

**THESIS: "THE COMMUNITY OF BLUE DOWNS IN
THE OOSTENBERG MUNICIPALITY".**

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**UNIVERSITY *of the*
WESTERN CAPE**

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**FACULTY OF ECONOMIC AND MANAGEMENT
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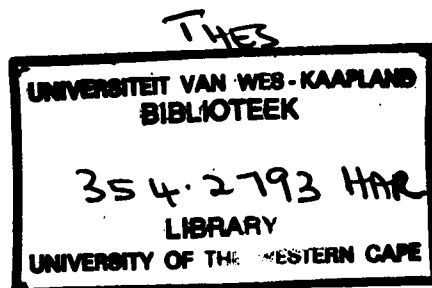


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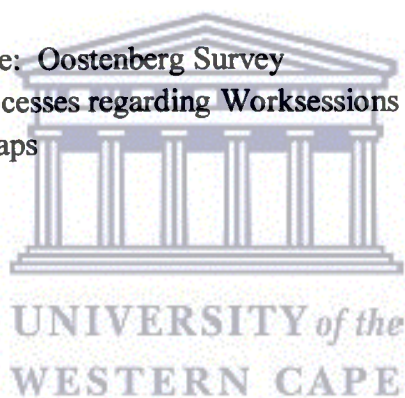
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DEDICATION

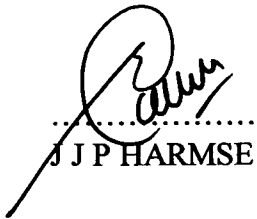
This research thesis is dedicated to the staff of the Directorate: Community Services and Facilities and the community of Blue Downs, especially those people living in Spandau and the Nooiensfontein area, for the support, commitment, dedication, guidance and inspiration to produce the outcome of this work. It was both a learning and enriching experience to reach the result of this research. Without their assistance and support, I never would have been able to complete this assignment.



DECLARATION

I declare that:

The study, outcomes and proposals contained in this thesis is my own work and that all the sources that I have used and quoted have been indicated and acknowledged by means of references.


.....
J J P HARMSE



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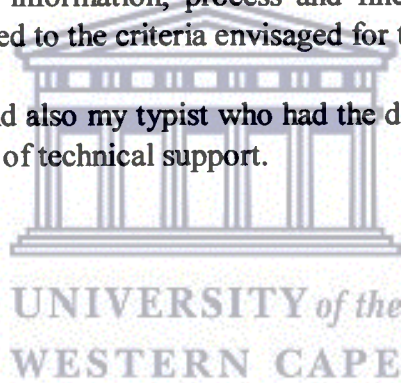
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To the community of Blue Downs, who provided the valuable information freely, even though some information was of a sensitive nature.

To the staff of the Directorate: Community Services and Facilities, as well as Economic Development and Planning and Provincial Administration: Western Cape for their input and hard work to collate the information, process and fine-tune it to ensure that the information collected conformed to the criteria envisaged for the research.

Last but not least to my son and also my typist who had the daunting task of assisting me to finalise the research by way of technical support.



ABSTRACT OF THE RESEARCH

INTRODUCTION

This research contains the findings of a needs-assessment, one-on-one interviews with communities, i.e. workshops etc, as well as unstructured interviews with staff of the Municipality of Oostenberg and by doing a literature review with regards to development and poverty and health manuals and journals in its quest to make the Oostenberg Municipality a thriving and prosperous town where people will love to work and stay.

The purpose of the study is to identify the needs of the people in specifically the Blue Downs area and to look at ways to address and implement the findings of the research. The research can also be regarded as a blue print, which could be adapted to the needs of the communities in other areas within the Oostenberg Municipal area.

The executive summary, methodology, findings and recommendations are conveyed in report format. The research should not be viewed as an end-result but rather as a starting point to prepare Oostenberg for the new millenium, and to tackle problems head on. The success of the research is solely based on the commitment of all role-players including the decision-makers and to implement the recommendations.

STRUCTURE OF THE REPORT

Chapter 1 sets out the scope of and the approach of the work, and draws together the themes and key findings of the research.

Chapter 2 deals with a case study of Blue Downs and set the stage for job creation as determined in Chapter 4 of this study, which could be implemented to address the outcomes of the survey and workshops held with the community.

Chapter 3 sets out the framework for analysing the data captured from the needs-assessments, which was executed and provides descriptions of the key features and outcomes of the surveys.

The ultimate objective of this research is to look at ways to improve the quality of life of the communities of Oostenberg, especially in the Blue Downs area. The research also paves the way for other research projects within the Municipal area or can be used or adapted for communities to address their own needs.

Nonetheless, in a research of this nature, issues pertaining to communities are of vital importance. Where I have made comments and/or recommendations, it is important that these be reviewed for implementation.

The Oostenberg Municipality is one of the seven local authorities within the Cape Metropolitan Area and is in this context a big local authority. It was thus not appropriate to consider all areas in the region, thus limiting the research to the Blue Downs area.



GLOSSARY OF TERMS

- CMA The CMA refers to the Cape Metropolitan Area
- CMC Cape Metropolitan Council
- ITA Informal Traders Association
- ITF Informal Traders Forum
- PTI Public Transport Interchange
- SMME Small Medium Micro Enter Prize
- IDP Integrated Development Planning
- RDP Reconstruction and Development Programme
- CBDS Community Based Development Structures
- NGO Non-Governmental Organisation
- CCTV Close Circuit Television
- SAFIC South African Farming Investment Corporation
- UK United Kingdom
- SLAG Settlement and Land Acquisition Grant
- CMIP Consolidated Municipal Infrastructure Programme
- SPG Settlement Planning Grant
- GNP Gross National Product
- NPOS Non-Public Organisation Structures

ABSTRACT

This research study focuses on the community of Blue Downs and their associated problems. The study furthermore provides some insight on the history of Local Government, the past policies of the Government of the day with specific reference to separation of communities, which was based on racial segregation.

In this context the distribution of wealth, resources and income was uneven and separate development of population groups was a deliberate policy of the previous government. Townships such as Mitchells Plain, Atlantis and Blue Downs came into being as a result of these policies, while no employment opportunities existed. This and other social factors all lead to hardship and poverty.

It is commonly accepted and consensus exists that the continuing high levels of poverty are the single biggest threat to sustainable economic growth and democratic consolidation. It is thus important to understand and appreciate why Local Government can play a critical meaningful role in addressing these challenges.

The purpose of the study is to identify the needs of the people in specifically the Blue Downs area and to look at ways to address and implement the findings of the research. The research can also be regarded as a blue print, which could be adapted to the needs of the communities in other areas within the Oostenberg Municipal area.

The methodology adopted to achieve the objectives of this research comprises a literature review of relevant legislation, existing documentation on the Oostenberg Municipal socio-economic indicators and a literature review on any existing literature on Blue Downs. Public meetings were held during the months of June, July and September 2000. Whilst a quantitative approach in the form of open-ended questions was also undertaken.

The research study is divided into the following 5 chapters:

Chapter 1 sets out the scope of and the approach of the work, and draws together the themes and key findings of the research.

Chapter 2 deals with a case study of Blue Downs, the historical perspective with relation to Local Government and the community and set the stage for job creation as determined in Chapter 4 of this study, which could be implemented to address the outcomes of the survey and workshops held with the community.

Chapter 3 sets out the framework for analysing the data captured from the needs-assessments, which was executed and provides descriptions of the key features and outcomes of the surveys. The ultimate objective of this research is to look at ways to improve the quality of life of the communities of Oostenberg, especially in the Blue Downs area. The research also paves the way for other research projects within the Municipal area or can be used or adapted for communities to address their own needs.

Nonetheless, in a research of this nature, issues pertaining to communities are of vital importance. Where I have made comments and/or recommendations, it is important that these be reviewed for implementation.

Chapter 4 looks at the existing and new economic opportunities that are available in the Blue Downs Area.

Chapter 5 describes the findings of the research and recommendations. The research highlights the unemployment situation in the Blue Downs area. It is thus imperative that the local community, together with the Local authority becomes the driving force in order to ensure that the recommendations and implementation gets underway. The research study could be used as a tool for the upliftment of the local community by the community through a joint partnership with the business sector and local authority.



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CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

The development discourse in the South African context was always characterised by the past government “apartheid” policies. These policies were not only racially structured, but also racially planned and implemented. People were either forcefully removed from their land or denied access of any form of tenure. In the case of Blue Downs, this township came about as a result of specific those “apartheid” policies where people was relocated in such a manner that they are not in close proximity to white areas as they never had a choice of where they could live. As this was the government’s policy of the past, this on the other hand led to misery and poverty. During 1994 with the first democratic elections the South African Constitution came into being and which mandated Local Government to promote social and economic development.

The objective of economic development in a specific area is to reduce poverty and human misery, by increasing the availability of basic needs, jobs, education and freeing people from a paternal life style. It is in this instance that the research of Blue downs was undertaken.

The research focus on the community of Blue Downs, their needs, and explore possible solutions to their problems with particular emphasis on the creation of employment opportunities and thereby alleviating poverty. The research looked at the socio-economic profile of the community in the study area and analyse the policies of the past, which

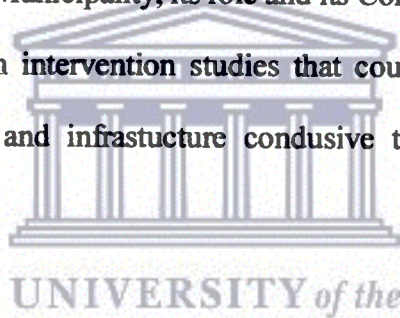
contributed to the current problems of the Blue Downs community. Poverty in this instance is not simply the lack of income, but it also encompass a lack of access to income, jobs and infrastructure. According to Dudley, (1999:8) the symptoms of unemployment manifest in the lack of income, malnutrition, dependency on welfare, escalation in crime and a lack of self-esteem. Thus it is clear that this research will look at job creation and the beneficiary community and it would look at the options available and the key tasks required to address the problems and to exploit opportunities relating to job creation. Ultimately, the research paper tries to identify and bring resources together by determining the people's needs that should collectively be addressed in an integrated manner and to ensure that the objectives are achieved in order that a difference could be made in the lives of the most marginalized communities living in Blue Downs. The research will be used to inform decisions relating to the overall problem in the area.

The research focus on the community of Blue Downs, their needs, and explore possible solutions to their problems with particular emphasis on the creation of employment opportunities and thereby alleviating poverty. The research looked at the socio-economic profile of the community in the study area and analysed the policies of the past, which contributed to the current problems of the community of Blue Downs community. As a result of these policies, the area was riddled with poverty. Poverty in this instance is not simply the lack of income, but it also encompass a lack of access to income, jobs and infrastructure. According to Dudley, (1999:8) the symptoms of unemployment manifest in the lack of income, malnutrition, dependency on welfare, escalation in crime and a lack of self-esteem. Thus it is clear that this research will look at job creation and the

beneficiary community and it would look at the options available and the key tasks required to address the problems and to exploit opportunities relating to job creation. Ultimately, the research paper tries to identify and bring resources together by determining the people's needs that should collectively be addressed in an integrated manner and to ensure that the objectives are achieved in order that a difference could be made in the lives of the most marginalized communities living in Blue Downs. The research will be used to inform decisions relating to the overall problem in the area.

The research will also look at the present system of local government and with specific reference to the Oostenberg Municipality, its role and its Constitutional obligations.

The study highlights certain intervention studies that could be followed to assist in increasing an environment and infrastructure conducive to investment which could eradicate poverty.



The South African Constitution (1996) mandates local government to promote social and economic development and to work with local communities to find sustainable ways to work together and to improve the quality of life of its residents (White Paper on Local Government, 1998: 17). Another very important section of the Constitution as listed in Chapter 7 of the Constitution that has come to the forefront, and has become the main focus of developmental local government in the post – apartheid era, is the Integrated Developmental Planning (IDP) process. According to the Department of Constitutional Development (1998: 45), the “IDP process is an integrated approach to development planning with all sectors and functions working together in pursuit of a common vision”.

It can be argued that for the IDP to be successful municipalities must establish participatory processes, which are constructive and effective, is a requirement for democratic and developmental local government.

PROBLEM STATEMENT

The research examines the problem of unemployment in the area and highlights certain employment opportunities that may alleviate poverty. The research study also looked at the socio-economic profile of the community living in Blue Downs, its history in terms of past policy directives and tries to address the problems associated with poverty. It is argued that a person's well being is often measured in terms of income. The income of a house-holder determines the capability to satisfy basic needs such as proper housing, food, health services and educational facilities. This poses a major problem for the area as not many of its residents are formally employed. It is acknowledged that employment is critical to achieve sustainable livelihoods and thereby reducing poverty and inequality. It is also a fact that unemployment is a significant contributor to poverty and the unemployment rates in general, are the highest amongst African women and the youth.

However, the high rate of unemployment in the area can mainly be attributed as a result of the closure of large industries in or near to the area or that no sustainable employment opportunities are available within a reasonable travelling distance.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The aim of the study is to look at the socio-economic profile of the community of Blue Downs. It seeks to address the high unemployment rate of the community and provides solutions to those problems.

The concerns of the research are centered around the problems associated with unemployment in the Blue Downs area. The local authority on the other hand is confronted by these challenges as it is compelled in terms of its Constitutional obligations and developmental role to facilitate and provide assistance to the needs of the unemployed through safety nets, community-based local government infrastructure, public works programmes and provide support for micro-enterprise entrepreneurs.

The aim of this research, is thus focus on a case study of the Blue Downs area, to understand its history in terms of development, to understand the dynamics of unemployment and the reasons for its persistence. In order to understand the problem, the researcher prepared a questionnaire and undertook a needs assessment in two areas namely Spandau and Nooiensfontein. The questionnaire were thereafter analysed and assessed.

The research also highlighted the present business opportunities that exist and new opportunities that may be available. It thus provides an audit of existing and new economic activities that are currently taking place in Blue Downs. It is believed that any economic development strategy should be build on existing activity in the area. It also

highlights the opportunities that exist in the area and to formulate and implement a strategy to explore those opportunities to it's fullest.

Ultimately, the "Loop" in this process should be closed with continuous monitoring and evaluation of the strategies upon their implementation in order to refine and fine-tune them and to ensure that they remain relevant and sensitive to all changes that may occur in the demand for employment opportunities and the various impacting factors. } 2/3

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The following steps have been taken for the research study.

Literature Review

In undertaking this research, the author has taken into account that a number of related studies most probably have been undertaken in the area, especially in the area of housing and the Nooiensfontein wetlands. These documentation have been perused and scrutinized to ensure that no overlapping occurs and that the information provided could be used as a benchmark for further studies.

The study also looked at a available literature of existing legislation such as the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa (Act 108 of 1996), a review on any existing documentation on the Oostenberg Municipality's socio-economic indicators, as well as any other existing literature on the Blue Downs, and surrounding areas.

QUANTITATIVE SURVEY

Separate surveys were conducted in the compilation of this report. For Nooiensfontein 120 households were interviewed, totaling 494 residents, whilst for Spandau 52 households, totaling 238 people were interviewed. These interviews were held face-to-face. Notwithstanding the above, 68 people attended the West Bank environmental workshop, whilst 220 persons attended workshops on job creation and sport in general over a two month period.

Residents were interviewed on the basis of a quota sample. This involved selecting the numbers to be interviewed proportional to the population in Nooiensfontein and Blue Downs. A quota was then set for Spandau. Blue Downs based on the 1996 census data.

Given the sample size, the method of selection, the sample's geographical dispersion and its demographic composition, it can be accepted that it is reliable in representing the views of the specific population.

The questionnaire was developed in consultation with communities and took into account the need for indicators that can be tracked over time to feed into the wider study. The draft questionnaire was piloted with 20 residents to ensure that it "worked" in the field and minor changes were made to question wording as a result of this.

LIMITATIONS

The scope of the research was limited to the Blue Downs area and this report should not be construed as for the whole of Oostenberg.

The time period for this research was April to September 2000.

I am aware that the information contained and provided by communities may neither be comprehensive nor accurate in all areas. Nonetheless it has been used to establish high-level benchmarks and/or broad indicators of performance.

In most cases, the data sought and provided, was the bare minimum considered necessary to effectively and efficiently manage and compile the research. The fact that this was not always readily available in an accurate and complete form, and that measures of workload/activity and performance are not generally used on a regular basis, is a key finding in itself.

One should also acknowledged that the indicators and comparisons in general, and those used in this research in particular, have their limitations and do not take account of all the factors involved. Nonetheless, in the absence of more extensive and detailed information, the work is relatively comprehensive.

ORGANISATION OF THE STUDY

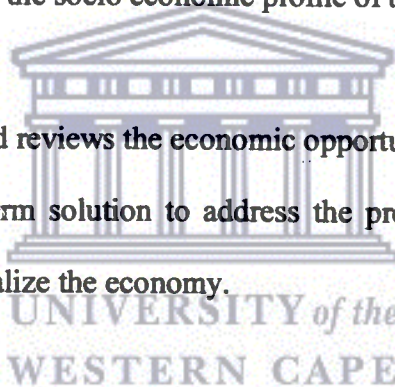
Chapter One: Is the Introduction that leads up to the research study.

Chapter Two: Describes the study area in the form of a case study and it focuses on the history of Blue Downs, the problems of the past and the opportunities that are presently available to explore the results.

Chapter Three: This chapter document the results derived from the questionnaire for the needs assessment that was undertaken for Spandau and Nooiensfontein. This chapter presents some perspective on the socio economic profile of the local community.

Chapter Four: Examines and reviews the economic opportunities that exist in the study areas as a short and long term solution to address the problem and recommends an appropriate approach to revitalize the economy.

Chapter Five: Provides an overview and conclusion of the research report of pertinent issues of what was said and done in the research and provide recommendations for the problem.



ORGANISATION OF THE STUDY

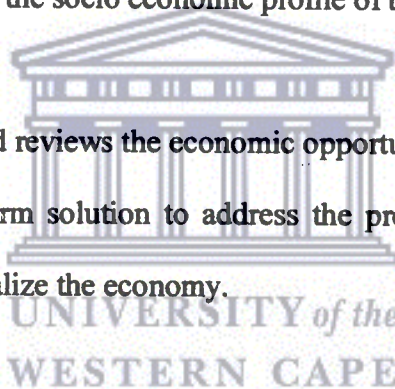
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CHAPTER TWO: BLUE DOWNS

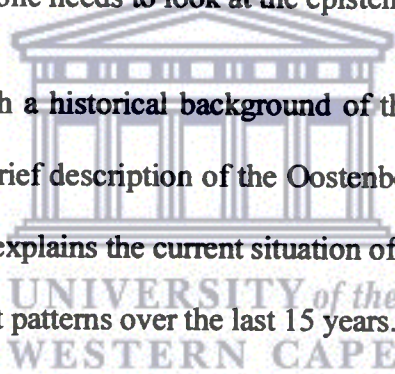
INTRODUCTION

In this chapter the focus will be on the study area namely Blue Downs. The area in essence is a product and creation of the past “Apartheid” policies. It came into being together with areas such as Mitchell’s Plain and Atlantis. These areas were purely created to relocate the so-called coloured community. The townships was established in such a manner to ensure that it is a considerable distance from the main and more particularly national roads that could create a buffer zone between whites and non-whites. There were no employment opportunities in the immediate vicinity resulting that the community had to commute a considerable distance to the industrial areas in search for employment. The area thus became a dormitory town with communities only sleeping in the area. Most of the residents meager salaries were spent on transport and survival issues. During the early 1980’s with the closure of a number of factories and high interest rates, the community suffered real hardship as most of them become unemployed. All of this then contributed to the problem of poverty.

It is against this background that the research is undertaken. The research starts with a case study of Blue Downs, its people and it will examine the problems and opportunities available to the residents living in the area. In dealing with the problems associated with the crisis of unemployment within and across the Oostenberg municipal area, we need to look at the history of government especially local government in order to determine the context in which the issue has been formulated and came about. It is also true that the

system of Apartheid ensured that poverty and underdevelopment existed side by side with commercial infrastructures. The distribution of resources and income was uneven and separate development of population groups was deliberate policy of the previous government. In the South African context it is also argued that towns and cities exist or have come into existence as a result of people migrating to such towns and cities, either in search of employment or economic opportunities or because of some other motive(s). In the context of such migration, specific opportunities and/or challenges emerged to which urban managers / decision-makers must respond in order to ensure the future viability of such towns and cities. Therefore, to come up with a framework that will address the above problems, one needs to look at the epistemology of the problem.

