

NAME OF FIRM:	Associate at OABS Development Pty Ltd
NAME OF STAFF:	Nicolaas Gerhardus Meyer
PROFESSION:	Economist and agricultural economist
DATE OF BIRTH	3 August 1956
YEARS WITH FIRM:	4 years
NATIONALITY:	South African

QUALIFICATIONS

- 1981 **BSc Agric** (Agricultural Production), University of Stellenbosch
- 1988 **Hons BSc Agric** (Agricultural Economics), University of Pretoria
- 1992 **MSc Agric** (Agricultural Economics). University of Pretoria. Title: "An Evaluation of Agricultural Production in Development Region G". Study leader: Prof Johan van Zyl
- 1998 **PhD Agric** (Agricultural Economics). University of Pretoria. Title: "The Agricultural Potential of South Africa: A Provincial Perspective on Food Security and Land Reform". Study leader: Prof. Johan van Zyl
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EXPERIENCE

Dr Meyer has 33 years of specialised experience both as a Project Economist and Agricultural Economist. From 1977-1982 he gained practical experience in farming operations as part-time manager of the family wine and Protea farm in Banhoek, Stellenbosch. His tasks mainly included the establishment of vineyards and Protea orchards including the day-to-day planning and management, soil preparation, pruning, pest control and labour management.

He was appointed as an assistant agricultural economist at the Wheat Board from 1982-1986 where he was tasked to develop management information systems including, an assets register, time series information on the wheat industry, cultivar records, systems to calculate millers and bakers margins and the cost investigation into the Wheat Board Agents.

He joined the Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA) in 1986 where he was appointed as a development researcher involved in the generation of development information on South Africa's nine provinces. This job function included the provision of a comprehensive socio-economic development service of specialist information, assistance and advice to internal and external clients with regard to a particular geographic area in order to assist clients to be successful in their development endeavors; to collect, process and analyse socio-economic data on natural resource and agricultural development across geographical areas. He provided specialist inputs towards publications and project reports in order to support planning and decision-making. This research environment was conducive to furthering his academic qualifications in support of the level of competency required. During this period he completed his MSc degree in Agricultural Economics and he was awarded a PhD in Agricultural Economics at the University of Pretoria in 1998.

In 1998 he was promoted and transferred to the SA Operations Cluster of the DBSA as a project economist where he specialized in performing economic viability analysis including economic impact analysis and economic cost-benefit analysis on infrastructure and agricultural projects and compile sector perspectives in co-operation with project teams

and clients. As project manager and agricultural specialist he was also tasked to perform project appraisals of agricultural projects including the drafting of the terms of references of feasibility studies to be performed.

In 2013 he joined the Operations Evaluation Unit of the DBSA as an evaluation specialist and project manager tasked to perform independent evaluations and economic appraisals of DBSA investment projects that fall within the operational mandate of the DBSA. He headed project teams that performed a range from ex-post evaluations including conventional and renewable energy projects, economic evaluation of water and energy projects and the meta-evaluation of selected water supply projects.

He has also since 2012 served on the OABS team as an agricultural economist and gained practical working experience of performing feasibility studies in the field of agricultural economics.

He supervised a number of Masters and PhD students at the Universities of the Free State and Pretoria and also served as an external examiner and moderator at the University of the Free State.

Profession

- Project Economist and Agricultural Economist
- Consultant
- Development Specialist and Activist
- Evaluation Specialist

Field of Specialisation

- Research
- Agricultural information services
- Strategic Market Analysis
- Policy Analysis
- Development Support Services
- Modelling including mathematical programming
- Feasibility studies
- Economic Impact Assessment
- Cost-Benefit Analysis
- Local Economic Development
- International Economics

He has been based in Pretoria in the Gauteng Province of South Africa since 1986.