

SOCI O-ECONOMI C ASSESSMENT
FOR
24G APPLI CATION
KLI ENBOS FARM
WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

AUGUST 2021

Prepared for

CAPEEAPRAC

By

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION AND LOCATION

Cape EAPrac was appointed by as the lead consultant to manage the 24G Application for the activities undertaken on Kleinbos Farm located ~ 28 km north of Mossel Bay in the Western Cape Province. The farm consists of Remaining Extent of Farm Kleinbos 57, Portion 4 of Farm Landsekloof 55 and Portion 8 of Farm Landsekloof 55.

Tony Barbour was appointed by Cape EAPrac to undertake a specialist Social Impact Assessment (SIA) as part of the 24G Application.

SUMMARY OF KEY FINDINGS

The key findings of the study are summarised under the following sections:

- Fit with policy and planning.
- Construction phase impacts.
- Operational phase impacts.
- No-development option.

POLICY AND PLANNING FIT

In terms of the Spatial Planning Categories contained in the WC Rural Areas Development Guideline, Kleinbos Farm is located in an area designated as Agriculture. The Garden Route (Eden) District SDF is also adopts the Spatial Planning Categories (SPC) contained in the Draft WCG Rural Land Use Planning and Management Guidelines (2017) and their definitions. The Mossel Bay SDF indicates that Kleinbos Farm is located in an area identified as Intensive Agriculture. The proposed development of avocados on the property is therefore aligned with and supported by the key policy and planning documents for the area.

CONSTRUCTION PHASE IMPACTS

The key social issues associated with the construction phase include:

Potential positive impacts

- Creation of business and employment and opportunities.

The creation employment and business opportunities are associated with preparation of the land for the avocado orchards and the construction of the small, off-stream dam. Based on figures for the citrus sector, the cost of establishing ~ 31 ha of avocado orchards would be in the region of R 4.6 million. The establishment of orchards is also labour intensive and creates employment opportunities for low and semi-skilled workers. The majority of these workers are likely to be locally based Historically Disadvantaged Individuals (HDIs).

Given the low income levels and limited employment opportunities in the area employment opportunities that will be associated with establishment of the avocado plantation represent a socio-economic benefit.

Potential negative impacts

- Security and safety risks to adjacent farms posed by workers.
- Noise, dust, traffic related impacts associated with construction related activities.

The significance of the potential negative impacts with mitigation was assessed to be of Low Negative to Negligible significance.

Table 1 summarises the significance of the impacts associated with the construction phase.

Table 1: Summary of social impacts during construction phase

Impact	Significance No Mitigation	Significance With Enhancement /Mitigation
Creation of business and employment opportunities	Medium (Positive)	Medium (Positive)
Threat to safety and security	Low (Negative)	Low (Negative)
Impact of construction related activities (dust, noise, traffic etc.)	Low (Negative)	Low (Negative)

OPERATIONAL PHASE IMPACTS

Potential positive impacts

- Creation of employment and business opportunities.
- Implementation of alien clearing and fire management plan.

Based on the information provided by the client ~2 workers are employed per ha. The total number of employment opportunities would therefore be in the region of 62. The majority of the workers will be locally based HDIs. The total annual wage would be in the region of R 3 million. Given the low income levels and limited employment opportunities in the area employment opportunities that will be associated with establishment of the avocado plantation will represent a socio-economic benefit. Additional downstream employment and business opportunities will also be associated with the avocado propagation nursery and avocado packing plant in George.

Potential negative impacts

Based on the findings of the SIA there are no significant negative social impacts associated with the operational phase of the development that would have a bearing on the decision -making process.

Table 2 summarises the significance of the impacts associated with the operational phase.

Table 2: Summary of social impacts during operational phase

Impact	Significance No Mitigation	With Enhancement /Mitigation
Creation of employment opportunities	Moderate (Positive)	High (Positive)
Benefits associated alien clearing and fire management programme	Moderate (Positive)	High (Positive)

NO-DEVELOPMENT OPTION

The site is located within an area designated as an Agriculture SPC. The area has therefore been identified as suitable for intensive agriculture. Within this context the no-development alternative would result in the benefits associated with the investment into avocado farming being forgone. These include the creation of employment and business opportunities associated with the initiative. The no-development option is therefore not supported.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

The activities that triggered the 24G Application involved the establishment of a small, off-stream dam (0.31ha) and clearing of ~ 14 ha for the establishment of avocado orchards. An expected final total of ~31ha under orchard is envisaged by the applicant. Based on the findings of the SIA, the potential negative impacts associated with these activities are marginal and are unlikely to have impacted on the adjacent land users in the vicinity of the site.