The chapter commences with a historical background of the policies of the past local government and the IDP, a brief description of the Oostenberg municipal area of which Blue Downs is a suburb and explains the current situation of Blue Downs with particular emphasis on the development patterns over the last 15 years.



HISTORY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT DEVELOPMENT IN SOUTH AFRICA

During the 1950's Local Government was governed by racial regulations through the Group Areas Act (Swilling, 1996: 170). This Act allowed the government to divide the cities into four racial segments reserved exclusively for Whites, Africans, Coloured, Indians and the disempowerment of the large majority of the black constituency of the country. The Groups Area Act, which is considered to be the key piece of apartheid legislation, authorised residential segregation and compulsory removal of black people to these "own group" areas (White Paper on Local Government, 1998: 1).

According to the (White Paper on Local Government, 1998: 17) the “own management” structures during the apartheid era “was in part to compensate for restricted rights and in part to bolster the political and economic privileges of racial exclusion”. The government’s idea was not to give residents a form of political expression but to shift the responsibility for townships from White Local Authorities to non-legitimate Black Local Authorities in order to minimise protest in the townships (Ismail, 1997: 51).

According to Williams (2000: 167-183), he argues that the changes to the Socio-Spatial Land Use Planning could be directly attributed to the changes in South Africa, particularly as a result of the first democratic government in 1994. He therefore argues that the future of South Africa is inextricably linked with the future of its cities and therefore he is of opinion that the South African cities reflect the state of the nation and welfare of its people. The legacy of the Apartheid Policies of the then government was based on separate developments and in this context planning and development frameworks were racially planned and implemented.

Williams furthermore argues that the policies of the past were explicitly based on racially motivated, planning frameworks and has been systematically enforced by the administrators to the benefit of the minority white race group at the cost of the majority “black designated group”.

Ferreira, Van Wyk and Odendaal (1994:2) describes urbanisation as “a universal process of change” whereby urban settlements arise in the course of time because of the

transformation in the character and lifestyle of a society as it changes from predominantly rural to a predominantly urban one.”

According to Gillis, Perkens, Roemer and Snodgrass (1996:200), urbanisation is a well-known concomitant of development, as a result of which, low-income countries have a great majority of people living in rural areas, while most people in middle and high-class income countries live in towns and cities. (Ferreira et al, 1995:44) expresses the view that the concept “urbanisation” includes two contexts, namely, that relating to demographic and social-cultural issues. The demographic context relates to a process of a changed concentration in population because of non-farming activities, and which includes:

- a shift from rural to urban migration
- an increase in the number of urban points of concentration, and
- an increase in the size of individual concentration.

The foregoing demographic context accordingly refers to rural – urban migration and an increase in size of the established urban population, as well as inter-urban migration or the flow of people from cities to towns to other cities and towns.

The socio-cultural context of urbanisation is also dynamic, but relates to a change of lifestyle from rural to an urban lifestyle with an associated change in values, attitudes and behaviour. Urbanisation accordingly increases individual freedom and mobility and weakens the bond between the individual and society. In an urban environment, people of different backgrounds, cultures, race and views on life are grouped together in an



economic association, which grouping gives rise to the establishment of new sub-cultures and the promotion of acculturation or cultural change (Ferreira et al, 1994:14).

However, urbanisation is a worldwide phenomenon that could bring about various problems and difficulties that test and stretch the initiative and financial resources of local authorities to the utmost. According to Ferreira (1994:7) people have lived relatively peacefully for many years in rural environment and in a more or less static society. (Gillis et al, 1996:486) express the view that since the Industrial Revolution, urbanisation and industrialisation have moved in tandem and that such trend towards urbanisation with industrial development is still evident today in cross-country comparisons.

However, in the South Africa context, people of colour never had a choice of where they would prefer to live. There were forced removals, unsettling displacement and dividing of families. This on the other hand led to misery and poverty. It was only after the abolishment of influx control when movement of communities was allowed, and in this instance movement was only allowed amongst blacks as they were separated from whites. As this was the government's policy of the past, this also led to unemployment and poverty.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND THE IDP

It is generally known that the structure of local government during the apartheid era in South Africa was highly fragmented and unresponsive to the needs and demands of

society at large. Decision-making by the authorities was centralised, hence most policies were introduced to control and direct citizens actions.

With the 1994 democratic elections and the acceptance of the Constitution of South Africa, Act 108 of 1996 and various other pieces of legislation it paved the way for a new system of local government. A system that would be more responsive, developmental and accountable to citizen needs.

Section 153 of the Constitution (1996) explains the developmental duties of local government: requiring each municipality to structure and manage its administration and its budgeting and planning process to give priority to the basic needs of the community. The White Paper further defines the concepts of developmental local government by identifying four interrelated aspects maximising economic growth and social development, integrating and coordinating the development activities of other role players, democratising development by facilitating and encouraging participation by citizens and by learning the encouraging local solutions to local problems (Ministry of Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development, 1998).

The IDP is the tool by which development is expressed through a process of community participation. It is supposed to play a central role in integrating different planning strategies of the municipality thus simplifying the planning process. It is envisaged that the IDP will transform the municipality to fulfill its new developmental role.

In addition to providing many of the traditional municipal services, municipalities must now lead, manage and plan for development (IDP, User Friendly Guide, 1998: 3). The

purpose of development should be focused on improving the standard of living and quality of all sectors of the community. To establish agreement on development goals the participation of stakeholders in the process is essential.

THE OOSTENBERG MUNICIPAL AREA

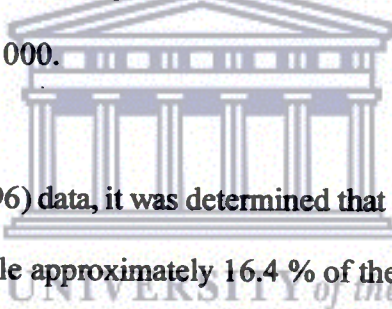
During the transformation process in 1996 a number of small local authorities were amalgamated and 7 local authorities were established. Oostenberg municipality is one of the seven after the amalgamation of Kuilsriver, Brackenfell, Meltonrose, Scottsdene and Kraaifontein Municipalities.

Oostenberg is located on the north-eastern fringe of the metropole, ± 30 km from the Cape Town CBD. It forms an area of ± 135 km² extending ± 27 km from its northern to its southern edge and 5 – 7 km east-west. Oostenberg has four (4) main districts, namely Kraaifontein, Brackenfell, Kuilsrivier and Blue Downs, that includes areas such as Nooiensfontein, Spandau, Eersterivier, Blackheath, Rustdal and Melton Rose. In terms of the hierarchy of towns, these areas are of a lower order than that of the neighbouring Bellville CBD and the Tyger Valley corridor, which in turn is of a lower order than the Cape Town CBD. The significance of this fact is that Oostenberg is a sub-component of a larger metro.

Oostenberg has excellent road, rail and air accessibility to the Southern African hinterland and beyond. In the north it straddles the key Gauteng bound rail and road (N1) routes and in the south it stretches across the other key national road route (N2) leading to Natal, Southern and Eastern Cape via the Garden Route. Its western border is

the strategic R300 road that provides quick access to Cape Town Metropole and International Airport and provides an important link between the N1 and N2 National Roads.

Utilising the information obtained from the Central Statistical Services, it was estimated that the total population in Oostenberg was approximately 240 000 in 1996. Taking cognisance of the population figures for Oostenberg in 1991, it was determined that the population growth rate in the area is approximately 2.0 % per annum. This growth is not high and it can be assumed that it is mainly due to natural growth. By applying this growth rate to the 1996 population figures, the estimated total Oostenberg population in the year 2000 should be 260 000.



According to the census (1996) data, it was determined that 82.5 % of households consist of less than six persons, while approximately 16.4 % of the households have between 6 and 9 members. Approximately 1.1 % of all households in Oostenberg consist of households with ten and more members. It was determined that the average household size is 4.2 persons per household. By applying the average household size of 4.2 persons per household to the total population, the number of households could be determined. The number of households in the Oostenberg municipal area increased from 57 148 households in 1996 to 61 966 households in the year 2000. This amounts to an increase of 4 819 households between the period 1996 and 2000.

SOCIO ECONOMIC PROFILE

Utilising the information from the census, the socio-economic profile of the Oostenberg area is summarised as follows:

- The Oostenberg population consists of 128 007 (49.2 %) males and 131 991 (50.8 %) females.
- Approximately 9.9 % of the population in Oostenberg obtained Grade 10, while 6.5 % obtained matric and/or higher qualifications.
- Unemployment was 19.1 % in 1996. During the period 1980-1991, unemployment increased at 20 % per annum, but declined to a growth rate of approximately 4 % during the period 1991 to 1996. If this growth rate is applied to the 1996 unemployment figure, it is estimated that unemployment in the year 2000 is approximately 12.7 % (15 463 people) of the total labour force.

THE AREA BLUE DOWNS

The area known as Blue Downs is part of the broader Oostenberg Municipality and is situated on the Cape Flats between Cape Town International Airport in the west, and the main railway line to Stellenbosh/ Somerset West in the east, and between the R300 and Belhar in the north and the N2 Freeway in the south.

The population is estimated at 130 000 people in Blue Downs. The area is close to informal squatter communities and large tracts of undeveloped bush. The majority of the predominately working-class residents in Blue Downs, purchased their properties on a plot and-plan basis from property developers with 20-30 year mortgage bonds.

Typical families in the area are young married couples with children of early high school age and younger. Both parents usually work while day-care mothers or grandparents accommodate children. Very little employment is available locally and residents generally commute to Cape Town and its immediate suburbs, or to Bellville and its surrounding areas.

The development of the Blue Downs area has been characterised with an industrial development in the north which is known as Blackheath and as far as the remainder of the area is concerned, fragmented with residential development namely Gaylee, Kleinvei, Eersterivier, Stratford, Rustdal, Penhill, Spandau, Nooiensfontein and Westbank.

During the planning stage in 1985 it was envisaged that approximately 250 000 residents will eventually settle in the area, comprising from surrounding suburbs in and around the Cape Metropolitan Area. During those days the development authority was the Development Board, House of Representatives.

Originally the area developed at an enormous tempo with the assistance of private property developers until 1988 when everything came to a halt.

Reasons for this phenomenon being the high interest rates resulting that a number of residents lost their properties and also that nobody became interested in Blue Downs. As a result of these problems the banks became hesitant to invest further in Blue Downs resulting that the development in the area came to a standstill.

At that stage of the interest rate crisis approximately 80 % of the erven in Blue Downs have been developed and most of the erven have homes built on them, etc. Blue Downs in essence was thus already a big town or suburb. Also of importance, at that time, was the development of the Blue Downs area, which was, to a great extent, characterised by fragmentation, as a number of erven relating to the development was allocated to potential developers in parcels. As a result of the withdrawal of the banks, no significant development was forthcoming.

ECONOMIC GROWTH NODES

A large number of the social and economic activities of the residents take place within the Oostenberg, Cape Town and Tygerberg municipal areas. Shopping activities generally take place in Eersterivier, Kuilsrivier and Bellville, whilst recreational and entertainment activities mainly take place at home or at facilities located within Blue Downs. Although some residents may shop in areas such as N1 City, Tyger Valley and Somerset Mall.

Retail and office opportunities have recorded high growth rates as a result of new residential developments and it is anticipated to bring additional growth to the established Kuilsrivier retail strip, Eersterivier and Blue Downs CBD's.

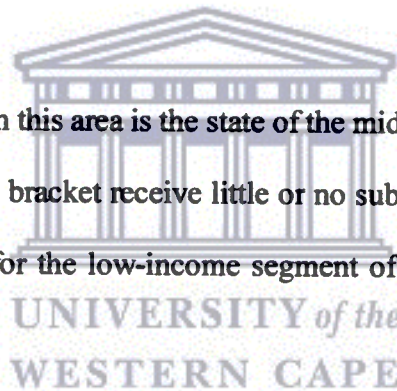
As a result of the growth recorded on metropolitan level, local industrial properties have experienced new demand. Blackheath and Brackenfell industrial areas are increasingly focusing on small and medium industrial operations, catering for many new

manufacturing and exporting firms. Growth in the economic base of Oostenberg is also evident from the number of buildings completed.

THE BLUE DOWNS SPATIAL FRAMEWORK

The Blue Downs area consists of the entire area of Oostenberg south of the Stellenbosch Arterial and involves the combination of approximately eight structure plans. As already explained, a number of problems have been identified in this area, one of which relates to residential development. Residential development in this area is very dispersed, characterised by fragmented and isolated developments. This lead to other problems such as a lack of decent facilities.

Another problem identified in this area is the state of the middle-income housing market. People falling in this income bracket receive little or no subsidy. Consequently housing development caters mainly for the low-income segment of the population and not the middle income segment.



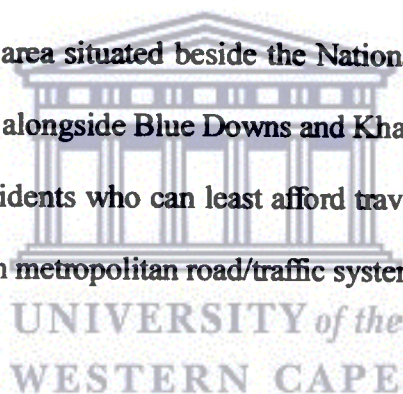
Furthermore it is very clear from the pattern of the vacant land that fragmentation of residential neighbourhoods is a serious problem in the Blue Downs area. The reasons for the fragmentation have already been discussed. Another problem in the area is the fact that most of the vacant land is zoned as agricultural land. Most of this vacant land is owned by the Housing Board, and therefore this does not pose real problems when acquiring land for development purposes.

GENERALISED COMPONENTS

The Greater Blue Downs area consists of a number of components of which each play a specific role in a sub-regional context. These components are as follows:

Blackheath industrial area in the north: an extensive industrial area with large tracks of unserviced land that offers affordable industrial land, together with the Wimbledon industrial area, which still has a large amount of developable land available;

The area also include areas such as Vergenoegd industrial area in the south: This large (250 ha) potential industrial area situated beside the National Accelerator Centre offers excellent work opportunities alongside Blue Downs and Khayelitsha, that can reduce the traveling distances of the residents who can least afford travelling costs, which can also relieve the pressure placed on metropolitan road/traffic systems.



The eastern residential areas: This more established and less fragmented residential area forms a middle class suburb of the south-eastern edge/border of the Cape Metropole. The three stations in the area ensure that residents arrive at work, although travelling time to Cape Town City Centre is reasonably long.

The Nooiensfontein/Rotterdam residential area: The development between the Wimbledon/Eersterivier route and the Kuilsrivier is fragmented and there is a serious shortage of a significant urban influence.

Mfuleni: Although Mfuleni was incorporated into the Tygerberg substructure, by the Demarcation Board in 1995, it functionally blends in more naturally with Blue Downs. To a large extent it is separated from the rest of Tygerberg by the Kuils River flood level and, together with the R300 and N2 worsens the spatial isolation of Mfuleni. Consequently Mfuleni must be taken into consideration in any planning processes.

Wesbank: Wesbank is a low-income residential area, consisting of 5 500 erven, where the first houses were built in January 1999 and development is rapidly nearing its final phase. Westbank fulfills a metropolitan role by providing low-cost housing.

Also of importance in Wesbank is the Nooiensfontein Vlei area, which was identified as an area that required further investigation in the recent Kuilsrivier Metropolitan Open Space System Study (March 1999). In May 1999, the Nooiensfontein Vlei Management Study was commissioned by the Cape Metropolitan Council's Spatial Planning, Environmental Management and Catchment Management Departments, the result of which is keenly awaited on.

Nooiensfontein Vlei forms part of the Kuils River and is located between the Stellenbosch Arterial Road and Hindle Road and includes the river and vlei, as well as the detention pond and dune areas within Westbank and the flood plain area on both sides of the river.

The entire land holding along the western bank of the river is owned by the Oostenberg Municipality. On the eastern side of the area, the land is owned either by the Provincial Administration, Western Cape or the private sector. The land in government ownership represents an important opportunity in terms of facilitating the establishment of low land value activities such as urban agriculture, which represents an important aspect of an overall balanced urban environment.

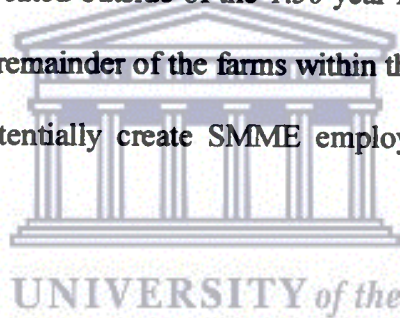
Due to the present Wesbank development, there is little landscaping, schools, community facilities and other facilities, which are normally associated with an established community. However, the efforts to retain existing trees, particularly along the riverbanks, do help to some extent to alleviate a monotonous environment. This monotony is exacerbated by the lack of commercial and industrial facilities at this stage.

The area along the riverbanks provides relief from the urban development. It consists of a broad expanse of open space and reeds in the wetland. There are a number of birds and other forms of wild life that add to the potential "conservation" value of the area which could be established in a positive tourist attraction route.

To the east of the river, the main topographical feature (except in the north where it has not been destroyed by urban development) is a longitudinal dune barrier that separates the river corridor from the higher land to the east.

These developments consist of isolated “leap frog” townships whose built fabric consists of medium sized residential dwellings on a one-house-one-plot configuration.

The longitudinal dune forms a natural demarcation between changes in levels and will form a “barrier” between changes in land use. For instance, the dunes could form a barrier between future urban development, (which should be more intense than that which has been developed to date), and the open space/urban agriculture. Urban agricultural plots could occur between the longitudinal dunes and the river within the 1:50 year flood line and set back at least 25 m from the river. Dwellings associated with urban agriculture could be located outside of the 1:50 year flood line, at the base of the longitudinal dunes, with the remainder of the farms within the 1:50 year flood line. This on the other side could potentially create SMME employment opportunities to the residents of Wesbank.



The eastern side of the river comprises an extensive flood plain with the remains of farmhouses located along a longitudinal dune. This dune forms an important transition line between the land set aside for urban development to the east abutting Nooiensfontein Road and the flood plain area along the riverbanks. Towards the north east the proposed extension to the Camelot residential area encroaches into the flood plain. There are also two approved, but undeveloped townships jutting into the flood plain. It is a principle of river corridor planning that the natural 1:50 year flood line should form the minimum development setback line.

The only school in the entire area is Silversands Primary School. This school's enrolment has doubled over the past year from 700 to 1500 pupils. This was due to the development of housing in Wesbank without the concurrent development of school facilities. The pressure to increase the enrolment at Silversands is continually growing, as the only other alternative school for Wesbank children is Delft.

The Wesbank Township consists of informal residential zoning, together with associated commercial, school and public open space facilities. There are large areas of public open space demarcated along much of the river corridor. Most of the remainder of the area, including the area to the south of Hindle road, the Kuilsrivier corridor itself and large tracts of land to the east of the river are zoned as agricultural land.

MARKET DRIVEN DEVELOPMENT

As has already been mentioned, a large percentage of the Greater Blue Downs area, as it is seen today, was developed in the short period of time between 1985 and 1989. The development still taking place is mainly through housing subsidies. The point being that very little residential development has taken place in this area since 1989.

Except for the interest rate crisis, already discussed, abolition of the Group Areas Act also inhibited further development in the area, as people could consequently purchase houses or land in any area of their choice.

The biggest problem concerning Blue Downs is the fact that there is an income group that finds it very difficult to find suitable housing. This is the group that roughly earns

between R1 500 and R4 500 per month, which falls within the market of houses between R25 000 and R75 000. These people are dependent on private loans to supplement the government subsidy. This type of development is less attractive to developers than housing subsidies in the lowest category because the process of obtaining loans is difficult and apparently banks are very careful/weary of granting loans to persons that fall within this category.

Probably the most successful attempt of addressing this problem is through employee housing schemes, although this practice is limited to employees of larger firms. The Transnet scheme at Melton Rose station is a good example of employer involvement in the delivery of housing for its workers.

The big problem that is now being experienced in the area is that there are still a number of “in fill” developments that must take place and that, as long as the market driven developments are not taking place, the pressure/demand for low-income housing is increasing.

