

IGugu Clean Tech

IGugu Clean Tech is a South African-based start-up company established in 2017, the purpose of which encompasses meeting the needs primarily in areas of agriculture, sustainable and carbon neutral energy, with an emphasis on positive social and environmental impact.

This is achieved through the growth of a nicotine-free tobacco energy crop (Solaris) and its conversion into transport bio-fuel with proven applications in road, marine, and aviation transport modalities. In line with the 2007 Department of Energy and National Government Renewable Energy Strategy for the country to meet its carbon emission reduction targets, the national diesel fuel pool has need to replace 2 % of imported petroleum-derived diesel with renewable carbon neutral biodiesel to reduce the sector's carbon emissions. This is in line with several of the government's strategic renewable energy commitments to address its commitments under the international KYOTO Protocol.

To date, South Africa has not established a single commercial bio-fuel refinery due to various reasons, one of which is to identify suitable feedstock, as the ones identified by the Department of Energy pose major food security threats. This is a gap we have our sights set on filling by bringing into the market a fast-growing, high-yield, non-food energy crop, which is the Solaris plant.

Through the assistance of several Tribal Councils, we have identified rural communities with access to arable agricultural land. Within this, is where our social impact element will come in. This partnership will allow us to train the locals on the cultivation of Solaris and we will in turn become a sustainable market, purchasing their harvest which feeds into our bio-diesel refining process. We will be empowering them to become farmers and business owners, armed with best practice agricultural skills.

We hope that this has provided a sufficient introduction to what IGugu Clean Tech aims to do and stands for.