The construction and operational phase will create a number of socio-economic opportunities, including employment, skills development, and training. Additional downstream employment and business opportunities will also be associated with the avocado propagation nursery and avocado packing plant in George.

The site is also located in an area that is identified as suitable for intensive agriculture. It is therefore recommended that the development be approved.

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CONTENTS OF THE SPECIALIST REPORT – CHECKLIST

Regulation GNR 326 of 4 December 2014, as amended 7 April 2017, Appendix 6	Section of Report
(a) details of the specialist who prepared the report; and the expertise of that specialist to compile a specialist report including a <i>curriculum vitae</i> ;	Section 1.6, Annexure C
(b) a declaration that the specialist is independent in a form as may be specified by the competent authority;	Section 1.7, Annexure D
(c) an indication of the scope of, and the purpose for which, the report was prepared;	Section 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3
(cA) an indication of the quality and age of base data used for the specialist report;	Section 1.5, Section 2 and 3
(cB) a description of existing impacts on the site, cumulative impacts of the proposed development and levels of acceptable change;	Section 4
(d) the duration, date and season of the site investigation and the relevance of the season to the outcome of the assessment;	N/A
(e) a description of the methodology adopted in preparing the report or carrying out the specialised process inclusive of equipment and modelling used;	Section 1.4 Annexure B
(f) details of an assessment of the specific identified sensitivity of the site related to the proposed activity or activities and its associated structures and infrastructure, inclusive of a site plan identifying site alternatives;	Section 4
(g) an identification of any areas to be avoided, including buffers;	N/A
(h) a map superimposing the activity including the associated structures and infrastructure on the environmental sensitivities of the site including areas to be avoided, including buffers;	Section 1.2
(i) a description of any assumptions made and any uncertainties or gaps in knowledge;	Section 1.5
(j) a description of the findings and potential implications of such findings on the impact of the proposed activity, including identified alternatives on the environment, or activities;	Section 4 and 5
(k) any mitigation measures for inclusion in the EMPr;	Section 4
(l) any conditions for inclusion in the environmental authorisation;	Section 4 and 5
(m) any monitoring requirements for inclusion in the EMPr or environmental authorisation;	N/A
(n) a reasoned opinion— i. as to whether the proposed activity, activities or portions thereof should be authorised; iA. Regarding the acceptability of the proposed activity or activities; and ii. if the opinion is that the proposed activity, activities or portions thereof should be authorised, any avoidance, management and mitigation measures that should be included in the EMPr or Environmental Authorization, and where applicable, the closure plan;	Section 5.3
(o) a description of any consultation process that was undertaken during the course of preparing the specialist report	Annexure A
(p) a summary and copies of any comments received during any consultation process and where applicable all responses thereto; and	N/A
(q) any other information requested by the competent authority	N/A
Where a government notice gazetted by the Minister provides for any protocol or minimum information requirement to be applied to a specialist report, the requirements as indicated in such notice will apply.	Comply with the Assessment Protocols that were published on 20 March 2020, in Government Gazette 43110, GN

	<p>320. This specifically includes Part A, which provides the Site Sensitivity Verification Requirements where a Specialist Assessment is required but no Specific Assessment Protocol has been prescribed. As at September 2020, there are no sensitivity layers on the Screening Tool for Socio-economic-features. Part A has therefore not been compiled for this assessment.</p>
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ACRONYMS

DFFE	Department of Forestry, Fisheries & the Environment (National)
DEA&DP	Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (WCP)
DM	District Municipality
GRDM	Garden Route District Municipality
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
MBLM	Mossel Bay Local Municipality
IDP	Integrated Development Plan
LED	Local Economic Development
LM	Local Municipality
LSDF	Local Spatial Development Framework
SDF	Spatial Development Framework

SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION

1.1 INTRODUCTION

Cape EAPrac was appointed by as the lead consultant to manage the 24G Application for the activities undertaken on Kleinbos Farm located ~ 28 km north of Mossel Bay in the Western Cape Province (Figure 1.1). The farm consists of Remaining Extent of Farm Kleinbos 57, Portion 4 of Farm Landsekloof 55 and Portion 8 of Farm Landsekloof 55.