THE ROLE OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

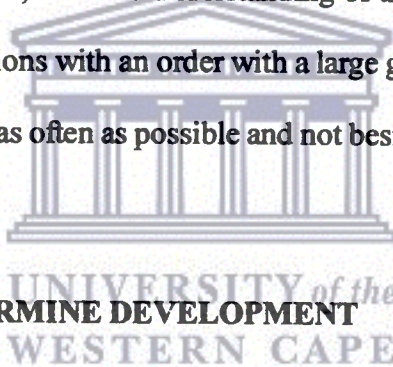
According to Ivan Turok the role of Local Authorities is to develop partnerships and perform a wide range of functions depending on local circumstances.

The role of Local Authorities is to provide a framework for nodes where economic forces, without harmful consequences for the area, can function. Such framework can be applied for the following reasons:

- the consideration of applications of development;
- the positioning of community facilities; and
- extending and promoting of the nodes with the most potential.

Concentration and the establishment of strong/powerful nodes that offer a larger variety of services and of which the community can be proud must be the basic goal/aim.

Lastly it must be borne in mind that nodes and linear development (activity routes) complement each other. In order to gain a clearer overview both features must be viewed in coherence with one another, with the understanding of the necessary differences. An important theme is that functions with an order with a large general "client base" must be placed as higher order nodes as often as possible and not beside streets with a lower order activity.



FACTORS WHICH DETERMINE DEVELOPMENT

It must be realised that the development of nodes cannot always be predicted with certainty. There are especially 4 factors that influence the actual development:

- the availability of initial infrastructure and facilities through investment; especially with regards to transport infrastructure which determines accessibility;
- development of surrounding neighbourhoods; i.e., intensity of electricity purchased in a given circumference around the central district;
- consumer preferences and perceptions; and
- entrepreneurs preferences and perceptions.

NB

The latter two mentioned above can only be determined through comprehensive questionnaires. Perceptions regarding socio-economic aspects, for example, safety and class also probably play a determining role.

As explained above the business areas are located strategically on the very important nodes as fully discussed above. These areas, however, play a very important role in the daily lives of the residents in the area, be it to purchase goods or employment opportunities.

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

Another important reason why the Blue Downs development came to an abrupt standstill can be attributed to the past government's apartheid policies and the sanctions imposed on South Africa. Numerous factories had to close down when big businesses withdrew from South Africa. Major industrialists such as Leyland closed down their factories in Blue Downs resulting in high unemployment, which contributed to poverty. Another important aspect was also an access road from the Stellenbosch arterial road to the Blue Downs CBD was not sufficient and a number of companies invested in areas such as Tygerberg and Cape Town.

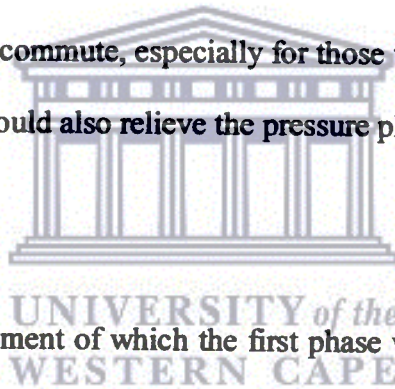
However, recently a number of economists were looking at the Blue Downs CBD and industrial parks with renewed interest. This is mainly due to the following:

- The Blackheath industrial area can still expand with the development of the Wimbledon strip, which is approximately 70 ha in size. At present Blackheath has

developed approximately 75 %, which leaves approximately 55 ha of industrial land. In total Blackheath offers approximately 135 ha of industrial land.

- A portion of 12 ha of Blackheath beside the Stellenbosch bypass road, between the Strand road and the railway track (opposite Saxenburg Park).
- The Vergenoegd industrial area, which is approximately 240 ha in the south.

As already mentioned, the area known as Vergenoegd comprises of a very large industrial area with a potential of 240 ha, which can offer excellent work opportunities to the residents of the Blue Downs and Khayelitsha areas. This would also shorten the distances that residents would have to commute, especially for those who cannot really afford the high travelling costs and it would also relieve the pressure placed on metropolitan traffic systems.



The Saxenburg Park development of which the first phase was completed in 1998 and which offers 60 ha of light commercial industrial land. This well-designed, functional and attractive development is perfectly located and combines an environment with solid commercial sense that is pleasing to the eye. This development is right in the leading growth point of the Western Cape. This industrial park is on the wine route of Stellenbosch and the air routes of Cape Town International Airport. It borders the fully established industrial areas and is ideally located near the CBD's of Cape Town, Somerset West and Stellenbosch.

Saxenburg Park is different in this context that it is situated on the Stellenbosch/Cape Town/Somerset West nodes and is very accessible. The Oostenberg Municipality and especially Blue Downs are very fortunate in having this dynamic progressive industry in its area. It is expected that this development would, to some extent, alleviate the unemployment situation in the area.

OOSTENBERG AGRI – VILLAGE

Adjacent to the Saxenburg Industrial Park a new agri-village concept will soon be developed. This development will be located east of the R102 arterial route between Somerset West and Kuilsrivier. A railway line also runs parallel to this thoroughfare while Blackheath, Kleinvlei and Eersterivier local areas are located west of these transport routes. Agricultural land, of high quality with attractive vineyards, completes the eastern boundary. The properties are all registered in the name of the Provincial Housing Development Board and the land has also been identified as suitable for a land reform project. The land is zoned for agriculture and its size is sufficient to accommodate a small farm development. The main idea is to create high density/intensity farming methods.

In the case of Blue Downs Area, approximately 650 new emerging farmers will jointly hold 30 % of the shares in the company called Safic (Pty) Ltd (South African Farming Investment Corporation) with its headquarters in London. It will be the first Hydroponic Station in South Africa with enormous spin-offs for the local residents who will be employed as farmers/shareholders and opportunities in refrigerated trucking, exporting and housing development will emerge from this development.

URBAN MANAGEMENT

In Lieu of the resource constraints faced by local authorities in providing high levels of service, it is essential that every effort is taken to lessen the burden of service provision. In this regard the area should be divided into management zones with a school cluster as the basis for management. This will create the opportunity for schools to take a central role in the urban management of their particular sector. This does not mean that the burden of urban management should fall on school children, but rather that the school facilities themselves can serve as centres from which various urban activities, including community clean ups, neighbourhood watches and communal gardens etc., can be organised. However a learned community of the environment in general is an asset to any organisation.



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SUMMARY

The research study of the Blue Downs area is typical of the urbanisation process, namely the transformation of a society from a rural to a predominantly urban culture, is of great significance to any society. The abolition of influx control on 30 June 1986 brought about huge urban challenges as some of the major urban areas struggled, and indeed are still struggling to accommodate the millions of predominantly black people migrating from rural to urban areas. According to Todes, A (April 1999) movement patterns are most static or continuous. She argues that the waves of migration occur at a particular time, which subsides but may later emerge or new patterns occur.

Although Blue Downs is unique, in that it was not a question of migration, the area is characterised by the phenomenon of unemployment and poverty, which could be attributed to the apartheid policies of separate developments for South Africa's diverse population, sanctions and high interest rates during the 1986 period and banks losing interest in the area. Notwithstanding the negative connotations of the past policies, a number of positive possibilities exist in the area, which can bring about spin-offs for the area. These however, need to be explored to the fullest if a meaning-full difference is to be made to the area and to address the issue of poverty.

Apartheid-styled development planning has fundamentally damaged the spatial, social and economic environments, in which people live, work, raise families and seek fulfillment for their aspirations. As a result, Local Government, as the sphere of government closest to the residents has a critical role to play in rebuilding local communities and environments as the basis for a democratic, integrated, prosperous and truly non-racial society. New ideas need to emerge and effective and efficient leadership of councillors is of great importance. Local Government should encourage partnerships and empower communities to be sustainable in projects that support small, medium and micro enterprises.

It is within this context that policy-makers and urban managers have to develop viable urban policies to address and indeed attempt to overcome these challenges.

CHAPTER THREE
Needs Assessment of Spandau & Nooiensfontein

SPANDAU

INTRODUCTION

Spandau is a community situated in the Eersteriver Magisterial District. The Oostenberg Municipality is the local authority responsible for the community. Recently, a needs assessment questionnaire was administered to a random sample of 52 households in the community. All interviews were conducted with the head of the household, or the head of household's partner (e.g. spouse).

Main Findings

1. GENERAL BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

In this section biographical data relating to the sample population as portrayed. This includes household composition, household size, age and gender distribution, level of qualification or education, household income and home language.

1.1 THE MEMBERS OF THE HOUSEHOLD

In the 52 households interviewed a total of 238 persons were recorded.

1.2 HOUSEHOLD RELATIONSHIPS

The relationship to the head of the household, where the head of the household is either the "mother" or the "father" of the house, is set out in Table 1.

TABLE 1: Relationships

Relationship	Head (n)	Head (%)	Other (n)	Other (%)
Mother	45	86.5	7	3.8
Father	6	11.5	37	19.9
Grandmother	1	1.9	1	0.5
Grandfather	0	0.0	3	1.6
Sister	0	0.0	4	2.2
Brother	0	0.0	7	3.8
Son	10	0.8	43	23.1
Daughter	0	0.0	63	33.9
Grand child	0	0.0	20	10.8
Niece + Nephew	0	0.0	1	0.5
No response	0	0.0	50	0.0
TOTAL	52	100	186	100

In respect of the relationship to the head of the household, most persons in the dwelling are the immediate family. Households have a predominately nuclear family structure: mother, father, sons and daughters. Grand children constitute 10% of the households population.

1.3 AGE COMPOSITION

The age of the members of the household is set out in Table 2.

TABLE 2: Age of population

Age group	Head (n)	Head (%)	Other (n)	Other(%)	Total (n)	Total (%)
0-4Years	0	0.0	35	18.8	35	14.7
5-9years	0	0.0	27	14.5	27	11.3
10-14Years	0	0.0	33	17.7	33	13.9
15-19 Years	1	1.9	15	8.1	16	6.7
20-24 Years	1	1.9	13	7.0	14	5.9
25-29Years	9	17.3	10	5.4	19	8.0
30-34Years	9	17.3	12	6.5	21	8.8
35-39Years	11	21.2	17	9.1	28	11.8
40-44 Years	5	9.6	12	6.5	17	7.1
45-49Years	7	13.5	4	2.2	11	4.6
50-54 Years	4	7.7	3	1.6	7	2.9
55-59Years	1	1.9	0	0	1	0.4
60-64Years	3	5.8	3	1.6	6	2.5
65-69Years	1	1.9	0	0.0	1	0.4
70-74Years	0	0.0	1	0.5	1	0.4
75-79Years	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
80-84Years	0	0.0	1	0.5	1	0.4
85-89Years	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
90Years&older	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
No response	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	3.4
TOTAL	52	100	186	100	238	100

The percentage children under the age of 6 are 19.7%. This figure is significantly high and should be taken into account for the new child support grant.

The median age for the head of the household is 39 and for other members of the household 20.

The median age of the head of the household is 34 and for the members of the household 14.

The age distribution of Spandau can be illustrated by the figure in table 2A.

From Table 2 it can be seen that Spandau is a relatively young community. The community is still experiencing rapid population growth. More than a third of the population (39.9%) are younger than 15 years. It is estimated that the growth in population will place a heavy strain on health, education and social service delivery. Employment also has to be provided for the growing numbers of people.

1.4 GENDER

The gender of the members of the household is set out in Table 3.

TABLE 3: Gender distribution

Gender	Head (n)	Head (%)	Other (n)	Other (%)	Total (n)	Total (%)
Male	6	11.5	100	53.8	106	44.5
Female	46	88.5	86	46.2	132	55.5
TOTAL	120	100	186	100	238	100

The number of females (55.5%) exceeds the number of males (44.5%) in the community. There are more female headed (88.5) than male headed households (11.5%). The statistical prevalence of more females than males in this community has implications for development initiatives in this community. More women will have to be involved in developing projects and must be in decision making positions in those projects.

1.5 SOCIAL GRANTS AND PENSIONS

The incidence of household members receiving a grant and the type of grant is set out in Table 4.

TABLE 4: Type of grant

Grant	N	%
Old age	6	2.5
Disability	22	9.2
Maintenance	8	3.4
Foster	1	0.4
Grants in aid	1	0.4
Receive no grant	200	84.0
TOTAL	238	100

About 15.9% of the household members of Spandau are recipients of social welfare grants and/or pensions. Of these recipients, 3.4% are state maintenance grant beneficiaries. These individuals and their children will be hard hit by the current phasing out of the state maintenance grant, especially if one takes into account the situation of high unemployment (88.5% see Table 19) and low income level. There are 48.5% households with an income of R500 per month or less (see Table 23). In the light of this and bearing in mind the large number of children under the age of 6 years (19.7%), it is suggested that the community urgently investigate its members' eligibility for the new child support grant through its nearest Social Services district office.

There is not a high dependency on social security benefits in the community; only 5.4% of the population are recipients.

1.6 EDUCATION

Highest educational qualifications of household members are set out in Table 5.

TABLE 5 : Highest educational qualification

Qualification	N	%
Pre-school	47	19.7
Grade 1	6	2.5
Grade 2	10	4.2
Standard 1 (Grade 3)	11	4.6
Standard 2 (Grade 4)	17	7.1
Standard 3 (Grade 5)	18	7.6
Standard 4 (Grade 6)	19	8.0
Standard 5 (Grade 7)	22	9.2
Standard 6 (Grade 8)	22	9.2
Standard 7 (Grade 9)	17	7.1
Standard 8 (Grade 10)	16	6.7
Standard 9 (Grade 11)	10	4.2
Standard 10(Grade12)	6	2.5
Post school qualification	0	0.0
No qualification	5	2.1
No response	12	5.0
TOTAL	238	100

The literacy rate in the community using the UNESCO definition for functional literacy (i.e. the number of persons 14 years and older who have completed seven years formal schooling - grade 7) is 47.3%. This figure is low and has important implications for the employment choices open to community members.

The highest educational qualification can also be subdivided in the following categories:

TABLE 6 : Qualifications according to categories

Qualification	N	%
No qualification	5	2.1
Pre-school	47	19.7
Junior Primary (Grade 1 to 3)	27	11.3
Senior Primary (Grade 4 to 7)	76	31.9
Junior Secondary (Grade 8 to 9)	39	16.4
Senior Secondary (Grade 10 to 12)	32	13.4
Post school qualification	0	0.0
No response	12	5.0
TOTAL	238	100

Sixty five percent of the population have only a primary or lower qualification. The number of persons with a matric qualification is 2.5%, while not one of the persons recorded in the survey have a post – school qualification.

1.7 LANGUAGE

The language usually spoken in the household, is set out in Table 7.

TABLE 7: Language spoken in household

Language	%
Afrikaans	98.1
English	1.9
TOTAL	100

The majority of respondents (98.1%) in this community speak Afrikaans.

2. HOUSING

2.1 HOUSING TYPE

The type of dwelling prevalent in this community is set out in Table 8.

TABLE 8: Type of dwelling

Type of dwelling	%
House or brick structure on a separate stand	0.0
Tradition dwelling	0.0
Flat in a block of flats	0.0
Town/cluster/semi-detached house	0.0
Unit in retirement village	0.0
Dwelling/flat/room/structure in backyard	0.0
Informal structure/shack in back yard	0.0
Informal dwelling/shack	100
Room/Flatlet	0.0
Caravan/tent	0.0
Other	0.0
No response	0.0
TOTAL	100

Spandau is a squatter community. All the respondents (100%) reside in a shack in a squatter camp. Adequate formal housing is thus a priority for this community.

2.2 ROOM DENSITY

The type of housing compared with the average number of rooms and the average number of persons (density per housing type) is depicted in Table 9. A room can be defined as any room where a person can sleep and includes bedroom, lounge, kitchen/cooking space (with the exception of bathroom/ sanitation facilities).

TABLE 9: Mean of rooms and persons per dwelling

Type of dwelling	Average number of rooms	Average number of persons
Informal dwelling/shack in squatter camp	2.7	4.6

In this community each dwelling has an average number of 2.7 rooms. An average of 4.6 persons live in each household.

2.3 HOME OWNERSHIP

The percentage of heads of household that own their home is shown in Table 10.

TABLE 10: Home ownership

Does someone in the household own the house	%
Yes	51.9
No	46.2
No response	1.9
TOTAL	100

The majority of respondents (51.9%) indicated that they are the home owners, although an almost equally large segment of respondents (46.2%) do not perceive their homes as belonging to them. This could relate to a difference in defining "home ownership." The term is conventionally associated with formal housing. To some respondents however, home ownership could refer to actual ownership of the structure regardless of its informal label. It appears unlikely that respondents would be sub-letting their shacks, and therefore the speculation that no consensus exist about the definition seems more probable.

The house owners and the type of dwellings they own can be seen in Table 11.

TABLE 11: Ownership by the type of house

Type of dwelling	% Owners
Informal dwelling/shack in squatter camp	100.0
TOTAL	100

2.4 OWNERSHIP OF LAND

The percentage of respondents who own the land is shown in Table 12.

TABLE 12: Ownership of the land on which the house is situated

Ownership of land	%
Own the land	61.5
Do not own the land	11.5
No response	26.9
TOTAL	100

Although 61.5% of respondents claim ownership of the land they occupy, it appears as if there is little consensus amongst respondents about land ownership. A small number of respondents (11.5%) do not see the land as belonging to them. It seems unlikely however that a segment of the community would have ownership and other not. This could again relate to the issue of

definitions. The situation should be clarified, so that appropriate action can be taken to address the land problem.

The land owners and the type of dwellings they own can be seen in Table 13.

TABLE 13: Type of dwelling in comparison with the ownership of the land on which the house is built.

Type of dwelling	% Owners
Informal dwelling/shack in a squatter camp	61.5
No response	38.5
TOTAL	100

2.5 ELECTRIFICATION

The percentage houses electrified is shown in Table 14.

TABLE 14: Electrification of the house

House is electrified	%
Yes	3.9
No	96.1
TOTAL	100

The vast majority of households in Spandau (96.1%) do not have access to electricity for household use.

The type of houses that are electrified are shown in Table 15.

TABLE 15: Type of dwelling that is electrified

Type of dwelling	% Electrified
Informal dwelling/shack in squatter camp	100
TOTAL	100

Specifics of which aspects of the house is electrified is shown in Table 16.

TABLE 16: Type of electrification

Type of electrification	%
No electricity	96.2
No response	3.9
TOTAL	100

Respondents did not provide answers to the type of electrification that they are supplied with. It can be assumed that the electricity that they use is from another source

2.6 ENERGY SOURCES

The details of the type of energy that the household uses for cooking, heat and light, is set out in Table 17.

TABLE 17: Energy source for household use

Energy source	Cooking %	Heating %	Lighting %
Electricity from other source	3.9	0.0	0.0
Gas	73.1	0.0	0.0
Paraffin	17.3	11.5	17.3
Wood	3.9	69.2	0.0
Coal	1.9	0.0	0.0
Candles	0.0	0.0	82.7
No response	0.0	19.2	0.0
TOTAL	100	100	100

A wide variety of energy sources are utilized in this community. The majority of households use gas (73.1%) for cooking, candles for light (82.7%) and wood for heat (69.2%). Paraffin is also used for cooking (17.3%), heat (11.5%) and light (17.3%). The impact of the extent to which wood is used on the environment should be monitored and the provision of alternative energy sources should be investigated.

3. DECISION MAKING

3.1 HOUSEHOLD PARTICIPATION IN DECISION MAKING

Participation in decision making in the household regarding specific issues are set out in Table 18 below.

TABLE 18: Decisions

Decision 1: Money (saving, borrowing, spending)	%
Jointly (partners)	42.3
Father	9.6
Mother	48.1

Decision 2: Children (discipline, schooling)	%
Jointly (partners)	42.3
Father	7.7
Mother	50.0
TOTAL	100

Decision 3: Major purchases (appliances, furniture)	%
Jointly (partners)	44.2
Father	11.5
Mother	44.2

Decision 4: The rules of the house)	%
Jointly (partners)	32.7
Father	19.2
Mother	46.2
No Response	1.9
TOTAL	100

In all cases of decision making in the household, the majority of decisions are made by the mother alone (around 40-50%), or to a lesser extent jointly by both partners (around 32-44%). Maternal dominance in household decision making could be attributed to the fact that most of the households in Spandau are headed by women. There is no provision for the children to participate in decision making.

4. SOCIO-ECONOMIC INFORMATION

4.1 EMPLOYMENT OF HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD

The type of employment of the household head is set out in Table 19.

