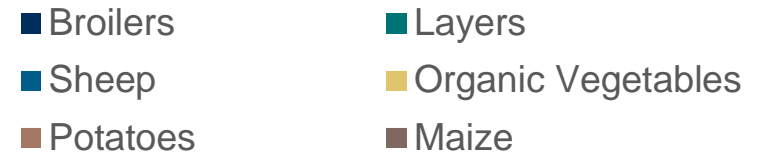
- ❖ SaveAct supports savings group members with an interest in enterprise and household livelihood improvement to form enterprise focus groups
- ❖ *Participatory value-chain analysis* is undertaken to provide a detailed understanding of economic opportunities and limitations in that sub-region

# Enterprise/ livelihoods development at SaveAct 2/2

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# Opportunities to optimise livestock development activities (1 / 4)

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1. Encouraging farmers to re-invest savings and a portion of their share out in their livestock enterprises
  - ❖ Farmers use capital/share outs from savings groups to invest in farming and profit in a short space of time
  - ❖ Broilers are an example – high demand in rural areas and quick production cycle relative to other enterprises ( $\pm$  6-8 weeks)
  - ❖ A number of members have either re-invested back into broiler production or used a portion to invest in other livestock enterprises like sheep



# Opportunities to optimise livestock development activities (2/4)



## 2. Bulk buying of agricultural inputs

- ❖ SaveAct has recently (Nov 2017) launched it's Zis'Ukhanyo Kumfama bulk initiative which supports bulk buying of agric. inputs, making farming more viable and profitable
- ❖ All livestock enterprises are catered for and farmers are able to source all the inputs they need at an affordable price
- ❖ Suppliers have bought into the programme and offer guaranteed discount to SaveAct of between 5-10% on bulked up items
- ❖ Groups can leverage additional discount by grouping together and making bulking purchases (SaveAct assists in arranging transport)
- ❖ Broiler 25, 50 and 100 combo packs (incl chicks, feed and vaccines) are most popular livestock items
- ❖ Key suppliers: EG Vets, RCL Foods, TWK, Underberg Forge





# Opportunities to optimise livestock development activities (3/4)



## 3. Harnessing the benefits of a digital ecosystem

- ❖ Communication with our farmers is vital – SaveAct is able to send text messages on enterprise activities to farmers via CoreTalk
- ❖ SaveAct implementing Connected Farmer (GIZ/Vodacom) which is a single system that will allow registration of and profiling and communication with all farmers. Once implemented this will allow SaveAct to provide information on:
  - ❖ Access to new markets - linkage to formal value chains – both on the input and off-taking side
  - ❖ Access to relevant information - including weather- and market information and good agriculture practice guidelines (this is provided through a companion application known as Agrisuite Online).
  - ❖ (in the future) Access to financial services – focusing on cashless value distribution (vouchers) and e-receipting

# Opportunities to optimise livestock development activities (4/4)

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4. Leveraging mutually beneficial partnerships with like minded organisations
  - ❖ SaveAct supports poultry and small livestock enterprises – gap in Matatiele is cattle
  - ❖ SaveAct collaboration with Conservation SA and Meat Naturally to address this gap:
    - ❖ SaveAct to visit and assist CSA grazing associations in setting up savings groups and providing financial literacy training where appropriate and where members do not currently belong to any savings groups
    - ❖ Collaborate and share ideas on integrating SaveAct's livestock farmers with the Meat Naturally programme so that there is mutual benefit and, ultimately, benefit to the livestock farmers in the programme

Thank you!