Tony Barbour was appointed by Cape EAPrac to undertake a specialist Social Impact Assessment (SIA) as part of the 24G Application.

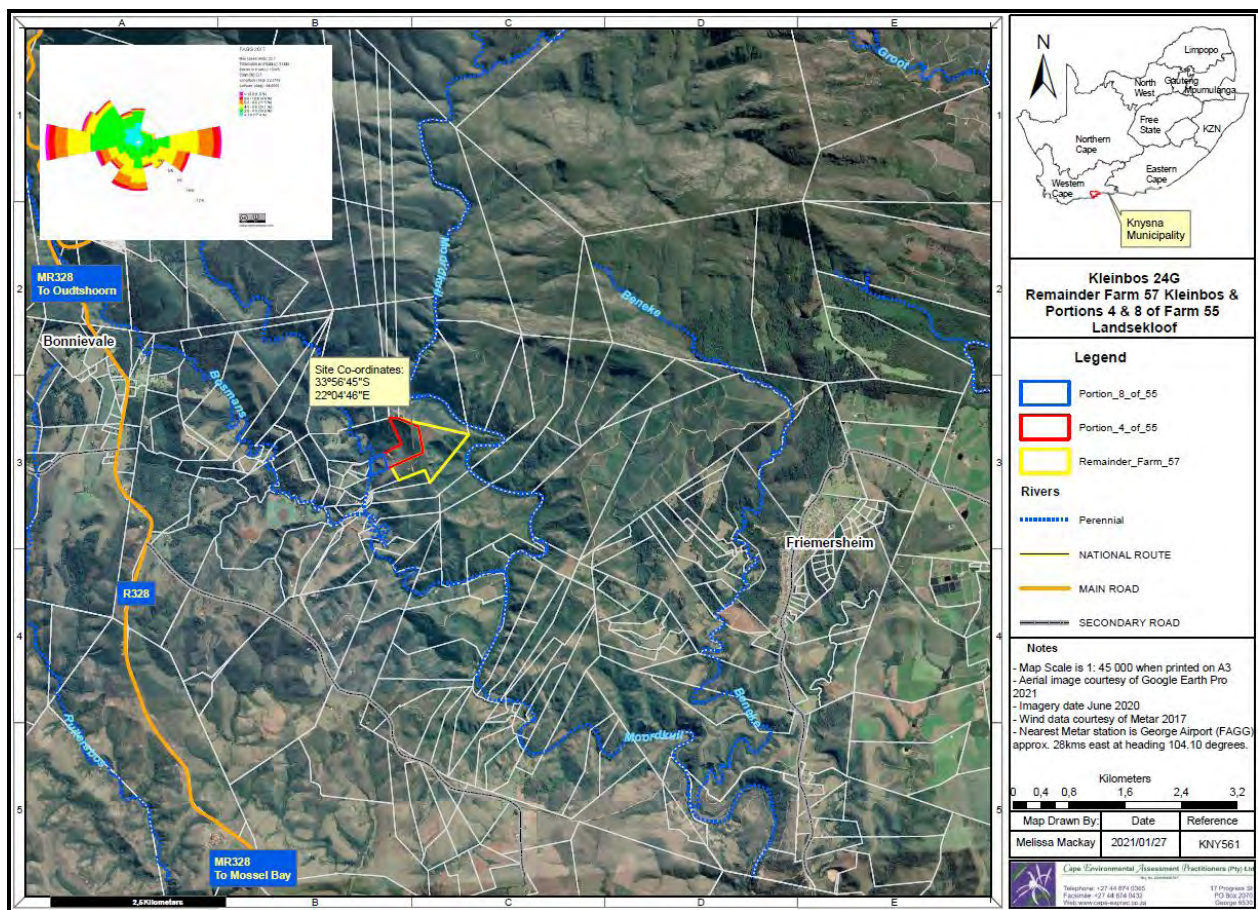


Figure 1.1: Location of Site

1.2 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Kleinbos Farm is located ~ 5 km west of the small settlement of Friemersheim (Photograph 3.1 and 3.2). Access to the site is via the provincial road DR1630 near km 6 onto OP6824. The farm consists of Remaining Extent of Farm Kleinbos 57 (~57.5 ha), Portion 4 of Farm Landsekloof 55 (~22 ha) and Portion 8 of Farm Landsekloof 55 (~4.9 ha)(Figure 1.2). The