TABLE 19: Employment of the household head

Employment	%
Own family's business	5.8
Work for an employer on permanent base	66.7
Seasonal or temporary worker	5.8
Don't work at all	21.7
TOTAL	100

The majority of head of households (66.7%) are permanent employees, while a minority (5.8%) are temporary/seasonal workers. 21.7% of the respondents report that they are unemployed.

4.2 EMPLOYMENT OF PARTNER

Employment status of partner/spouse is set out in Table 20.

TABLE 20: Employment status of the partner/spouse

Employment status	%
Partner employed	25.0
Partner unemployed	65.4
No response	9.6
TOTAL	100

Although unemployment amongst partners (65.4%) is less severe than that of head of households, it is still very high.

4.3 OCCUPATION

The type of work that the household head and his/her partner do is set out in Table 21.

TABLE 21: Type of work

Type of work	Respondent %	Partner %
Unemployed/housewife/pensioner	86.5	71.2
Farm labourers/Seasonal workers	1.9	0.0
Semi-skilled (security work/factory/hand man)	1.9	0.0
Domestic workers	5.8	1.09
Artisans/Tradesman (painters/cabinet making)	0.0	23.1
Sales (shop assistant/sales/rebs)	1.9	0.0
Services (Sangoma/fire brigade/traffic)	0.0	1.9
Unclassified	1.9	1.9
TOTAL	100	100

No specific trend can be depicted for head of households due to the high unemployment rate. The largest employment category is domestic work (5.8%). Partners are mainly employed as artisans/tradesmen (23.1%). None of the persons included in the survey are engaged in white-collar work (professionals/clerical etc.).

4.4 SOURCE OF INCOME

The main source of income in the household is set out in Table 22.

TABLE 22: Main source of income

Source of income	%
No income	37.5
State grant	1.9
Old age Pension	11.5
Disability grant	23.1
Maintenance Grant	1.9
Salary/Wages	23.1
Other (Sales/Boarding)	1.9
TOTAL	100

More than a third of all households (37.5%) have no source of income. This can be attributed to the high unemployment rate in the community. Salaries and wages (23.1%) play a minimal role as source of income. Households are to a large extent dependent on social security benefits (38.4%), especially the disability grant although this situation was previously under reported (see Table 4). This suggests that the local economy is extremely vulnerable to any changes in the economy or social security legislation.

4.5 MONTHLY INCOME

The total household income per month is set out in Table 23. Monthly income can be defined as the total monthly income generated from all sources such as salaries/wages, pension and grants, private pension schemes, private financial support/alimony, home-base industries/sales, etc.

TABLE 23: Household's total monthly income

Amount	%
None	23.1
R1 - R200	7.7
R201 - R500	17.7
R501 - R1000	13.5
R1000 -R1500	25.0
R1501 - R2500	7.6
R2501 - R3500	0.0
R3501+	0.0
TOTAL	100

Almost half of all households in Spandau (48.5%) earn incomes of R500 or less per month. The maximum amount generated by any household does not exceed R2500 per month. The low level of income is reflective of the low literacy rate and high unemployment in the community.

TABLE 24: Total income of household by self – employed persons

Income from own/family business	N	%
None	0	0.0
R1 - R200	0	0.0
R201 - R500	0	0.0
R501-R1 000	3	42.9
R1 001-R1500	1	14.3
R1 501 -R2500	2	28.6
R2501 -R3500	1	14.3
R3501	0	0.0
TOTAL	7	100

No own or family business undertakings were recorded. It may be worth while to investigate the viability of initiating small business development and entrepreneurialship as an alternative for job and income generation.

5. EXPRESSED NEEDS

5.1 HOUSEHOLD NEEDS

Respondents were asked to express the greatest need/problem experienced by the household. Their responses are set out in Table 25.

TABLE 25: The greatest problem/need in household

Type of need expressed	%	Priority
General disadvantaged community	5.8	3
No work/Unemployment	15.4	
No income/poor	9.6	
Water	1.9	2
Low standard of living	1.9	
Electricity	28.9	
Housing	3.9	
Food	30.8	
Other	1.9	
TOTAL	100	

Food, the most basic human need, is perceived as the greatest problem in the majority of households (30.8%). Massive unemployment and low salaries are the prime factors responsible for the current economic conditions experienced by most households in Spandau. None of the households in the community have access to electricity for households use hence the fact that electricity is perceived as the second most important need of households.

5.2 COMMUNITY NEEDS

Respondents were asked to express the five greatest problems/needs experienced by the community. Their responses are set out in Table 26.

TABLE 26: Greatest problems/needs in community
(The percentage below refers to the number of respondents who reported the particular need/problem)

Problems/needs	%	Priority
Electricity	59.6	3
Water	63.5	2
Sanitation/Sewerage/Drainage	71.2	1
Clinic/Hospital	9.6	
Multipurpose buildings	7.7	
Housing	17.3	
Refuse removal	38.5	5
Unemployment	26.9	7
Skills/Capacity building	1.9	
Infrastructure (road/bridge)	51.9	4
Crèche/School	32.7	6
Sport and recreation	17.3	
Social problem	1.9	
Public services (police station & fire brigade)	5.8	
Security	1.9	
Food	25.0	8
General disadvantaged community	5.8	

The greatest problems/needs in this community are:

- Sanitation/sewerage/drainage (71.2%)
- Water (63.5%)
- Electricity (59.6%)
- Infrastructure (51.9%)
- Crèche/School (32.7%)
- Unemployment (26.9%)

- Food (25%)

5.3 COMMUNITY PRIORITIES FOR IMPROVEMENT

The majority of community needs/problems identified are closely associated with informal settlements, it can be expected that once the housing issue is addressed, other needs/problems may become the focus.

TABLE 27: Priority projects if funding was available

First improvements	%	Priority
Electricity	13.5	
Community development	11.5	
Crèche/School	11.5	
Clinic/Hospital	1.9	
Better housing	21.2	1
Water	1.9	
Infrastructure	9.6	
Cemetery	17.3	2
Buy food	1.9	
Security	3.9	
Sport and recreation	1.9	
Employment	3.9	
TOTAL	100	

The need for adequate housing (21.2%) should be explained against the background that Spandau is a squatter settlement. The problems namely inadequate sanitation, water, electricity, social and physical infrastructure are those commonly associated with informal settlements. These facilities should be addressed simultaneously with the housing backlog.

5.4 RESPONDENTS PROPOSED SOLUTIONS TO COMMUNITY PROBLEMS

Respondents were asked what they would do about solving the greatest problem in their community if they were given the opportunity to do something about it. Their responses are categorized in Table 28.

TABLE 28: Projects identified by the community

Problem	%	Priority
Electricity	7.7	
Employment	36.5	
Community development	3.8	
Housing	19.5	
Security	17.2	
Infrastructure (road/bridge)	1.9	
Alcohol abuse/smuggling	5.8	
Sport and recreation	3.8	
Other		
TOTAL	100	

Generating employment opportunities in the community is considered by the majority of respondents (36.5%) as having the greatest potential to improve local conditions. Unless stringent measures to increase economic growth are introduced, it is projected that unemployment will increase in the near future, considering the large youthful population. The need for adequate housing (19.5%) and security in the neighbourhood (17.2%) are issues, which also need urgent attention. Respondents are of the opinion that introducing a neighbourhood watch will have the desired effect of increasing safety in the community.

5.5 Education

Respondents were asked their opinion on what would make a difference in the school education of children. Their responses are set out in Table 29.

TABLE 29: Factor that would make a difference in education

Factor	%	Priority
Better education	5.8	
Purchase of general aid	3.9	
Financial support/ Expensive schools	61.5	
Better facilities (e.g. school desks/books)	15.4	
Other	13.4	
TOTAL	100	

The majority of respondents (61.5%) indicated that financial assistance towards education would make the biggest contribution to education in Spandau. Respondents are of the opinion that many parents cannot afford the current school fees they have to pay. Such a response should be seen in the context of the low levels of education level and income in this community.

5.6 SPECIFIC SOCIAL PROBLEMS

Respondents were asked to indicate which of the social problems listed in Table 30 are experienced in the household and in the community. The percentages refer to the number of respondents who indicated a specific social problem.

TABLE 30: Specific problems in household and community

Social problem	Household %	Community %
Excessive drinking	23.1	92.3
Drug abuse	7.7	92.3
Child abuse	0.0	84.6
Domestic violence	11.5	96.2
Gang violence	0.0	86.5
Illiteracy	23.1	92.3
Unemployment	76.9	100.0
TB	13.5	100.0
HIV/Aids	0.0	0.0
Teenage pregnancies	17.3	100.0

All specific social problems listed are perceived as big problems to the community except for HIV (for which not a single response was recorded). For the households unemployment (76.9%), followed by illiteracy (23.1%) and excessive drinking (23.1%) were identified.

The discrepancy between the extent of problems for the community and that of households needs to be verified as it may be that the respondents exaggerated regarding community problems or may not have been reliable in their responses regarding household problems.

5.7 BASIC SERVICES

The need for basic services in the community, as expressed by the respondents, is set out in Table 31.

TABLE 31: Services that are needed

Services	%
Water	98.1
Sanitation	100.0
Refuse removal	100.0
Electricity	100.0

All basic services (sanitation, refuse removal, electricity and water) are needed in this community. The high incidence recorded for each service, suggests the urgent and serious nature of the problem.

6. COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

6.1 RESPONDENT'S OWN COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

Respondents were asked to report their own participation in improving conditions in their community. Their responses are set out in Table 32.

TABLE 32: Opinion as to whether the respondent is doing enough to improve conditions in the community

Level of agreement	%
Strongly agree/Agree	28.9
Not sure	17.3
Disagree/Strongly disagree	51.9
No response	1.9
TOTAL	100

The majority of respondents (51.9%) feel they are not doing enough to improve conditions in their community.

6.2 RESPONDENTS INVOLVEMENT IN COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS

Respondents were asked to indicate their involvement in community organisations. The responses to involvement in specific types of organisations is shown in Table 33.

TABLE 33: INVOLVED IN ORGANISATIONS

Level of involvement	Community %	Church %	Sport %	Social cultural %	Educational %
Not involved	84.6	46.2	90.4	90.4	71.7
Involved	7.7	44.2	3.9	1.9	23.3
Actively participate	0.0	5.8	0.0	0.0	5.0
Leadership position	1.9	1.9	0.0	0.0	0.0
No response	5.8	1.9	5.7	7.7	0.0
TOTAL	100	100	100	100	100

The majority of respondents registered a low level of involvement in the following listed activities: community (9.6%), sport (3.9%), social-cultural (1.9%) and educational (25%). Religious organisations have general support (51.9%). No leadership was recorded for sport, social-cultural and education, which suggests a need for capacity building.

6.3 COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Those respondents who indicated that they were involved in the community in Table 33 were asked to specify the nature of their involvement. The responses are set out in Table 34.

TABLE 34: Involvement in community activities

Community activity	%
Departmental Transformation' Committees	19.2
RDP	1.9
Political party activities	1.9
Other	7.7

Although involvement is indicated regarding youth, educare, and women's projects (19.2%) it is low.

6.4 DISLIKES

Respondents were asked to indicate what conditions they like least about living in their community. Their responses are set out in Table 35.

Table 35: Conditions least liked in the community

Condition	%
No security	3.9
No co-operation	3.9
Smuggling	11.5
Drugs/Alcohol	5.8
Social problems (family violence/child abuse)	38.5
No moral standards (bad/hateful/jealous/swearing)	21.2
Other	15.4
TOTAL	100

The majority of respondents (38.5%) dislike the presence of the numerous social problems experienced in their community such as smuggling, alcohol abuse, crime and gangsterism. This is followed by poor moral standards (21.2%).

7 COMMUNITY PERCEPTIONS

7.1 PERCEPTIONS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Respondents were asked their opinion on the role of the local authority in the community. Their responses are set out in Table 36.

TABLE 36: Opinion as to whether the municipality/rural local authority is doing enough to improve the conditions in the community

Level of agreement	%
Local Authority is doing enough	15.4
Not sure	5.8
Local Authority is not doing enough	78.8
No response	0.0
TOTAL	100

The majority of respondents (78.8%) feel that the municipality is not doing enough to improve conditions in their community.

7.2 PERCEPTIONS OF PROVINCIAL AND CENTRAL GOVERNMENT

The response to a question on the improvement of conditions in the community by the Provincial and Central Government is set out in Table 37.

TABLE 37: Opinion as to whether the government is doing enough to improve the conditions in the community

Level of agreement	%
Government is doing enough	3.9
Not sure	7.7
Government is not doing enough	88.5
No response	0.0
TOTAL	100

The majority of respondents (88.4%) feel that the government is not doing enough to improve conditions in their community.

Comparing respondents opinion under Table 32 with the opinions that local authorities and government are not doing enough to improve conditions in the community may indicate that a serious effort should be made to establish good, healthy communication between the community and the authorities so that a collaborative and supportive partnership can be developed with the community. The community needs to clearly understand what its role in its development could be and what can be expected of the authorities. On the other hand it is important that the authorities truly come to know and understand the issues faced by the community so that appropriate and enabling action can be taken.

7.3 COMMUNITY PERCEPTION ON SAFETY AND SECURITY

The respondents were asked whether their neighbourhood was a safe place within which to live. The responses are set out in Table 38.

TABLE 38: Safety of the neighbourhood

Response	%
Yes	34.6
No	65.4
TOTAL	100

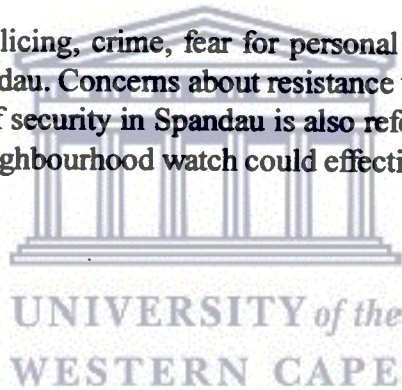
The neighbourhood as perceived as unsafe by 65.4% of all respondents.

The respondents who view their neighbourhood as unsafe gave the following reasons as set out in Table 39.

TABLE 39: Reason why the neighbourhood is not safe

Response	%
Fire arms	1.9
Lack of security	36.5
Refugees	13.5
Gangsters	11.5
Other	1.9
No response	34.6
TOTAL	100

Lack of security (no visible policing, crime, fear for personal safety) appears to be the biggest security hazard (36.5%) in Spandau. Concerns about resistance to police (13.5%) and gangsterism (11.5%) follow this. The lack of security in Spandau is also referred to in Table 38. A number of respondents suggested that a neighbourhood watch could effectively address the problem of safety in the community.



NOOIENSFONTEIN

Introduction

Nooiensfontein is a community situated in the Eersteriver Magisterial District. The Oostenberg Municipality is the local authority responsible for the community. Recently, a needs assessment questionnaire was administered to a random sample of 120 households in the community. All interviews were conducted with the head of the household, or the head of household's partner (e.g. spouse).

Main Findings

1. GENERAL BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

In this section biographical data relating to the sample population are portrayed. This includes household composition, household size, age and gender distribution, level of qualification or education, household income and home language.

1.1 THE MEMBERS OF THE HOUSEHOLD

In the 120 households interviewed a total of 494 persons were recorded.

1.2 HOUSEHOLD RELATIONSHIPS

The relationship to the head of the household, where the head of the household is either the "mother" or the "father" of the house, is set out in Table 1.

TABLE 1: Relationships

Relationship	Head (n)	Head (%)	Other (n)	Other (%)
Mother	35	29.2	66	17.7
Father	64	53.3	29	7.8
Grandmother	0	0.0	4	1.1
Grandfather	0	0.0	3	0.8
Sister	0	0.0	16	4.3
Brother	0	0.0	7	1.9
Son	10	0.8	103	27.5
Daughter	0	0.0	126	33.7
Grand child	0	0.0	16	4.3
Niece + Nephew	0	0.0	3	0.8
Other family (sister's child/family)	0	0.0	1	0.3
No response	20	16.7	0	0.0
TOTAL	120	100	374	100

In respect of the relationship to the head of the household, most persons in the dwelling are the immediate family. The majority of both the male and female head of households have a partner, although the number of partners for female heads are slightly less. The other dominant family members are siblings, sons (27.5%) and daughters (33.7%).

1.3 AGE COMPOSITION

The age of the members of the household is set out in Table 2.

TABLE 2: Age of population

Age group	Head (n)	Head (%)	Other (n)	Other(%)	Total (n)	Total (%)
0-4Years	0	0.0	69	18.4	69	14.0
5-9years	0	0.0	68	18.2	68	13.8
10-14Years	0	0.0	52	13.9	52	10.5
15-19 Years	0	0.0	31	8.3	31	6.3
20-24 Years	6	5.0	23	6.2	29	5.9
25-29Years	19	15.8	32	8.6	51	10.3
30-34Years	28	23.3	36	9.6	64	13.0
35-39Years	17	14.2	23	6.2	40	8.1
40-44Years	15	12.5	14	3.7	29	5.9
45-49Years	7	5.8	10	2.7	17	3.4
50-54 Years	7	5.8	5	1.3	12	2.4
55-59Years	2	1.7	5	1.3	7	1.4
60-64Years	1	0.8	2	0.5	3	0.6
65-69Years	0	0.0	3	0.8	3	0.6
70-74Years	1	0.8	1	0.3	2	0.4
75-79Years	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
80-84 Years	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
85-89Years	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
90Years&older	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
No response	17	14.2	0	0.0	17	3.4
TOTAL	120	100	374	100	494	100

The percentage children under the age of 6 are 19.2%. This figure is significantly high and should be taken into account for the new child support grant.

The median age for the head of the household is 36 and for other members of the household 19.

The median age of the head of the household is 34 and for the members of the household 14.

The age distribution of Nooiensfontein can be illustrated by the figure in table 2A. From Table 2 it can be seen that Nooiensfontein is a relatively young community. A considerable segment of the population (44.6%) is under the age of twenty, while the number of dependent young (0-15 years) is close to 40%.

1.4 GENDER

The gender of the members of the household is set out in Table 3.

TABLE 3: Gender distribution

Gender	Head (n)	Head (%)	Other (n)	Other (%)	Total (n)	Total (%)
Male	68	56.7	148	39.6	216	43.7
Female	36	30.0	225	60.2	261	52.8
No response	16	13.3	1	0.3	17	3.4
TOTAL	120	100	374	100	494	100

From Table 3 it is clear that, although there is a substantially larger number of females (52.8%) than males (43.7%), the number of male headed households (56.7%) by far exceeds the number of female headed households (30%). This suggests a tendency toward male domination in this community.

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1.5 SOCIAL GRANTS AND PENSIONS

The incidence of household members receiving a grant and the type of grant is set out in Table 4.

TABLE 4: Type of grant

Grant	N	%
Old age	10	2.0
Disability	10	2.0
Maintenance	3	0.6
Grants in aid	4	0.8
Receive no grant	467	94.5
TOTAL	494	100

There is not a high dependency on social security benefits in the community; only 5.4% of the population are recipients.

1.6 EDUCATION

Highest educational qualifications of household members are set out in Table 5.

TABLE 5 : Highest educational qualification

Qualification	N	%
Pre-school	95	19.2
Grade 1	1	0.2
Grade 2	13	2.6
Standard 1 (Grade 3)	19	3.8
Standard 2 (Grade 4)	22	4.5
Standard 3 (Grade 5)	23	4.7
Standard 4 (Grade 6)	29	5.9
Standard 5 (Grade 7)	36	7.3
Standard 6 (Grade 8)	54	10.9
Standard 7 (Grade 9)	42	8.5
Standard 8 (Grade 10)	41	8.3
Standard 9 (Grade 11)	27	5.5
Standard 10(Grade12)	52	10.5
Post school qualification	0	0.0
No qualification	3	0.6
No response	37	7.5
TOTAL	494	100

The literacy rate in the community using the UNESCO definition for functional literacy (i.e. the number of persons 14 years and older who have completed seven years formal schooling - grade 7) is 71.2 %.

The highest educational qualification can also be subdivided in the following categories:

TABLE 6 : Qualifications according to categories

Qualification	N	%
No qualification	3	0.6
Pre-school	95	19.2
Junior Primary (Grade 1 to 3)	33	6.7
Senior Primary (Grade 4 to 7)	110	22.3
Junior Secondary (Grade 8 to 9)	96	19.4
Senior Secondary (Grade 10 to 12)	120	24.3
Post school qualification	0	0.0
No response	37	31.6
TOTAL	494	100

A little less than half of the persons recorded (48.8%) have only a primary or lower qualification. Only 10.5% have a matric qualification, while none gave any indication of a post-school qualification.



