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Contact:

Janet Ogilvie, INMED South Africa Operations Manager: +27 011 486 1090, jogilvie@inmed.org

Nancy Baker, Communications Director, INMED HQ: +1 540-533-7490, nbaker@inmed.org



INMED Offers 2-Day Training Workshops in Aquaponics

JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA (July 10, 2017): Sustainable food systems represent one of the greatest development challenges of the coming decade, especially in the age of climate change. For nearly a decade, INMED Partnerships for Children and INMED South Africa have been the leaders in facilitating adaptive agriculture and aquaponics projects throughout South Africa to address this challenge. INMED is now broadening its impact by offering a comprehensive 2-day training workshop in aquaponics.

Aquaponics combines aquaculture (fish farming) with hydroponics (soilless crop production) into a closed system that is resilient to erratic and destructive climate change events. Using inexpensive and easily accessible local materials, INMED has developed a simple, scalable and low-cost system that can provide year-round sustainable produce and fish for families, small-scale farmers, communities, schools, businesses and government institutions. Aquaponics is 10 times more productive than equivalently sized plots that are traditionally cultivated, requires no chemical pesticides or fertilizers, and consumes up to 90% less water than traditional farming.

INMED is offering the workshop at two locations on the following dates:

25-26 August 2017

9 am - 5 pm

Rand Vaal Primary School
Johannesburg

01-02 September 2017

9 am - 5 pm

Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University,
Missionvale Campus, Port Elizabeth

Cost: R3,000.00 (includes comprehensive training materials, refreshments, lunch and certificate of attendance) 10% discount for groups of 3 or more. All proceeds generated from this 2-day workshop will be re-invested in programmes aimed at supporting resource poor small-scale farmers.

This workshop is ideal for anyone interested in using aquaponics for income generation or as a sustainable food source. No previous knowledge is required. Course content is based on more than 40 years of collective experience in the field of adaptive agriculture and aquaponics. The workshops include 8 modules covering theory and practical information, such as:

- Introduction to aquaponics and getting started
- The basics of building and maintaining healthy fish tanks
- Grow beds and plant production
- Maintenance, monitoring and troubleshooting
- A hands-on session on an operational aquaponic system
- How to start an aquaponics business enterprise

At the end of the workshop, participants will have the basic knowledge and resources they need to pursue a home, school or commercial aquaponics project.

Registration: Register at <https://inmed.org/2-day-aquaponics>. Additional information about the workshops is available by contacting INMED South Africa Operations Manager Janet Ogilvie at +27 011 486 1090 or jogilvie@inmed.org.

About INMED Partnerships for Children and INMED South Africa

INMED Partnerships for Children is a non-profit international development organisation that has worked in more than 100 countries to create pathways for disadvantaged children and families to achieve well-being and self-reliance. Through multi-sector partnerships, INMED builds effective systems that deliver innovative and sustainable approaches to break complex cycles of poverty and generate opportunities for success. INMED's programmes in climate-smart agriculture/aquaponics, maternal and child health and income generation have made a sustainable impact on the lives of millions of children and their families since 1986. Learn more at <https://inmed.org>.

INMED's in-country operational group, INMED South Africa, is incorporated under Section 21 and is a registered non-profit organization (NPC/PBO) recognized by the Department of Social Development. INMED South Africa has installed a variety of aquaponic systems countrywide, including in Gauteng, Limpopo, Northern Cape and Free State provinces to help disadvantaged farmers, schools and communities achieve economic stability and better health. For more information, visit <https://inmed.org.za>.