The properties were purchased in February 2017 by the current owner. The activities that triggered the 24G Application involved the clearing of land for the establishment of avocado trees and the construction of a small dam (0.31ha) located within the cleared areas for water pumped from an existing abstraction point. The dam is not an instream dam and replaces a previous dam that was infilled for inclusion in the crop planting area (Figure 1.3). An area of approximately 14.3ha has been cleared for the planting of avocados. An additional ± 8.23 ha is planned which will bring the total area cleared for crops to ± 31 ha.

Map Title: Kleinbos 24G
Remainder Farm 57 Kleinbos & Portions 4 & 8 of Farm 55
Landsekkloof

Legend

- Portion_8_of_55 (Blue outline)
- Portion_4_of_55 (Red outline)
- Remainder_Farm_57 (Yellow outline)
- Rivers
 - Perennial (Blue line)
 - Non Perennial (Light blue line)
- OTHER ACCESS (Dashed line)

Notes

- Map Scale is 1: 8 000 when printed on A3
- Aerial image courtesy of Google Earth Pro 2021
- Imagery date June 2020

Scale: 0 0.05 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4 Kilometers

Map Drawn By: Melissa Mackay
Date: 2021/02/09
Reference: MOS665

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Kleinbos Farm-24 G Social Assessment

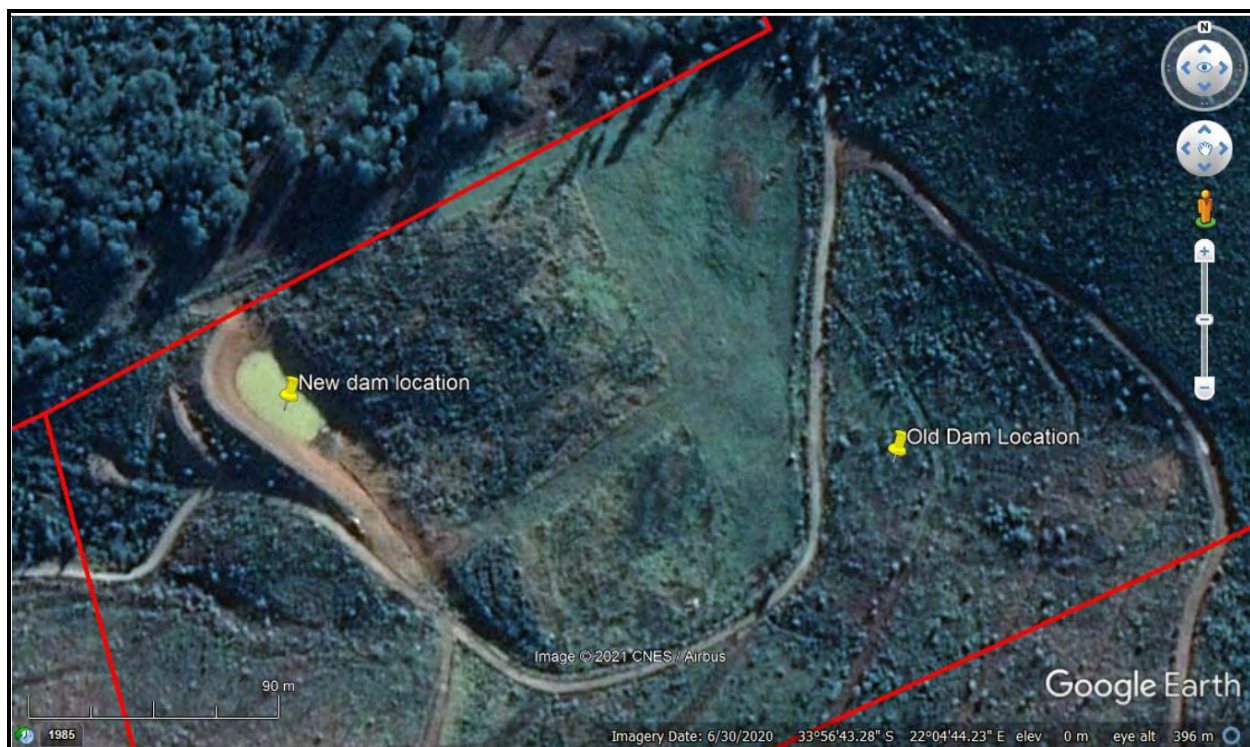


Figure 1.3: Location of old and new dam

1.3 TERMS OF REFERENCE

The terms of reference for the Socio-economic Assessment Report include:

- Collection of review of socio-economic baseline data for the study area.
- Collection and review of key land use policy and planning documents for the study area.
- Identification of potential social opportunities, constraints and risks.

1.4 APPROACH TO STUDY

The approach to the study is based on the Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development (DEA&DP) Planning Guidelines for Social Impact Assessment (SIA). The Guidelines are based on accepted international best practice guidelines, including the Guidelines and Principles for Social Impact Assessment (Inter-organizational Committee on Guidelines and Principles for Social Impact Assessment, 1994). The study involved:

- A review of project related information.
- A review of relevant socio-economic data for the study area.
- A review of relevant planning and policy frameworks for the study area.
- Site visit to the study area.
- Identification of key social and socio-economic issues.
- Preparation of a Social Assessment Report.

Annexure A lists the documents reviewed. Annexure B contains the methodology used to attach significance ratings.

1.5 ASSUMPTIONS AND LIMITATIONS

1.5.1 Assumptions

Fit with planning and policy requirements