1.7 LANGUAGE

The language usually spoken in the household, is set out in Table 7.

TABLE 7: Language spoken in household

Language	%
Afrikaans	95.0
English	3.3
Xhosa	0.8
No response	0.8
TOTAL	100

The majority of respondents (95%) speak Afrikaans.

2. HOUSING

2.1 HOUSING TYPE

The type of dwelling prevalent in this community is set out in Table 8.

TABLE 8: Type of dwelling

Type of dwelling	%
House or brick structure on a separate stand	85.0
Tradition dwelling	0.8
Flat in a block of flats	0.8
Town/cluster/semi-detached house	0.8
Unit in retirement village	0.0
Dwelling/flat/room/structure in backyard	0.0
Informal structure/shack in back yard	1.7
Informal dwelling/shack	9.2
Room/Flatlet	0.0
Caravan/tent	0.0
Other	0.0
No response	1.7
TOTAL	100

The most dominant type of housing is a house on separate stand (85%) while informal structures constitute 10.9% of the housing stock in the community.

2.2 ROOM DENSITY

The type of housing compared with the average number of rooms and the average number of persons (density per housing type) is depicted in Table 9. A room can be defined as any room where a person can sleep and includes bedroom, lounge, kitchen/cooking space (with the exception of bathroom/ sanitation facilities).

TABLE 9: Mean of rooms and persons per dwelling

Type of dwelling	Average number of rooms	Average number of persons
House or brick structure on a separate stand	5.6	4.7
Traditional dwelling	4.0	6.0
Flat in a block of flats	5.0	5.0
Town/cluster/semi-detached house	5.0	5.0
Informal structure/shack in backyard	2.0	4.0
Informal dwelling/shack in squatter camp	2.5	3.6

2.3 HOME OWNERSHIP

The percentage of heads of household who own their home is shown in Table 10.

TABLE 10: Home ownership

Does someone in the household own the house	%
Yes	87.5
No	11.7
No response	0.8
TOTAL	100

More than 87% of the respondents reported that they owned their homes.

The home owners and the type of dwellings they own can be seen in Table 11.

TABLE 11: Ownership by the type of house

Type of dwelling	% Owners
House or brick structure on a separate stand	84.8
Traditional dwelling	1.0
Flat in a block of flats	1.0
Town/cluster/semi-detached house	1.0
Informal structure/shack in backyard	1.9
Informal dwelling/shack	9.5
No response	1.0
TOTAL	100

Home ownership is not defined in terms of formal housing only, both occupants of formal and informal structures claim ownership of their dwellings. The bulk of respondents claiming home ownership reside in a house on a separate stand, which is the dominant housing type in Nooiensfontein.

2.4 OWNERSHIP OF LAND

The percentage of respondents who own the land is shown in Table 12.

TABLE 12: Ownership of the land on which the house is situated

Ownership of land	%
Own the land	75.8
Do not own the land	11.7
No response	12.5
TOTAL	100

Reported ownership of land (75.8%) is slightly less than reported home ownership (see Table 10). It is assumed that those who claim not to own the land on which they reside, reside in either informal dwellings or municipal rental housing shack.

The land owners and the type of dwellings they own can be seen in Table 13.

TABLE 13: Type of dwelling in comparison with the ownership of the land on which the house is built.

Type of dwelling	% Owners
House or brick structure on a separate stand	95.6
Flat in a block of flats	1.1
Town/cluster/semi-detached house	1.1
Informal dwelling/shack in a squatter camp	1.1
No response	1.1
TOTAL	100

Land ownership is largely concentrated in the formal housing sector. None of the backyard dwellers claim land ownership, suggesting that they rent their structures. A minority of squatters (1.1%) claims ownership of land.

2.5 ELECTRIFICATION

The percentage houses electrified is shown in Table 14.

TABLE 14: Electrification of the house

House is electrified	%
Yes	90.8
No	9.2
TOTAL	100

Most of the households (90.8%) have access to electricity, this implies that some of the shacks are electrified.

The type of houses that are electrified are shown in Table 15.

TABLE 15: Type of dwelling that is electrified

Type of dwelling	% Electrified
House or brick structure on a separate stand	93.6
Flat in a block of flats	0.9
Town/cluster/semi-detached house	0.9
Informal dwelling/shack in backyard	1.8
Informal dwelling/shack in squatter camp	0.9
No response	1.8
TOTAL	100

An insignificant number of shacks (2.7%) have access to electricity. This suggests that informal housing is largely excluded from access to electricity for household use. Electrification is primarily concentrated in formal housing.

Specifics of which aspects of the house is electrified is shown in Table 16.

TABLE 16: Type of electrification

Type of electrification	%
Complete electrification (lights, plugs, geyser)	88.3
Lights, plugs only	0.8
Lights only	1.7
No electricity	9.2
TOTAL	100

The great majority of the households (88.3%) have access to complete electrification (lights, plugs and hot water cylinder), while some have access to only lights (1.7%) and to lights and plugs (0.8%).

2.6 ENERGY SOURCES

The details of the type of energy that the household uses for cooking, heat and light, is set out in Table 17.

TABLE 17: Energy source for household use

Energy source	Cooking %	Heating %	Lighting %
Electricity from ESKOM	90.8	80.0	90.8
Wood	9.2	10.0	0.0
Candles	0.0	0.0	9.2
No response	0.0	10.0	0.0
TOTAL	100	100	100

Electricity supplied by ESKOM is the primary source of energy for all spheres of domestic use: cooking (90.8%), heat (80%) and light (90.8%). Wood is exploited to a limited extent for both cooking (9.2%) and heating (10%). A minority of households (9.2%) use candles as a source of light.

3. DECISION MAKING

3.1 HOUSEHOLD PARTICIPATION IN DECISION MAKING

Households were asked about who takes decisions on a number of issues. The issues and participation in decision making in the household on these issues are set out in Table 18 below.

TABLE 18: Decisions

Decision 1: Money (saving, borrowing, spending)	%
Jointly (partners)	74.2
Children (parent/s and children)	1.7
Father	6.7
Mother	16.7
No Response	0.8
TOTAL	100

Decision 2: Children (discipline, schooling)	%
Jointly (partners)	74.2
Children (parent/s and children)	2.5
Father	4.2
Mother	15.0
No Response	4.2
TOTAL	100

Decision 3: Major purchases (appliances, furniture)	%
Jointly (partners)	75.0
Children (parent/s and children)	0.8
Father	5.8
Mother	17.5
No Response	0.8
TOTAL	100

Decision 4: The rules of the house)	%
Jointly (partners)	68.3
Children (parent/s and children)	0.8
Father	12.5
Mother	16.7
No Response	1.7
TOTAL	100

In all cases of decision making in the household, the majority of decisions are made jointly (68-75%), or to a limited extent by the mother alone (15-16%). Children by large do not participating in domestic decision-making.

4. SOCIO-ECONOMIC INFORMATION

4.1 EMPLOYMENT OF HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD

The type of employment of the household head is set out in Table 19.

TABLE 19: Employment of the household head

Employment	%
Own family's business	5.8
Work for an employer on permanent base	66.7
Seasonal or temporary worker	5.8
Don't work at all	21.7
TOTAL	100

The majority of head of households (66.7%) are permanent employees, while a minority (5.8%) are temporary/seasonal workers. 21.7% of the respondents report that they are unemployed.

4.2 EMPLOYMENT OF PARTNER

Employment status of partner/spouse is set out in Table 20.

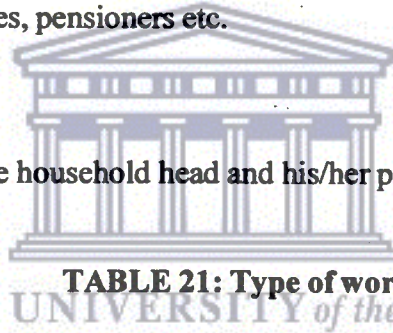
TABLE 20: Employment status of the partner/spouse

Employment status	%
Partner employed	53.3
Partner unemployed	33.3
No response	13.3
TOTAL	100

The unemployment figure for partners (33.3%) is higher than that recorded for head of households. The employment figure (53.3%) does however make no distinction between permanent, temporary and self-employment. The no responses of 13.3% can be assumed to refer to the economically unproductive such as housewives, pensioners etc.

4.3 OCCUPATION

The type of work that the household head and his/her partner do is set out in Table 21.

**TABLE 21: Type of work**

Type of work	Respondent %	Partner %
Unemployed/housewife/pensioner	22.5	47.5
Professional (teacher/doctor/nurse)	5.0	8.3
Farm labourers/Seasonal workers	3.3	0.0
Semi-skilled (security work/factory/hand man)	21.7	10.8
Transportation/drivers/taxi's	5.0	3.3
Domestic workers	5.0	3.3
Home industry (candle/bamboo making)	0.0	2.5
Artisans/Tradesman (painters/cabinet making)	11.7	0.8
Labourers/Construction workers	5.8	0.8
Clerical occupation (typist/Secretary)	9.2	8.3
Sales (shop assistant/sales/rebs)	0.0	6.7
Services (Sangoma/fire brigade/traffic)	5.0	0.0
Unclassified	5.8	7.5
TOTAL	100	100

Both respondents and their partners are involved in a variety of economic activities. Of those who work, the majority is employed in semi-skilled (factory work security, handy person) activities.

4.4 SOURCE OF INCOME

The main source of income in the household is set out in Table 22.

TABLE 22: Main source of income

Source of income	%
No income	5.0
Old age Pension	4.2
Disability grant	2.5
Foster Grant	0.8
Salary/Wages	86.7
Other (Sales/Boarding)	0.8
TOTAL	100

Salaries/wages (86.7%) are the primary source of income for the majority of households in the community. There appears to be little dependence on social security benefits (7.5%).

4.5 MONTHLY INCOME

The total household income per month is set out in Table 23. Monthly income can be defined as the total monthly income generated from all sources such as salaries/wages, pension and grants, private pension schemes, private financial support/alimony, home-base industries/sales, etc.

TABLE 23: Household's total monthly income

Amount	%
None	4.2
R1 - R200	0.8
R201 - R500	5.8
R501 - R1000	16.7
R1000 -R1500	17.5
R1501 - R2500	32.5
R2501 - R3500	10.8
R3501+	11.7
TOTAL	100

Less than a third of the respondents (27.5%) reported a monthly income of R1 000 per month or less. Only 11.7% reported monthly incomes exceeding R3501, while 50% earn between R1 001 and R2 500 per month.

TABLE 24: Total income of household by self – employed persons

Income from own/family business	N	%
None	0	0.0
R1 - R200	0	0.0
R201 - R500	0	0.0
R501-R1 000	3	42.9
R1 001-R1500	1	14.3
R1 501 -R2500	2	28.6
R2501 -R3500	1	14.3
R3501	0	0.0
TOTAL	7	100

Households headed by self-employed persons have varied levels of income, ranging from between R501 to R3500 per month, while 42.9% earn between R1001 and R2500 per month. It thus appears as though self-employment does not necessarily mean vast increases in income, it is practised for subsistence purposes.

5. EXPRESSED NEEDS

5.1 HOUSEHOLD NEEDS

Respondents were asked to express the greatest need/problem experienced by the household. Their responses are set out in Table 25.

TABLE 25: The greatest problem/need in household

Type of need expressed	%	Priority
General disadvantaged community	3.3	1
No income/poor	45.8	
Low standard of living	1.7	
Social problems (alcoholism/gangsters/drugs)	0.8	
Electricity	0.8	
Housing	11.7	
Food	1.7	
Other	4.2	
No response	30.0	
TOTAL	100	

Lack of income or poverty (45.8%) is the most pressing problem experienced by the household. The unemployment rate for head of households is 21.7% and their partners 33.3% (see Tables 19 and 20). Nooiensfontein is a relatively young community: 44.6% of the population is below the age of 20 years. This implies that the community could possibly experience worse unemployment figures in the near future.

5.2 COMMUNITY NEEDS

Respondents were asked to express the five greatest problems/needs experienced by the community. Their responses are set out in Table 26.

TABLE 26: Greatest problems/needs in community

(The percentage below refers to the number of respondents who reported the particular need/problem)

Problems/needs	%	Priority
Electricity	2.5	
Water	1.7	
Sanitation/Sewerage/Drainage	2.5	
Clinic/Hospital	85.8	1
Multipurpose buildings	53.3	4
Refuse removal	0.8	
Unemployment	10.0	
Transport	20.0	7
Infrastructure (road/bridge)	25.8	6
Crèche/School	37.5	5
Sport and recreation	54.2	3
Telephones	7.5	
Shops/Retail	75.8	2
Social problem	0.8	
Public services (police station & fire brigade)	12.5	
Security	2.1	
Reckless driving	3.3	

The greatest problems/needs in this community are:

- Clinic/hospital (85.8%)
- Shops/retail (75.8%)
- Sport and recreation (54.2%)
- Multipurpose buildings (53.3%)
- Crèche/School (37.5%)
- Infrastructure (25.8%) Transport (20%)

5.3 COMMUNITY PRIORITIES FOR IMPROVEMENT

Respondents were asked to indicate what is the first thing that they would do if they had unlimited access to funds to make improvements in their community. The first condition which respondents would improve in the community is set out in Table 27.

TABLE 27: Priority projects if funding was available

First improvements	%	Priority
Multipurpose centre	10.1	
Electricity	1.7	
Community development	11.8	3
Crèche/School	5.9	
Clinic/Hospital	17.7	1
Better housing	1.7	
Facilities for the aged	7.6	
Infrastructure	4.2	
Other (plant etc.)	6.7	
Buy food	2.5	
Security	0.8	
Sport and recreation	16.8	2
Employment	2.5	
Education	0.8	
No response	9.2	
TOTAL	100	

If money was available the first thing respondents would do is to build a clinic or hospital (17.5%). This need was also expressed in Table 26, where 85.8% of the respondents perceived it to be the number one problem in need in the community.

PROBLEM IN NEED

5.4 RESPONDENTS PROPOSED SOLUTIONS TO COMMUNITY PROBLEMS

Respondents were asked what they would do about solving the greatest problem in their community if they were given the opportunity to do something about it. Their responses are categorized in Table 28.

TABLE 28: Projects identified by the community

Problem	%	Priority
Multipurpose buildings	5.9	1
Housing	20.2	
Skills/capacity building	1.7	
Infrastructure (road bridge)	9.2	
Crèche/school	1.7	
Sport and recreation	0.8	
Telephones	1.7	
No response	58.8	
TOTAL		100

A number of respondents (58.8%) failed to come up with any concrete suggestion on what would address the greatest problem in the community. From the responses obtained, the majority (20.2%) agreed that housing had the potential to address the greatest problem in the community.

5.5 Education

Respondents were asked their opinion on what would make a difference in the school education of children. Their responses are set out in Table 29.

TABLE 29: Factor that would make a difference in education

Factor	%	Priority
Sport and recreation facilities	4.2	1
Improvement of school building/ New school	7.6	
Better education	22.0	
Purchase of general aid	5.9	
Extra teaching classes (e.g. extra math's)	8.5	
Financial support/ Expensive schools	0.9	
School bus/ Transportation	4.2	
Better discipline	10.2	
Computer education	5.1	2
Better facilities (e.g. school desks/books)	6.8	
Evening education	3.4	
Offering of self support	1.7	
Other	14.4	
No response	5.1	
TOTAL	100	

For the majority of respondents an improvement in the quality of education (21.7%) is perceived to be able to make a difference in education. Suggestions on how to achieve this objective are as follows: decreasing the teacher-student ratio to allow teachers to spend quality time with students; technical training; improve the quality of English as a subject; music lessons; swimming lessons and recreational activities after school to keep children occupied. Some of the respondents expressed concern about youth having access to alcohol through illegal liquor outlets (shabeens) in the community.

5.6 SPECIFIC SOCIAL PROBLEMS

Respondents were asked to indicate which of the social problems listed in Table 30 are experienced in the household and in the community. The percentages refer to the number of respondents who indicated a specific social problem.

TABLE 30: Specific problems in household and community

Social problem	Household %	Community %
Excessive drinking	7.5	78.3
Drug abuse	6.7	62.5
Child abuse	0.0	36.7
Domestic violence	2.5	46.7
Gang violence	0.8	48.3
Illiteracy	6.7	67.5
Unemployment	23.3	92.5
TB	5.0	59.2
HIV/Aids	1.7	8.3
Teenage pregnancies	2.5	43.3

All specific social problems listed are perceived as big problems to the community, with the exception of HIV. For the households unemployment (23.3%) is regarded as the only serious problem. The discrepancy between the extent of problems for the community and that of the households needs to be verified as it may be that the respondents exaggerated regarding community problems or may not have been reliable in their responses regarding household problems.

5.7 BASIC SERVICES

The need for basic services in the community, as expressed by the respondents, is set out in Table 31.

TABLE 31: Services that are needed

Services	%
Water	11.7
Sanitation	13.3
Refuse removal	15.8
Electricity	12.5

All basic services are needed in this community. The need for basic services is generally low which can be assumed to relate to the low incidences recorded for each may refer to the residents' perceived experience of the quality of the service delivery and not the actual absence of such services. These low incidence may also refer to the fact that such services may not be provided in the squatter settlement, which constitutes a section of the community.

6. COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

6.1 RESPONDENT'S OWN COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

Respondents were asked to report their own participation in improving conditions in their community. Their responses are set out in Table 32.

TABLE 32: Opinion as to whether the respondent is doing enough to improve conditions in the community

Level of agreement	%
Strongly agree/Agree	30.8
Not sure	12.5
Disagree/Strongly disagree	55.8
No response	0.8
TOTAL	100

There is no clear consensus in the community on their level of involvement to improve local conditions. Although the greatest segment of respondents (55.8%) are convinced that they are not doing enough, this statement is refuted by a significant number (30.8%) who believe their efforts are sufficient.

6.2 RESPONDENTS INVOLVEMENT IN COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS

Respondents were asked to indicate their involvement in community organisations. The responses to involvement in specific types of organisations is shown in Table 33.

TABLE 33: INVOLVED IN ORGANISATIONS

Level of involvement	Community %	Church %	Sport %	Social cultural %	Educational %
Not involved	68.3	48.3	82.5	85	71.7
Involved	29.2	40.8	12.5	12.5	23.3
Actively participate	0.8	7.5	4.2	2.5	5.0
Leadership position	1.7	3.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
No response	0.0	0.1	0.8	0.0	0.0
TOTAL	100	100	100	100	100

Involvement in all listed activities is generally low: community (31.3%), church (51.6%), sport (16.7%), social-cultural (15%) and education (28.3%). In Table 26, respondents indicated the need for sport and recreation in the community. Considering the need for both services and infrastructure in the community (see Table 26), the poor level of involvement could be related to the absence of facilities or to the *opportunity* to participate in these activities.

6.2 COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Those respondents who indicated that they were involved in the community in Table 33 were asked to specify the nature of their involvement. The responses are set out in Table 34.

TABLE 34: Involvement in community activities

Community activity	%
Departmental Transformation' Committees	5.0
Youth, educare, women's projects/programmes	12.5
RDP	5.0
Welfare/voluntary/service projects	10.8
Political party activities	5.8
Other	10.8

Youth/educare/women's projects or programmes attract the highest level of support, although participation is still very low.

6.3 DISLIKES

Respondents were asked to indicate what conditions they like least about living in their community. Their responses are set out in Table 35.

Table 35: Conditions least liked in the community

Condition	%
No security	1.7
No co-operation	13.3
Smuggling	24.2
Drugs/Alcohol	12.5
Poor service	4.2
Social problems (family violence/child abuse)	16.7
No moral standards (bad/hateful/jealous/swearing)	5.8
Other	5.8
No response	15.8
TOTAL	100

The existence of smuggling (24.2%) is the condition least liked by respondents about living in the community. The practice of illegally selling alcohol is regarded as a contributing factor to crime and violence in the community.

7. COMMUNITY PERCEPTIONS

7.1 PERCEPTIONS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Respondents were asked their opinion on the role of the local authority in the community. Their responses are set out in Table 36.

TABLE 36: Opinion as to whether the municipality/rural local authority is doing enough to improve the conditions in the community.

Level of agreement	%
Local Authority is doing enough	7.5
Not sure	7.5
Local Authority is not doing enough	84.2
No response	0.8
TOTAL	

Respondents appear to be highly critical of the local authority. The majority (84.2%) is of the opinion that the local authority is not doing enough to improve local conditions.

