

What is the Micro-agricultural Financial Institutions of South Africa (MAFISA)?

Following the announcement by President Thabo Mbeki to re-establish the Agricultural Credit Scheme in the Department of Agriculture, MAFISA was developed as a micro and retail agricultural financial scheme for economically active poor people.

MAFISA will allow access to financial services through selected financial institutions on an affordable and sustainable basis.

MAFISA products and services

- Loans to target groups, individuals, farmers and other groups.
- Savings and banking facilities at approved financial institutions.



Who may apply for loans?

- Small and emerging farmers owning land
- Land reform and agrarian beneficiaries
- Farmers on communal land in the transitional stage from subsistence to emerging farmers
- Women and youth
- Small landholders
- Farmworkers
- Self-help organisations such as co-operatives
- Small agribusinesses.

Purposes

- Production inputs (e.g. fertilisers, seeds, pesticides, etc.)
- Livestock
- Small-scale irrigation systems



- Small-scale farming equipment and implements (e.g. spades, forks, machinery, etc.).

How to apply

Contact your local extension office, the local Land Bank branch, the Post Office, the provincial development financial institution or a cooperative to obtain application forms for your area. Dates for the availability of forms will be announced.

Terms and conditions

- When money is borrowed from MAFISA it has to be repaid according to the agreed terms and conditions as in the case of any other loan.
- Any own contribution will be to the borrower's benefit.

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