Legislation and policies reflect societal norms and values. The legislative and policy context therefore plays an important role in identifying and assessing the potential socio-economic impacts associated with a proposed development. In this regard a key component of the Socio-Economic Assessment process is to assess the proposed development in terms of its fit with key planning and policy documents. As such, if the findings of the study indicate that the proposed development in its current format does not conform to the spatial principles and guidelines contained in the relevant legislation and planning documents, and there are no significant or unique opportunities created by the development, the development cannot be supported.

1.5.2 Limitations

Demographic data

Some of the provincial documents refer to data from the 2011 Census. Where possible this has been updated with information from the 2016 Household Community Survey.

1.6 SPECIALIST DETAILS

Tony Barbour has 27 years' experience in the field of environmental management. In terms of SIA experience Tony Barbour has undertaken in the region of 260 **SIA's and is the** author of the Guidelines for Social Impact Assessments for EIA's adopted by the Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (DEA&DP) in the Western Cape in 2007. Annexure C contains a copy of CV.

1.7 DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

This confirms that Tony Barbour, the specialist consultant responsible for undertaking the study and preparing the report, is independent and has no vested or financial interest in the proposed 24G application being either approved or rejected. Annexure D contains a signed declaration of independence.

1.8 REPORT STRUCTURE

The report is divided into four sections, namely:

- Section 1: Introduction.
- Section 2: Policy and planning environment.
- Section 3: Overview of the study area
- Section 4: Identification of potential social opportunities, constraints, and risks.
- Section 5: Summary of key findings.

SECTION 2: POLICY AND PLANNING ENVIRONMENT

2.1 INTRODUCTION

Legislation and policy embody and reflect key societal norms, values and developmental goals. The legislative and policy context therefore plays an important role in identifying, assessing and evaluating the significance of potential social impacts associated with any given proposed development. An **assessment of the “policy and planning fit”¹ of the proposed development** therefore constitutes a key aspect of the Social Impact Assessment (SIA). **In this regard, assessment of “planning fit”** conforms to international best practice for conducting SIAs.

For the purposes of the meeting the objectives of the SIA the following national, provincial and local level policy and planning documents were reviewed, namely:

- Western Cape Provincial Spatial Development Framework (2014).
- Western Cape Rural Areas Development Guideline (2019).
- Garden Route (Eden) District Municipality Spatial Development Framework (2017).
- Mossel Bay Municipality Integrated Development Plan (2017-2022).
- Mossel Bay Municipality Spatial Development Framework (2018).