7.2 PERCEPTIONS OF PROVINCIAL AND CENTRAL GOVERNMENT

The response to a question on the improvement of conditions in the community by the Provincial and Central Government is set out in Table 37.

TABLE 37: Opinion as to whether the government is doing enough to improve the conditions in the community

Level of agreement	%
Government is doing	1.7
Not sure	8.3
Government is not doing enough	89.2
No response	0.8
TOTAL	100

The government appears to have even less support than the local authority as recorded in the previous table. The bulk of respondents (89.2%) are critical of the government's attempts to improve local conditions.

Comparing the respondents opinion under Table 32 with the opinions that local authorities and government are not doing enough to improve conditions in the community, may indicate that a serious effort should be made to establish good, healthy communication between the community and the authorities so that a collaborative and supportive partnership can be developed with the community. The community needs to clearly understand what its role in its development could be and what can be expected of the authorities. On the other hand it is important that the authorities truly come to know and understand the issues faced by the community so that appropriate and enabling action can be taken.

7.3 COMMUNITY PERCEPTION ON SAFETY AND SECURITY

The respondents were asked whether their neighbourhood was a safe place within which to live. The responses are set out in Table 38.

TABLE 38: Safety of the neighbourhood

Response	%
Yes	63.3
No	35.0
No response	1.7
TOTAL	100

The majority of respondents (63.3%) view the neighbourhood as still being safe despite the common occurrence of smuggling in the community which they associated with increased crime and violence (see Table 35).

The respondents who view their neighbourhood as unsafe gave the following reasons as set out in Table 39.

TABLE 39: Reason why the neighbourhood is not safe

Response	%
Fire arms	0.8
Lack of security	11.7
Refugees	5.0
Gangsters	11.7
Other	4.2
No response	65.8
TOTAL	100

The no response rate of 65.8% refer to those who are satisfied with the level of security (see previous table) as well as respondents who failed to cite reasons for feeling that the neighbourhood was unsafe. Respondents offer a variety of reasons why they view their neighbourhoods unsafe. Crime violence alcohol abuse gang-related activities are some of their primary concerns.

CHAPTER 4**ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES****INTRODUCTION**

The previous chapter dealt with the community needs assessment for the areas known as Spandau and Nooiensfontein. These areas, especially Spandau showed a very high unemployment rate, which is bound to increase to the growing and large young population under the age of 15 years, who have to enter the labour market within a few years. In Spandau, only 1.9% of all heads of households have secured permanent employment, while none of them are responsible for generating their own income. A person's wellbeing is often measured in terms of income. The income of a household determines the capability to satisfy basic needs such as proper housing, food, health services and educational facilities. Quality employment is critical to achieve sustainable livelihoods and thereby reducing poverty and inequality. To address this problem and simultaneously increase employment, is through the introduction of labour-intensive technologies and creation of small, medium and micro enterprises. Much of the employment here involves informal home-based micro enterprises generating low incomes. Those in the informal sector tend to remain in poverty while still being in employment, as these enterprises are mainly for survival issues. Therefore, the current policies that is aimed at this industry need to be better structured and targeted, in particular at the most vulnerable enterprises. In this instance access to strong internal and global markets need to be provided to ensure that they could compete effectively and contribute in a significant way to the economy.

In view of the above, this chapter intends to explore possible employment opportunities in the study area which will address the needs of the communities and simultaneously contribute to poverty alleviation.

The focus in this section will be on job creation and in this instance we shall look at the current problems and solutions that could create a great stimulus to the community.

SMALL, MEDIUM AND MICRO ENTERPRISES

Small businesses have a major role to play in the South African economy in terms of employment creation, income generation and output growth. These industries (SMME's) account for approximately 60% of all employment in the economy and 40% of output. SMME's are often regarded as the vehicle by which the lowest income people in society gain access to economic opportunities. Therefore it is imperative that significant investment is made in SMME's in order to create both short and long term capacity for labour absorption and output growth, as well as to improve income generation and redistribution. These objectives are firmly recognized by the government, in terms of the Reconstruction and Development Programme (RDP) and the Growth Employment and Redistribution Strategy (Gear). (Gouden, S.M.) (1997)

We are all aware of the major disparities in South Africa in the extent of business ownership and participation in the provision of goods, service and works, when we compare the previously disadvantaged race groups with the formerly advantaged race groups as a result of the apartheid legacy. Similar disparities are also found in terms of gender. However, it is believed that the projects listed hereunder will to an extent alleviate the poverty problems in Blue Downs and contribute in a positive manner to job creation.

HI – TECH FARMING

The current community living in Spandau is historically from the neighbouring farms, but due to financial difficulties to make ends meet, they have located to the area now known as Spandau and thus became unemployed. From the survey conducted it is very clear that a high rate of unemployment amongst head of households (88.5%) existed. It was also realised that unless drastic measures are taken, this figure is bound to increase due to the growing and large young population under the age of 15 years who have to enter in the labour market within the next few years as only 1.9% of all households has secured permanent employment. Taking into account that the majority of head of households are women, it has special implications for development initiatives in the area as women are by nature of their gender one of the most disadvantaged groups in society. In view of the above it became clear that notwithstanding the difficulties experienced in securing employment opportunities for the Spandau communities, there exists a number of opportunities which needs to be explored. One of these is in the field of agriculture. As South Africa prepares itself to move into a new era a key area of development will be to address the expectations of land and agriculture ownership of significant number of its inhabitants and in this context, Blue Downs which is a suburb of the Oostenberg Municipality. This need was recognized by the Spandau community, as well as a group of private individuals and organizations and the Oostenberg Municipality. After several workshops and meetings it was agreed that a close corporation be established and this led to the formation of the Agri – Village Development Team.

LOCATION

In realising this dream it was agreed upon that the Oostenberg Agri – Village Development Team will negotiate to obtain an in – principle approval from the Oostenberg Municipality for the developments of certain portions for small farmer settlement. These include:

- portions 5,25,26,31,32,35,36 and 42 of farm 468 Pen Hill; and
- portions 3 and 8 of farm 410 Pen Hill.

These properties are located east of the R102 arterial route Somerset West and Kuils River. A railway line also runs parallel to this thoroughfare. Blackheath, Kleinvlei and Eerste River local areas are located west of these transport routes.

The Welmoed regional cemetery can be found adjacent to the southern boundary of the proposed development. The Blackheath water treatment works and sludge ponds are situated north of the indicated property. Agricultural land of high quality, with attractive vineyards, completes the eastern boundary. The location plan is attached as an Annexure.

OWNERSHIP

These properties are all registered in the name of the Provincial Housing Development Board. During the 1994/ 1995 the Town Planners of the provincial Administration developed business plans for all undeveloped properties of the Housing Board: Western Cape. The land is zoned for agricultural and its size is sufficient to accommodate a small farmer development. Main services are available to support the creation of group wealth by utilizing high density/ intensity properties prohibiting the section 15(2)(a) of the Housing Act, (Act 107 of 1997). The Municipality will in turn deal with the land in terms of its powers under the Municipal Ordinance (Ord. 20 of 1974) which will include making the land available through a Land Availability Agreement, which will, inter alia, make provision for the payment on individual transfer of residential units.

The land is perfectly situated for an emerging farmer project with efficient access for rail and road transportation to the airport, markets and the like. For purposes of this business plan a purchase price of R2.25 million for the land has been assumed.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

The Agri - Village Development Team will register and form part of the South African Farming Investment Company who is a specialist in the field of agriculture. They have the expertise and will empower and train the people of Spandau in new farming techniques. SAFIC is an international company who is in partnership with its mother company in London.

The Southern African Farming Investment Corporation (Pty) Ltd or SAFIC (Pty) Ltd proposes the installation and operation of large hydroponics farming stations within the Southern African environment. Each so-called "hydro station" will trade as a company and be known as, for example, SAFIC - Oostenberg. In the international arena the various stations will join forces to act as a united business group focussed on the production, processing, packing and marketing of hydroponically grown fruit and vegetables for export markets.

Strategic joint ventures will ensure that each SAFIC station has access to the technological and marketing prowess and expertise earned through proven track records in both vegetable marketing and hydroponics technology. This will ensure that revolving purchase orders are already in place for large quantities of produce and that technology can be transferred to the growers effectively. Mainly investors will own the Holding Company, SAFIC of London.

This company will also have certain direct responsibilities such as controlling the offshore

marketing of produce via African Marketing Suppliers of London and co-ordinating the SAFIC Group's macro operations. Each SAFIC "hygro Station" will operate as an independent company answerable to its shareholders, but operating in concert with its affiliates with regards to the offshore supply of produce.

In the case of Blue Downs, approximately 650 new emerging farmers will jointly hold 30% of the shares but will be subject to a 5-year 'handcuff' period to confirm the *bona fides* of the participant. However, during this period the normal benefits of shareholding shall accrue to the new farmers. Other shareholders are likely to be SAFIC of London. It is important to note that share holding of each SAFIC hygro station by SAFIC of London will be dependent on the SAFIC investor's criteria and the local investor's equity or other input. The objective remains to ensure that the new emerging farmers have a collective 30% share in their respective SAFIC hygro stations. Shareholding by management and other support employees will only be considered when the company decides to list on the Stock Exchange.

COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE

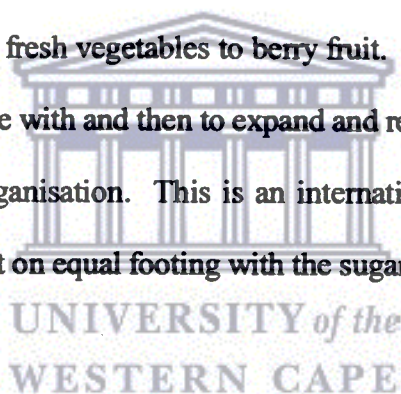
SAFIC will be the first company to introduce hydroponics technology of this scale into Southern Africa. The uniqueness of the utilised systems will allow the production of high quality produce that will be targeted at the unmistakable growth in demand for hydroponically produced vegetables in the world's major markets. These markets have the resources to afford the high price premiums involved. Europe will be the initial target market as the company already has a relatively small order by world market standards.

This is, however, a large order in terms of foreign currency generation for Southern Africa. It has

generally been accepted that one needs to take the present situation in perspective. Presently, the South African horticultural, fruit and vegetable marketing structures are too fragmented to represent formidable force on world markets. Independent producers will also be enlisted as suppliers. The company's advantage will be their price competitiveness.

The lack of consistent production quality standards, economies of scale and relevant product quality further aggravate this situation. This project will attempt to address all these dimensions of competitiveness, not only by virtue of new technology but also by actively unifying national marketing efforts and promotion of competitive activity across the whole spectrum of products.

These products will range from fresh vegetables to berry fruit. The intention is to focus firstly on products that we are comfortable with and then to expand and research additional produce so as to improve the viability of the organisation. This is an international project with the intention to grow to a level placing it at least on equal footing with the sugar, wine and citrus industries.



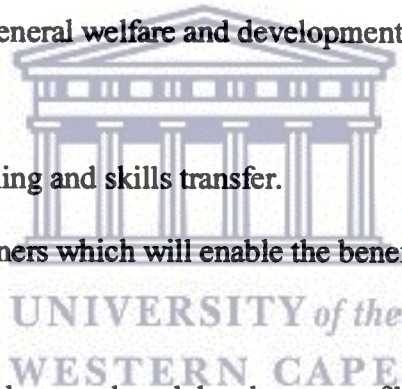
VISION

The beneficiary community will come from the areas known as Spandau and Nooiensfontein residents. These residents are to some extent *au faix* with farm type of work as they previously resided on farms prior to be relocated to Spandau and Nooiensfontein.

The focus will thus be placed on the creation of jobs and thereby eliminate poverty. It will also empower previously disadvantaged farmers without moving away from sound viable business structures whilst exploiting new opportunities for harnessing Southern Africa's comparative advantages in agricultural production through high quality, state – of the – art fruit and vegetable production and exporting marketing.

MISSION STATEMENT

- To become market leaders in agricultural exporting within 5 years.
- To create job opportunities to the most marginalised communities.
- Train the beneficiary community in skills related to marketing and sales – business.
- To develop our industry to meet superior standards of the international markets.
- To ensure a high return on shareholder investment.
- To create an environment in which employees gain equity empowerment through recognition of participation, loyalty and superior performance.
- To contribute towards the general welfare and development of the communities in which we operate.
- To implement ongoing training and skills transfer.
- To become fully fledged partners which will enable the beneficiary community big returns on their 'sweat investment'.
- To conduct ongoing regional research and development of hydroponics planting materials and methods, specific to the Southern African context.
- To empower community and teach them new skills in high technologic manufacturing products.



STRATEGIES

It is believed that the solution to many development problems for the developing world resides in technology selection an application, the major criterion being cost – effectiveness. Indeed, Africa's salvation lies in the creative adoption of high technologies mixed with simplistic applications.

Many technologies have come about due to the much harsher conditions experienced by our northern hemispheric markets thus giving us an advantage considering our milder climatic conditions.

NB

- Sales targets over the plan period: The success of this joint venture will ensure the following:
 - Increase the number of distribution channels
 - Break into the USA and far eastern markets
 - Extend hydroponics technology to outreach communal and small-scale farmers.
- High return on shareholder equity
 - Close monitoring and supervision of grower activity
 - Keep transport logistic costs down by locating the packing and processing factory as close to growers and freight routes as possible
 - Quality is free. We will enforce high international quality standards
 - Select distributors according to how close they are to the end user
 - Cost control culture.
 - Most of all, to create job opportunities and a stable income for the disadvantaged communities.
- Maintaining high employee productivity
 - Maintain a cost control culture
 - Implement a performance – based incentive scheme
 - Institute profit sharing at all levels through share allocation and dividend payouts.
 - To significantly extend hydroponics infrastructure within the South African region so as to empower disenfranchised communities

- Reduce grower capital and logistical costs by grouping growers under one project
- Assist with training and capital funding for housing.

- **Selling Methods**

- Employ customer service officer in 2002.
- Institute direct mail campaigns in 8th month of year 1
- Set up an internet home page and advertise on bulletin boards
- Exhibit at trade exhibition
- Rationalise distribution network

- **Service & Delivery**

It is acknowledged that this joint venture will create a wealth of opportunities, which will pave the way for training and expand job opportunities in the following fields.

- Refrigerated trucks
- Aircraft leasing
- Customer collection
- Passenger airlines
- Shipping lines



- **Employment & Personnel Plans**

One can assume that a number of employment opportunities will be realized in the long term. Manual labour in the factory will be phased in depending on the level of plant activity required. All labour will be drawn from within the hygro station family pool although casual labour from outside will also be drawn from. However there will only be minimal seasonal variations in

manpower deployment since the supplier base will be using a technology that does not depend on climatic changes.

Whilst all personnel working for the station will fall under the Labour Relations Act of 1995, they are also shareholders in the above company and hence the company shall run on a shareholder basis. The risk of labour unrest will thus be limited or even be nullified. The company shall adopt a representative committee to oversee disciplinary and other issues.

TRAINING PLANS, PERFORMANCE APPRAISALS

Since this is a “greenfields” project for which there is no South African precedent, it will be necessary to train key personnel on the requirements of this project. Attachments to African Marketing Suppliers (Pty) Ltd and Hygro (Pty) Ltd, both of London (UK), are envisaged for this purpose. This may occur at the same time that growers receive their training in the operation of hydroponics tunnels. Performance evaluations that reward superior performance will form part of the overall human resources policy framework.

INFRASTRUCTURE REQUIREMENTS AND HOUSING

The present water supply system is operating at capacity and as a result the local authority, in collaboration with the Cape Metropolitan Council, has commissioned an independent study to determine the water requirements of the greater area surrounding the proposed development. The project costing has allowed for a reservoir to supply water to tunnels in addition to the requirement of approximately 650 residential erven. It is worth noting that a significant portion of this supply to the respective tunnels will be re-circulated thus limiting the water consumption. The building of the water reservoir will also create much-needed jobs to those people in the building industry.

Present utilisation, at capacity, of the adjacent sewer network has necessitated additional expenditure for an extended line to an approved connection point. On the other hand, storm water disposal poses no major difficulties.

As most of the communities living in Spandau do not have adequate shelter, it is important to note that the development is divided into two parts, viz. for housing and farming respectively. The internal infrastructure including the construction of houses will be funded by the Settlement and Land Acquisition Grant (SLAG – Department of Land Affairs) while the bulk services infrastructure will be funded by the Consolidated Municipal Infrastructure Programme (CMIP). Indirect costs will be funded separately by means of the Settlement Planning Grant (SPG) within stated boundaries. These grants or subsidies are free to the beneficiaries.

This is essential to note that a project of this magnitude will not only address the unemployment but also the housing needs of the community in the Blue Downs areas such as Spandau and the Greater Nooiensfontein.

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SUMMARY

The above is a very exciting project and although it is appreciated that not everyone will benefit from this project, the opportunities that exists holds enormous benefits for the area. The objective of any development in a specific area is to reduce poverty and human misery, by increasing the availability of basic needs, jobs, education and freeing people from a paternal life style.

However, as a result of its magnitude, thorough planning is crucial to the project. A flexible management approach, whilst being guided and controlled formally by a strategic planning process, will have to be adopted. Existing produce orders as mentioned elsewhere in the research report have presented a challenge that must be faced.

One hundred and eighty (180) tunnels are to be installed within the first 6 months of the implementation schedule being initiated. The programme for settlement of families (680) in the residential portion of the development will be determined by the contractor responsible for civil services and housing and will slightly lag the tunnel installation programme.

It is acknowledged that this project has the potential, not only to eradicate and eliminate poverty and unemployment issues, but it also has the ability to transform the area by making Blue Downs a prosperous and thriving suburb – valued by wealth creators, residents and visitors for its quality of life.



WESTBANK COOKING AND TRAINING CENTRE

Westbank which forms part of Blue Downs is a new development within the Nooiensfontein area, and in serious need for development and upliftment. Unemployment, shortage of housing, shortage of skills and a lack of career opportunities all contribute to a township that need a coherent development intervention that will address some of the needs within the community.

The Westbank cooking and catering training centre, the development of the same area for the mass produce of disease free quality plant material as well as other related employment opportunities could successfully be implemented in this area.

The population is estimated at 25 000 people. The area is close to informal squatter communities and large tracts of undeveloped bush. However, some of the most marginalised and poorest community members live in low-cost housing units of approximately 24 - 28 square meter dwellings in Westbank.

As a result of the above, a work strategy was developed for the area which could create employment opportunities for the community. The project which was earmarked as an intervention strategy is the Westbank cooking and training centre. A centre which will educate and develop skills to enable people to enter formal employment in the food and catering sector.

THE ORGANISATION AND ITS RATIONALE

The project is earmarked to address the following:

- The evident face of poverty, which is a consequence of unemployment in deprived communities, of which Westbank is one.
- The high level of unemployment among the undereducated youth and adults who can still make a meaningful contribution at the workplace, but do not have a specific skill to provide.
- The gap that exists between formal education and the needs of the country at human resource level.

The pulse of poverty continues to beat in South Africa. As a small percentage of the population enjoy economic stability and success, 53% of South Africans still face the realities of unemployment, inadequate health care, poor housing, limited job opportunities and inaccessibility to basic resources (utilities), (figures from October 1995 RDP survey).

The inception of the centre as envisaged, is in response to the comprehensive needs assessment carried out with the unemployed in Blue Downs, especially the Nooiensfontein needs assessment. The needs that were identified included the need for trained workers in the areas of cooking and catering, business skills and entrepreneurship. After extensive consultation with locally based organisations and members of the community, a creation of this kind of body in Blue Downs became an imperative.

It is envisaged that the Westbank centre will provide entry level training in technical career orientated skills in cooking and catering. This training is coupled with business skills training, to equip those who prefer to explore business ventures upon completion of the course. The target beneficiaries comprise mainly of the youth, unemployed men and women to help them

join or rejoin the labour market, but now with a specific trade. It is furthermore envisaged that the centre will not only open its doors to the communities from the Westbank area, but it will also open its doors to surrounding communities, such as Delft, Bellhar, Eerste River, Umfuleni, Kalkfontein, Khayelitsha, Spandau, Happy Valley, Mitchellsplain, Wallacedene and Bloekombos.

