



The March 2005 edition of Catalyst is available in electronic format. Since the last publication ComMark has undergone some design consolidation. In addition, while work continues in the agribusiness and apparel sectors, we have identified tourism as an investment sector. To read about these changes and our other news, please click on the relevant links below.

Strategic Changes in ComMark

Following ComMark's internal and external strategic review last year, the Trust will now concentrate on a few selected sectors that promise high pro-poor growth. This streamlining will better enable the Trust to meet its goal of poverty alleviation by promoting sustainable, market-linked interventions. [To read more about these changes click here.](#)

ComMark's Lesotho Training Initiative Pays Dividends

Training has boosted the production of a major apparel producer in Lesotho by more than 20%. The training, over a five-week period, was conducted on six production lines producing T-shirts. [More on this success ...](#)

Moves in the Red Meat Sector

The Eastern Cape's 150 000 small-scale cattle farmers typically get low prices for their animals. In the next quarter, ComMark will launch a red-meat marketing programme to make this sub-sectoral market work better for poor people. [Read more here.](#)

New Core Sector

ComMark has identified tourism as a new core sector intervention. [Find out why...](#)

Namibian Tourism

The Trust's review of community-based tourism in Namibia is being broadened to look at how the tourism sector in general works in relation to Black Economic Empowerment (BEE) and opportunities for the poor. [How can this market work better for the poor?](#)

Fighting HIV/Aids in Lesotho

ComMark is commissioning research into the viability and validity of a comprehensive HIV/AIDS long-term programme under the auspices of the Trust's Apparel Sector programme. [More about this initiative ...](#)

MMW4P in Asia

A recent conference in Manila showcased lessons from ComMark and other organisations involved in MMW4P. [Read more about this conference.](#)

New Appointment

The Trust has appointed Janet Wilhelm to assist with its communications. [Read more](#)