While the centre understands the economic conditions of its applicants, a minimal fee will be charged and it is expected from trainees to pay in flexible terms that suit their limited means. These fees will go towards transport requirements to venues of in-service training and ingredients used in practical lessons. However, this payment increases the level of commitment in the trainees' development. Upon graduation, through the placement wing of the "After Care" programme, graduates resume work in hotels, restaurants and the big kitchens in the peninsula. As part of "After Care", the centre seeks feed back from employers on how the graduates as the immediate product of the centre fare in the work environment. This information helps to uplift the training standards and thus meeting the exact needs of the employers in the industry. The "After Care" programme also assists in counselling in nurturing those who choose to take the small business route after training.

THE WESTBANK TRAINING VISION

It is envisaged that the West Bank Training Centre will enter into a partnership or twineing with the successful Eziko Training School in Langa and eventually become one of the most successful training projects for the unemployed and semi-skilled workers in the Western Cape in uplifting previously disadvantaged communities and thus restoring lives, self purpose and pride of many who were once destitute.

THE WEST BANK TRAINING MISSION STATEMENT

To grow and develop unemployed people with life and technical career-orientated skills in the cooking and catering field, and to empower them to negotiate for a living wage and attempt to secure employment for them, which will promote quality service delivery to everybody.

The West Bank Training Centre wishes to promote and enhance community partnership, which will:

- Serve the needs and interest of the community
- Empower people
- Deliver sustained quality service
- Focus on the development of human potential
- Display integrity at all times

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Programme Objectives:

- Targeting and training of the youth and the unemployed
- The creation of entrepreneurship awareness
- Provision of business skills to the community
- Bridging the gap between the disadvantaged communities through skills advancement.
- Explore and involve the hospitality industry in direct involvement with the community.
- Encouragement of tourism and tourism opportunities to the community.
- The creation of business opportunities through the involvement of people in their own development.

NB

Strategic Objectives

- To empower the most marginalized communities.
- Create job opportunities.

- Develop the area.
- Contribute towards Gross National Product (GNP).

Programmes

It is envisaged that the project will be linked to two training components that will run in modular form over seven weeks:

Training in basic cooking and catering, which will consist of:

- Theory modules
- Food theory and practice
- In-service training

Business Training

Various marketing tools will be used, such as the local print and electronic media, such as The Argus and Cape Times, community papers and trade magazines such as the Hotel and Caterer.

It is also important to negotiate with radio stations, such as KFM, Cape Talk Radio Goodhope, and P4 for time slots.

It is believed that the project will qualify as a training centre in terms of the national qualifications framework. This will allow students to continue with national qualification skills training. National qualifications are assessed in the workplace as part of the on-the-job-training. The West Bank Centre will as an entry-level training institution be tailoring its programme in such a manner to create bridging opportunities for students wishing to study further. Students can access Technikons, Hotel Schools, Technical Colleges and Culinary Schools.

Career Path

Through the placement programme, graduates enter at entry level in the following career paths:

(a) Restaurant / Hotel Model

- Scullery (Kitchen Cleaner / Pot Wash)
- Commis Chef / Salad Chef / Junior Cook
- Chef de Parties (section chef)
- Senior Chef de Parties
- Sous Chef
- Head Chef (management)

(b) Industrial Caterers

- Assistant food servers
- Scullery
- Cook (junior / senior)
- Supervisor
- Management



The West Bank Training Centre will be marketed as a catering enterprise.

(c) Sustainability

In South Africa, thousands of NGO's, NPO's, CBO's seek funding from the same sources. In the mean time, corporate bodies are moving away from donation funding, therefore organisations can no longer enjoy the "social responsibility" budget. This means that organisations must seek creative and holistic solutions that can sustain themselves beyond donor funding. Dependency on donors even to the National Government to address unemployment and poverty is unrealistic. The government has a role to play but the public

and organisations alike must realise that South Africa is not a welfare state and the government cannot address poverty and unemployment alone. } CS

Experience around the world seems to demonstrate that when the poor are empowered and become active participants in their own development, the outcome is not only new ideas and strategies but increased effectiveness as well.

The planned utilisation of the facilities are:

- To start a restaurant and a catering operation aimed at the tourist market.
- To expand the current training scope and offer an integrated functional and vocational venue that will give students direct access to the hospitality industry in a conducive learning environment.
- To provide hands-on experience for students who have completed the entry-level training to facilitate advanced practice and boost their aptitude for cooking.
- The dining space will be converted to a conference or meeting venue upon request.
- To generate income to meet some of the running expenses.
- To provide a tourist friendly environment especially for the visitors who want to see the Western Cape communities and how people in these communities are reclaiming responsibility for their lives. For the local communities the centre will act as a catalyst, because more people will identify other sites of local interest and bring the community closer to tourism. } CS

BULB PROJECT “Gold Cup”

As in the case with the hygro agricultural project, the “Gold Cup” bulb project has the potential to develop into a fully fledged industry with enormous spin-offs for the flower export market. Coupled with this project is the development of the dune areas and thereby creating awareness towards the environment.

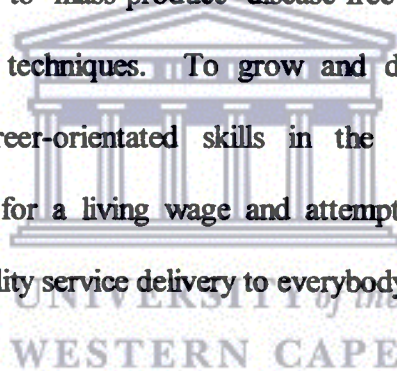
The Cape Floral Kingdom, the smallest of the 7 floral kingdoms in the world, is regarded as the richest and most diverse. It contains 8 500 of South Africa’s 24 000 plant species, and is the original home of the Freesia and the Gladiolus, the Gerbera and the Geranium. This quantity is unparalleled anywhere else in the world. The Westbank area is not only known for the “arum lily” but is also home for almost 10 000 plant species. According to a recent study of plants in the area it was established that the soil texture in the West Bank is ideal for the cultivation of the *Ornithogallum* hybrid or commonly known as the “Gold Cup” plant. If the “Gold Cup” bulb could be cultivated in the Westbank it will provide full-time employment for approximately 100 people while others could be trained in technical career orientated skills in the growing of bulbs. This training is coupled with business skills training, to equip those who prefer to explore business ventures upon completion of the course. The target beneficiaries comprise mainly of the youth, unemployed men and women to help them join or rejoin the labour market, but now with a specific trade. It is furthermore envisaged that the project will not only address the communities from the Westbank area, but it will also open its doors to

surrounding communities. While the project is totally dependent on the economic conditions of its applicants, training will be free to the beneficiaries.

The Westbank Training Vision

It is envisaged that the West Bank Training Centre will enter into a partnership with Cape Bulb and Seed and eventually become one of the most successful training projects for the unemployed and semi-skilled workers in the Western Cape, in uplifting previously disadvantaged communities and thus restoring lives, self purpose and pride of many who once were destitute.

The following is envisaged to mass-produce disease-free quality plant materialising in-vitro plant tissue culture techniques. To grow and develop unemployed people with life and technical career-orientated skills in the horticultural field, and to empower them to negotiate for a living wage and attempt to secure employment for them, which will promote quality service delivery to everybody.



The West Bank Bulb and Seed “Gold Cup” Project wishes to promote and enhance community partnership, which will:

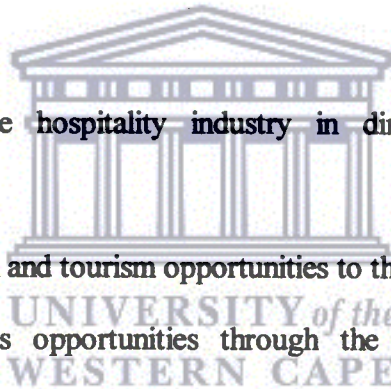
- Be the catalyst for other rural/urban upliftment projects based on further on-growing
of the plant material that is produced by the facility
- Serve the needs and interest of the community
- Empower people
- Deliver sustained quality service

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- Focus on the development of human potential
- Display integrity at all times.
- To develop a laboratory for disease-free quality plant material that will create employment opportunities and could alleviate poverty.

Programme Objectives:

- Targeting and training of the youth and the unemployed
- The creation of entrepreneurship awareness
- Provision of business skills to the community
- Bridging the gap between the disadvantaged communities through skill advancement.
- Explore and involve the hospitality industry in direct involvement with the community.
- Encouragement of tourism and tourism opportunities to the community.
- The creation of business opportunities through the involvement of people in their own development.



Strategic Objectives

- To reach profitability within a two year period
- To empower the most marginalised communities
- Job creation
- Development
- Contribution to Gross National Product (GNP)

- To provide employment for approximately 100 people with a further development of communities in flower selling, growing of bulbs, etc.

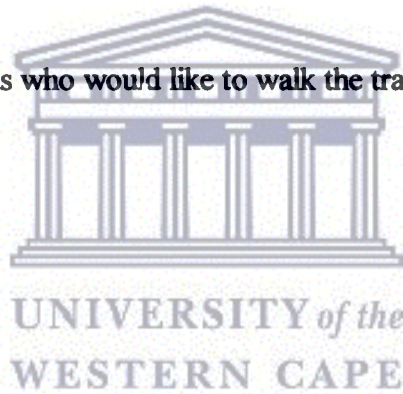
Method of Recruitment and Selection Procedures

Various marketing tools will be used, such as the local print and electronic media, internal, etc., community papers and trade magazines and radio stations.

West Bank has an abundance of plant and bird life in the area, with its dune banks.

This

too will be a bonus for tourists who would like to walk the trails in the dunes and to explore the plant life.



DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK FOR THE WESTBANK/ VLEI AREA

The Nooiensfontein Vlei is one of the few remaining wetlands on the Cape Flats. However, the nature of the vlei has changed from a seasonally wet area to a nutrient rich, permanently wet system. A number of specialist studies were undertaken in order to assess the ecological value of the study area and to provide guidance with respect to management options. The vlei is perceived as a valuable educational resource for the community and the children, and should be used by schools as a living laboratory so that they can view, touch and experience the plants and living organisms. Unemployment is a problem in Westbank and thus it is important that opportunities for job and income generating activities be created in order to employ local people. Income generating activities which could be introduced include: breeding of birds, trout hatchery, owning boats, planting of vegetable gardens and the harvesting of indigenous species such as arum lilies, *Cyperus texilus* and waterblommetjies. This could also make the area attractive enough to attract tourists to stop en-route to Stellenbosch or elsewhere. The lack of recreational facilities within the Westbank could also lead to employment opportunities.

These projects inter-alia are the following:

- **Walking trails:** The banks of the river should be bounded by a series of walking trails. These could consist of gravel/"laterite" pathways that give the residents access to jogging/running, walking and cycling trails along the river banks connected into the adjacent urban areas. This could lead to job creation and self-employment.

- *Crossing points:* In order to provide circular walks and runs that are attractive to users, two new crossing points are proposed. In the north, there is a causeway originally constructed by the farmers to get from one side of the river to the other. This causeway should be examined to ensure that there is sufficient freeboard during higher flows, and then bridged with appropriate pedestrian bridges in order to provide a crossing point. In the south, a pedestrian bridge spanning the narrow river channel along the Silversands road alignment should be provided. There is some urgency attached to the southern crossing point as there are already a large number of children in Westbank who cross the river in various places to attend school at Silversands Primary School. Once again this could be a community driven project which could generate some employment to the residents.
- *Picnic areas* at various strategic locations (determined either by proximity to large numbers of people or by already existing natural features that could be incorporated at little cost) could be provided with the right mind shift this could also create employment opportunities and encourage visitors and tourists to the area. The spin-offs could be enormous in monetary terms.
- *Urban Park:* The complex of dunes, stormwater detention ponds and re-vegetated areas already partially developed on the south western banks of the river abutting Westbank should be consolidated and further developed as an important community asset which could attract visitors and tourists to the area and thus create employment opportunities.

- *School and communal gardens:* At strategic locations, ideally abutting the existing school sites or in close proximity to schools or communal facilities, opportunities for school and communal gardens could be developed. If necessary, irrigation could be provided to those areas from the Kuils River. This obviously will be an asset for future generations.

SUMMARY

As mentioned above there exist a number of opportunities in the area which are windows of opportunities for local residence in Blue Downs. However, they need the support of all role players to be successful. Blue Downs, as in the case with other towns are experiencing problems associated with poverty as a result of unemployment, decreasing food security and economic decline. As Blue Downs is on the urban edge, it is most likely to attract rural migrants and become centres of crisis that are unable to meet pressures created by rapid population growth and increasing demands for food. This is often compelled with the lack of basic skills, knowledge, capacity and resources, which must be addressed.

The whole notion of self-reliance through SMME's and people meeting their own needs, and thus generating their own employment and income are to an extent advantageous in any situation which provides a framework to harness talent, skills and human resource. It is also an effective way to address gender and environmental issues and concerns.

CHAPTER 5**OVERVIEW**

This research paper provides an overview of the problem in Blue Downs and provides data on the views of Blue Downs residents and possible solutions to address the issue of poverty through job creation. The data also provides information on the main strategic themes, which should help the community and the Municipality to target their work programme and to plan a repeat of the survey within two to three years' time, and to provide evidence of change over time.

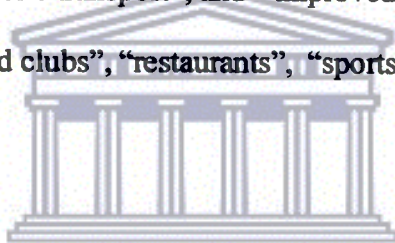
What the research does is to bring to the attention of the role-players, i.e. communities and authorities, that a plan of action needs to be implemented to address the concerns of the community. This can be done by probing at the problem and making recommendations on how to become a prosperous and thriving town, where everybody would want to live, work and enjoy the prosperity of the town.

As only a sample was interviewed and not the entire population of the Blue Downs residents, one cannot be sure that the results obtained would be the same if the entire population had been interviewed. Nevertheless, given the spread, size and selection sample, it is possible to calculate the likely level of accuracy of the sample we have obtained. The measure most commonly used is the 95% confidence interval, which defines the margins of error we would expect in nineteen out of every twenty samples selected at random.

The survey provides the researcher with feedback from a representative sample of residents in the Nooiensfontein area and in the Spandau area and emerging from the above it was acknowledged that:

Blue Downs town centre is used by most residents during the day, but only by just over a third of residents in the evenings. Most residents use the town centre for shopping and travel in by car or public transport.

The most popular improvements suggested to the town centre were “more and better public toilets”, “improved public transport”, and “improved cleanliness”. Younger people prefer “more pubs and clubs”, “restaurants”, “sports facilities” and “child minding/changing facilities”.



Most residents shop in the Blue Downs town centre and markets at least occasionally. Prices, quality of goods, general atmosphere and the service from traders are all thought to be good. People who do not use the markets generally are of the opinion that it is because supermarkets and other shops in other areas are more convenient.

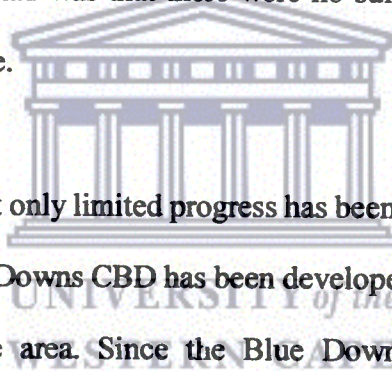
Not many residents are worried about crime, though some groups are particularly worried about house burglary. Experience of crime is much less, though some residents actually experienced some form of crime.

Not many residents have taken part in community activities in the last 6 months, though

some have shown an interest in being more involved, particularly in the younger age groups. Most of the residents are happy with where they live, though some are not, and for most of these it is because their home is too small.

The condition of streets, pavements and dog-fouling are considered to be a problem in the Blue Downs area. Certain residents are not interested in the environment, but agree that awareness should be encouraged.

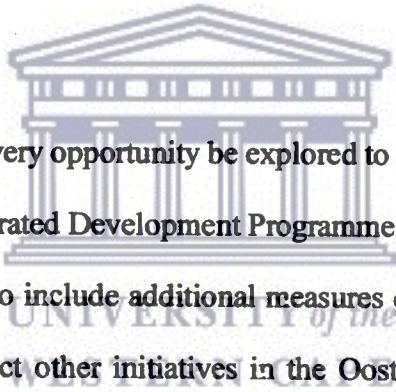
The area is characterised with a very high unemployment rate. Unemployed people felt that the main problem they had was that there were no suitable jobs available within a reasonable travelling distance.



From the above it is clear that only limited progress has been made in the development of the area. Although the Blue Downs CBD has been developed in the 1980's, nothing has been done to revitalise the area. Since the Blue Downs Sport Complex and the magisterial courts have been constructed, new interest in the CBD. The development of Saxenberg Park, the Safic Hygro development project and the new interest in the Blackheath industrial park are all positive factors for the economic upheaval of the Blue Downs area. However, the following are important factors that one must be content with:

- A large percentage of the local population is poor, illiterate and they do not have access to employment opportunities.
- The area is characterised by a housing backlog and limited funds are available to continue with existing and future housing delivery programmes.

- As a result of natural growth and expected in-migration into low-income areas, it is assumed that low-income areas will increase at a higher rate than in the middle and high-income areas. This would necessitate a housing strategy that would concentrate especially on housing delivery in the low-income areas.
- Limited economic growth is expected that would not generate adequate employment opportunities to ensure that all the residents of Blue Downs earn adequate income. The expected growth could further attract new households into the area, contributing to the existing socio-economic, economic and housing problems. Opportunities to create employment opportunities for the local population would need to be identified or created.



It is thus important that every opportunity be explored to bring some of these projects to life alongside the Integrated Development Programme (IDP). This exercise would be continually extended to include additional measures of social and environmental progress. This will reflect other initiatives in the Oostenberg Municipal area and could be used to encourage some leverage of additional effort.

The study therefore provides an opportunity to begin to measure not only against specific objectives of the programme, but also for tracking the broader quality of life in a geographical area which will continue to need the partnership's attention if regeneration in Oostenberg (in this context, Blue Downs) is to be sustainable.

The research paper is designed to firmly entrench the Oostenberg's commitment to the process of Reconstruction and Development in South Africa, and to ensure that a difference is made in the lives of the most marginalised disadvantaged communities in the municipal area. In this instance a number of role-players, such as Non-Governmental Organisations (NGO's), Community Based Development Structures (CBD's) and RDP Forums worked together in this regard.

The research also looked at job creation and the beneficiary community and the role they will play, but more over the key task areas to be informed by the outcome of this research paper will be the following:

(i) Promoting integrated social developing planning

By bringing people, structure, strategies and programmes together in a coordinated and structured way to harness all resources in a coherent and purposeful manner which will be sustainable in future. The research paper tries to identify and bring the resources together by determining the people's needs that should collectively be addressed in an integrated manner.

(ii) Building the Capacity of People

We acknowledged that people have aspirations that need to be addressed. In an effort to eradicate poverty and underdevelopment of our people, we need to strengthen individuals, forums and community based structures through capacity empowerment programmes.

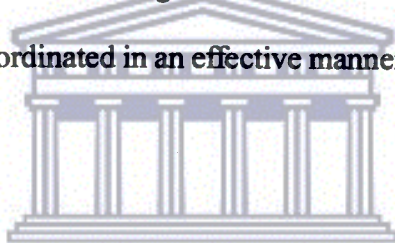
Recommendation

The research study points to the need for a structure to co-ordinate an overall strategy or programme for the area. The local authority must also be committed and sincere in its developmental role and ensures that resources, financial and otherwise are released to ensure that developmental projects can be initiated and implemented as well as fundraise for LED activities.

NB

The various initiatives in the area relies on matters of mutual interest, such as training and small business support in areas such as agricultural and eco-tourism projects. However, these projects need to be co-ordinated in an effective manner otherwise little success will be achieved.

NB



In response to the employment crisis in the area, the need to retrain people who had lost jobs in the past is a challenge for the community and local authority. It is however important that development programmes be initiated which could offer skills training to prospective small business entrepreneurs and training in business development.

NB

Support to farming especially in the hi-tech agri-village and cultivation of bulps should be provided to ensure that spin-offs could be realised, which in turn could contribute to the regions economy. Incentives should be offered which could include free industrial sites and grounds to entrepreneurs who have the ability to start businesses in the area

should be encouraged. This will enable local people to be empowered and employed from within the area.

Conclusion

The outcome of this research paper clearly spells out a need for intervention strategies that could promote aspects of the economy, including the structural features, particularly those that create employment opportunities and poverty eradication. It is thus clear that the effective implementation of local economic development strategies as highlighted in the research must be complemented by the availability of some form of fiscal resources, private sector investment and capital formation, technological innovations as well as the existence of appropriate social and institutional settings. The challenges of creating a developmental and competitive system with effective and efficient services will require far more of the systems of governance than that which are currently the case. Therefore employment opportunities, tax incentives and other options need to be put in place to address the employment problems.

It will require high levels of civic leadership to address the development challenges facing Blue Downs. It will also require high quality decision-making within and from the organization (internal governance). It will require higher levels of inter-governmental working, both within the area and in terms of establishing and fostering continental and global links and partnerships. Obviously apartheid-styled development planning fundamentally damaged the spatial, social and economic environments in which people live, work, raise families and seek to fulfill their aspirations. As a result, local

government, as the sphere of government closest to the residents, has a critical role to play in rebuilding local communities and environments as the basis for a democratic, integrated, prosperous and truly non-racial society, surrounded with wealth creations.

As already mentioned the research paper highlights the problems associated with poverty and urbanisation. The legacy of apartheid especially the abolition of influx control on 30 June 1986 brought about huge urban challenges as some of the major urban areas struggled and indeed are still struggling to accommodate the millions of people migrating from rural areas in search of employment.

Although Blue Downs was a direct result of the apartheid policies of separate developments for South Africa, most of its problems are also as a result of no employment opportunities in the area. However the research paper also provides a number of avenues to explore to eradicate and reduce poverty. It is therefore important that strategies be developed that could address the issues of reducing poverty but it should also have to address issues of low self-esteem, lack of access to services such as transportation, childcare, inadequate housing and household services, and discrimination. The local authority should also encourage and foster partnerships with the community and to encourage community economic development.

Community economic development in this context focuses on combining employment, training, human resources and enterprise development to enhance access to and the creation of jobs, careers and self-sufficiency for disadvantaged communities. In other

words, this strategy aims to create new job opportunities by opening small businesses. It is thus important that the recommendations in this report be investigated with a view to implement it.



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INTERVIEWS

- Van Der Merwe E: Directorate Community Services and Facilities Oostenberg.
- Simons Y: Member of United Action Against TB: Tuberculosis Advocate Team.
- Community leader: Wallacedene, Bloekombos and Scottsdene.
- Nooiensfontein community (survey) one-on-one interviews.
- Spandau community (survey) one-on-one interviews.
- Staff: Provincial Administration Western Cape.
- South African Police Services (Blue Downs).
- Workshops with role-players in the Blue Downs area.

QUESTIONNAIRE NEEDS ASSESSMENT FOR BLUE DOWNS

NAME OF INTERVIEWER: _____

SIGNATURE OF CO-ORDINATOR: _____

SUBURB: _____

TELEPHONE NO / CELL NO: _____

Introduction:

Good day, my name is a student at the university of the Western Cape, School of Government and I am conducting a survey of the Spandau/Nooiensefontein area. I need your co-operation to determine the needs in your area, so that an appropriate development strategy for the area could be developed. Everything you tell us will be treated as confidential.

INTERVIEWER

ASK AN ADULT PERSON LIVING ON THE STAND TO SUPPLY YOU WITH THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION, PREFERABLY THE HEAD OF THE HOUSEHOLD. (A household would include all persons who eat together. It may include a mother, father, other friends or relatives, plus all the children.)

1. GENERAL BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

1.1 PARTICULARS OF PERSON INTERVIEWED

1.1.1 NAME OF PERSON INTERVIEWED: _____

1.1.2 ADDRESS: _____

1.1.3 GENDER OF PERSON INTERVIEWED:

M	F
---	---

1.1.4 IS THIS PERSON THE HEAD OF THE HOUSEHOLD ?

Y	N
---	---

(A household head is a male or female adult person who takes responsibility for the household.)

1.2 HOUSEHOLD RELATIONSHIPS

The relationship to the head of the household refers to where the head of the household is either the “mother” or the “father” of the house, who is the head of your household. Kindly indicate the relationship with an “X” in the spaces below.

Relationship	Head (n)	Head (%)	Other (n)	Other (%)
Mother				
Father				
Grandmother				
Grandfather				
Sister				
Brother				
Son				
Daughter				
Grand child				
Niece & Nephew				
Other family (sister's child/family)				
No response				
TOTAL				

1.3 AGE COMPOSITION

What is your age and that of your family. Kindly indicate with an “X” in the spaces below.

0 – 4 Years	
5 – 9 Years	
10 – 14 Years	
Under 18 Years	
18 – 24 Years	
25 – 39 Years	
40 – 64 Years	
65 + Years	

1.4 GENDER

What is the gender ratio of the members of the household. Kindly indicate with an “X” in the spaces below.

GENDER	HEAD	OTHER
Male		
Female		

1.5 SOCIAL GRANTS AND PENSIONS

Are you receiving a grant or pension ? Please indicate with an "X" in the space below.

TYPE OF GRANT	
Old age	
Disability	
Maintenance	
Grants in aid	
Receive no grant	

1.6 EDUCATION

Please indicate the level of education of all the members of the household

Household Member	No school	Grade 1-2 (Sub A-B)	Grade 3-7 (Std 1-5)	Grade 8-10 (Std 6-8)	Grade 11-12 (Std 9-10)	Technical College	University
1							
2							
3							
4							
5							
6							
7							
8							
9							

1.7 LANGUAGE

Please indicate the language spoken in the household. Kindly indicate with an "X" in the space below.

Afrikaans	
English	
Xhosa	
No response	

2. HOUSING

2.1 HOUSING TYPES

Please indicate for each household with an "X" in the space below.

- (a) The type of building or structure they live in on the stand / plot.
- (b) The main material used for the building or structure that they live in on the site.

HOUSEHOLD				
(a) Type of building	1	2	3	4
Main building				
Garage				
Outbuilding				
Shack				
Other (specify)				
HOUSEHOLD				
(b) Material	1	2	3	4
Bricks				
Wood				
Corrugated iron				
Plastic				
Asbestos				
Other (specify)				

2.2 ROOM DENSITY

Please indicate for each household with an "X" in the spaces below.

Type of dwelling	Average number of rooms	Average number of persons
House or brick structure on a separate stand		
Traditional dwelling		
Flat in a block of flats		
Town/cluster/semi-detached house		
Informal structure/shack in backyard		
Informal dwelling/shack in squatter camp		

2.3 HOME OWNERSHIP

Does someone in the household own the home. Please indicate with an "X" in the space below.

Yes	
No	
No response	

TOTAL	
--------------	--

TYPE OF HOUSE

What is the ownership by the type of home. Please indicate with an "X" in the space below.

Type of dwelling	
House or brick structure on a separate stand	
Traditional dwelling	
Flat in a block of flats	
Town/cluster/semi-detached house	
Informal structure/shack in backyard	
Informal dwelling/shack in squatter camp	
No response	
TOTAL	

2.4 OWNERSHIP OF LAND

Do you own the land on which the house is situated (indicate with an "X")

Ownership of land	
Own the land	
Do not own the land	
No response	
TOTAL	

Indicate with an "X" the type of dwelling in comparison with the ownership of the land on which the house is built

Type of dwelling	
House or brick structure on a separate stand	
Flat in a block of flats	
Town/cluster/semi-detached house	
Informal dwelling/shack in a squatter camp	
No response	
TOTAL	

2.5 ELECTRIFICATION

Is the home electrified (indicate with an "X")

House is electrified	
Yes	
No	

TOTAL	
--------------	--

Indicate with an "X" the type of houses that are electrified

Type of dwelling	Electrified
House or brick structure on a separate stand	
Flat in a block of flats	
Town/cluster/semi-detached house	
Informal dwelling/shack in backyard	
Informal dwelling/shack in squatter camp	
No response	
TOTAL	

Indicate with an "X" the type of electrification

Type of electrification	
Complete electrification (lights, plugs, geyser)	
Lights, plugs only	
Lights only	
No electricity	
TOTAL	

2.6 ENERGY SOURCES

Indicate with an "X" the energy source for household use

Energy source	Cooking	Heating	Lighting
Electricity from ESKOM			
Wood			
Candles			
No response			
TOTAL			

3. DECISION MAKING

3.1 HOUSEHOLD PARTICIPATION IN DECISION MAKING

Indicate with an "X" the person/s that makes decisions in the households on the following:

- (a) Money
- (b) Children
- (c) Major purchases
- (d) Rules of the home

Decision 1: Money (saving, borrowing, spending)	
Jointly (partners)	
Children (parent/s and children)	
Father	
Mother	
No Response	
TOTAL	

Decision 2: Children (discipline, schooling)	
Jointly (partners)	
Children (parent/s and children)	
Father	
Mother	
No Response	
TOTAL	

Decision 3: Major purchases (appliances, furniture)	
Jointly (partners)	
Children (parent/s and children)	
Father	
Mother	
No Response	
TOTAL	

Decision 4: The rules of the house	
Jointly (partners)	
Children (parent/s and children)	
Father	
Mother	
No Response	
TOTAL	

4. SOCIO-ECONOMIC INFORMATION

4.1 EMPLOYMENT OF HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD

Indicate with an "X" the employment status of the household head

Employment	
Own / family's business	
Work for an employer on permanent base	
Seasonal or temporary worker	
Don't work at all	

TOTAL	
--------------	--

4.2 EMPLOYMENT OF PARTNER

What is the employment status of the partner/spouse of the household. Indicate with an "X"

Employment status	
Partner employed	
Partner unemployed	
No response	
TOTAL	

4.3 OCCUPATION

Indicate with an "X" the sector and type of work that the household head and his/her partner do.

Type of work	Respondent	Partner
Unemployed/housewife/pensioner		
Professional (teacher/doctor/nurse)		
Farm labourers/Seasonal workers		
Semi-skilled (security work/factory/hand man)		
Transportation/drivers/taxi's		
Domestic workers		
Home industry (candle/bamboo making)		
Artisans/Tradesman (painters/cabinet making)		
Labourers/Construction workers		
Clerical occupation (typist/Secretary)		
Sales (shop assistant/sales/rebs)		
Services (Sangoma/fire brigade/traffic)		
Unclassified		
TOTAL		

4.4 SOURCE OF INCOME

Indicate with an "X" the main source of income in the household

Source of income	
No income	
Old age Pension	
Disability grant	
Foster Grant	
Salary/Wages	
Other (Sales/Boarding)	

TOTAL	
--------------	--

4.5 MONTHLY INCOME

Monthly income can be defined as the total monthly income generated from all sources such as salaries/wages, pension and grants, private pension schemes, private financial support/alimony, home-base industries/sales, etc.

Indicate with an "X" the household's total monthly income

Amount	
None	
R1 - R200	
R201 - R500	
R501 - R1000	
R1000 -R1500	
R1501 - R2500	
R2501 - R3500	
R3501+	
TOTAL	

Indicate with an "X" the income of household by self-employed persons

Income from own/family business		
None		
R1 - R200		
R201 - R500		
R501-R1 000		
R1 001-R1500		
R1 501 -R2500		
R2501 -R3500		
R3501		
TOTAL		

5. EXPRESSED NEEDS

5.1 HOUSEHOLD NEEDS

Indicate with an "X" the greatest problem / need in household

Type of need expressed	%	Priority
General disadvantaged community		
No income/poor		
Low standard of living		
Social problems (alcoholism/gangsters/drugs)		

Type of need expressed	%	Priority
Electricity		
Housing		
Food		
Other		
No response		
TOTAL		

5.2 COMMUNITY NEEDS

Indicate with an "X" the greatest problem / needs in the community

Problems/needs		
Electricity		
Water		
Sanitation/Sewerage/Drainage		
Clinic/Hospital		
Multipurpose buildings		
Refuse removal		
Unemployment		
Transport		
Infrastructure (road/bridge)		
Crèche/School		
Sport and recreation		
Telephones		
Shops/Retail		
Social problem		
Public services (police station & fire brigade)		
Security		
Reckless driving		

5.3 COMMUNITY PRIORITIES FOR IMPROVEMENT

Indicate with an "X" your community's priority projects if funding was available

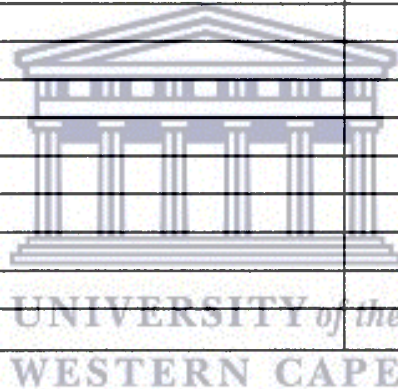
First improvements		
Multipurpose centre		
Electricity		
Community development		
Crèche/School		
Clinic/Hospital		
Better housing		
Facilities for the aged		
Infrastructure		

First improvements		
Other (plant etc.)		
Buy food		
Security		
Sport and recreation		
Employment		
Education		
No response		
TOTAL		

5.4 RESPONDENTS PROPOSED SOLUTIONS TO COMMUNITY PROBLEMS

Indicate with an "X" the greatest problem (project) in your community

Problem		
Multipurpose buildings		
Housing		
Skills/capacity building		
Infrastructure (road bridge)		
Crèche/school		
Sport and recreation		
Telephones		
No response		
TOTAL		



5.5 Education

Indicate with an "X" the factor that would make a difference in education

Factor		
Sport and recreation facilities		
Improvement of school building/ New school		
Better education		
Purchase of general aid		
Extra teaching classes (e.g. extra math's)		
Financial support/ Expensive schools		
School bus/ Transportation		
Better discipline		
Computer education		
Better facilities (e.g. school desks/books)		
Evening education		
Offering of self support		
Other		
No response		

TOTAL		
--------------	--	--

5.6 SPECIFIC SOCIAL PROBLEMS

Indicate with an "X" your community's specific social problems in household

Social problem		
Excessive drinking		
Drug abuse		
Child abuse		
Domestic violence		
Gang violence		
Illiteracy		
Unemployment		
TB		
HIV/Aids		
Teenage pregnancies		

5.7 BASIC SERVICES

Indicate with an "X" the services that are needed in your community

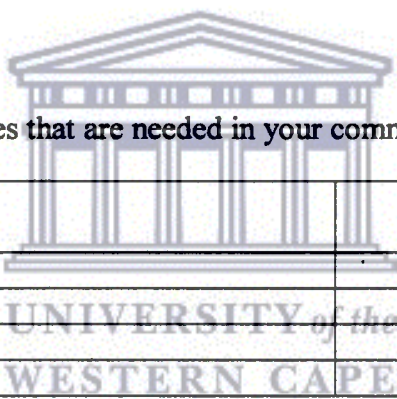
Services		
Water		
Sanitation		
Refuse removal		
Electricity		

6. COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

6.1 RESPONDENT'S OWN COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

Indicate with an "X" whether you as a member of the community is doing enough

Level of agreement	
Strongly agree/Agree	
Not sure	
Disagree/Strongly disagree	
No response	
TOTAL	



6.2 RESPONDENTS INVOLVEMENT IN COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS

Indicate with an "X" your involvement in community organisations

Level of involvement					
Not involved					
Involved					
Actively participate					
Leadership position					
No response					
TOTAL					

6.3 COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Indicate with an "X" the nature of your involvement in community activities.

Community activity	
Departmental Transformation' Committees	
Youth, educare, women's projects/programmes	
RDP	
Welfare/voluntary/service projects	
Political party activities	
Other	

6.4 DISLIKES

Indicate with an "X" the conditions least liked in your community

Condition	
No security	
No co-operation	
Smuggling	
Drugs/Alcohol	
Poor service	
Social problems (family violence/child abuse)	
No moral standards (bad/hateful/jealous/swearing)	
Other	
No response	
TOTAL	

7. COMMUNITY PERCEPTIONS

7.1 PERCEPTIONS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Indicate with an "X" your opinion as to whether the municipality/rural local authority is doing enough to improve the conditions in your community

Level of agreement	
Local Authority is doing enough	
Not sure	
Local Authority is not doing enough	
No response	
TOTAL	

7.2 PERCEPTIONS OF PROVINCIAL AND CENTRAL GOVERNMENT

Indicate with an "X" whether the government is doing enough to improve the conditions in your community

Level of agreement	
Government is doing	
Not sure	
Government is not doing enough	
No response	
TOTAL	

7.3 COMMUNITY PERCEPTION ON SAFETY AND SECURITY

Indicate with an "X" whether you regard your neighbourhood as being safe

Response	
Yes	
No	
No response	
TOTAL	

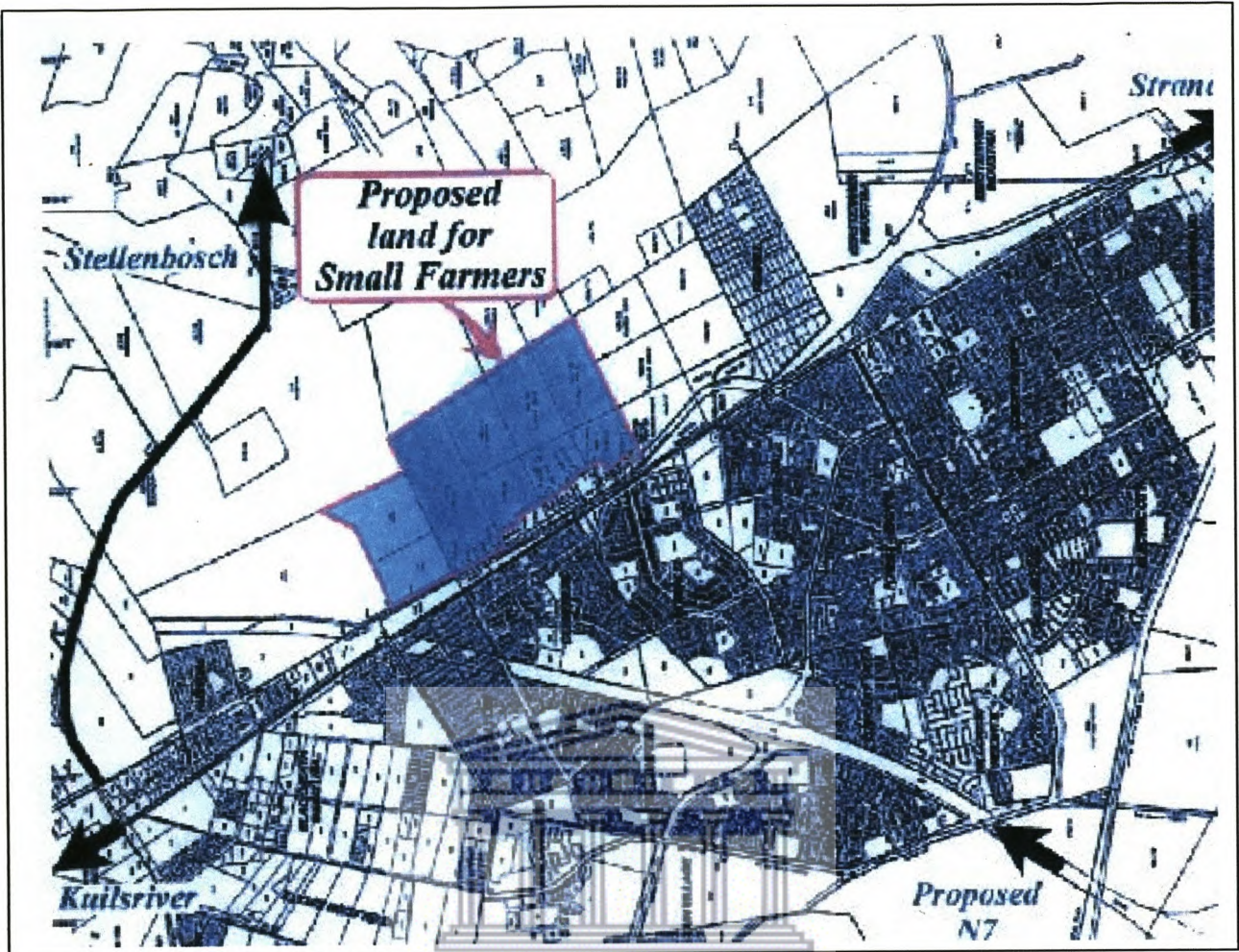
Indicate with an "X" the reason why you perceive your neighbourhood as being unsafe

Response	
Fire arms	
Lack of security	

Response	
Refugees	
Gangsters	
Other	
No response	
TOTAL	







UNIVERSITY of the
WESTERN CAPE