2.2 WESTERN CAPE PROVINCIAL SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

The Cape PSDF (2014) is based on a set of 5 guiding principles, namely:

- Spatial justice.
- Sustainability and resilience.
- Spatial efficiency.
- Accessibility.
- Quality and Livability.

Under sustainability and resilience, the PSDF notes that land development should be spatially compact, resource-frugal, compatible with cultural and scenic landscapes, and should not involve the conversion of high potential agricultural land or compromise ecosystems.

In order to deliver on the Western Cape Government’s strategic objectives, the SDF focuses on growing the economy, building greater environmental resilience and much better inclusion. The Provincial SDF identifies the current challenges facing the Western Cape, stating that *“Inclusive growth is not simply about increasing employment, but rather about creating opportunities where people can be productively employed. At the same time individuals need to be equipped, through the process of education and training, to take hold of these opportunities. Creating these opportunities is therefore a necessary characteristic*

¹ **Planning fit**” can simply be described as the extent to which any relevant development satisfies the core criteria of appropriateness, need, and desirability, as defined or circumscribed by the relevant applicable legislation and policy documents at a given time.

of and a central challenge in generating inclusive growth” (Provincial Economic Review and Outlook, PERO 2013). In response to this, growing the economy is the Western Cape Government’s number one development priority.

The spatial agenda for the WCP is set out in Chapter 2.6. This agenda is anticipated to deliver on the objectives of greater inclusivity, growth, and environmental resilience. The agenda may be summarized as three linked sub-agendas, all addressed in the PSDF:

- (1) Growing the WCP economy in partnership with the private sector, non-governmental and community based organisations.
- (2) Using infrastructure investment as primary lever to bring about the required urban and rural spatial transitions.
- (3.) Improving oversight of the sustainable use of the **Western Cape’s spatial** assets. Its key objective is safeguarding the biodiversity networks, ecosystem services, agricultural resources, soils and water, as well as the **WCP’s** unique cultural, scenic and coastal resources on which the tourism economy depends.

The most relevant sub-agenda to the proposed development is improving the oversight of the sustainable use of the Western Cape’s Spatial Assets. Of specific relevance this includes:

- Safeguarding the biodiversity network and functionality of ecosystem services, a prerequisite for a sustainable future.
- **Prudent use of the Western Cape’s** precious land, water, and agricultural resources, all of which underpin the regional economy.
- **Safeguarding and celebrating the Western Cape’s unique cultural, scenic, and coastal** resources, on which the tourism economy depends.
- Understanding the spatial implications of known risks (e.g. climate change and its economic impact associated with extreme climatic events) and introducing risk mitigation and/or adaptation measures.

The SDF notes that the Western Cape economy is founded on the Province’s unique asset base. These include farming resources that make the Western Cape the country’s leading exporter of agricultural commodities and whose value chains (e.g. agri-processing) underpin the Province’s industrial sector; and its natural capital (i.e. biological diversity) and varied scenic and cultural resources which are the attraction that makes the Western Cape the country’s premier tourism destination.

Collectively these assets provide a unique lifestyle offering which contribute to the relative strength of the Province’s tertiary sector and its comparative advantage as a so-called knowledge economy. Not only is the economy dependent on these assets, but they also underpin livelihoods and set the parameters for the development and ultimate well-being of all residents. **The Western Cape’s natural and social capital are interdependent**, one cannot be substituted for the other. The SDF notes that the importance of the Province’s spatial asset base stems from the fact that it:

- Is the origin of life-supporting ecosystem services (e.g. clean air and water, pollination).
- Underpins the economy, particularly agriculture which provides food security, sustains rural livelihoods and draws income into the Province, and tourism.
- Comprises globally significant and diverse habitats and ecosystems.
- Makes the Western Cape a world class tourism destination, given the attraction and authenticity of rural landscapes of scenic, cultural, and natural splendour.

- Provides the location of diverse outdoor recreational and leisure activities for residents of and visitors to the Western Cape.

The proposed Kleinbos Farm development supports the development of the agricultural sector in the Western Cape. In terms of policies for the sustainable development of settlements the SDF highlights the importance of investing in regional service centre towns to support and integrate with the rural hinterlands. In terms of Growing the WCP economy in partnership with the private sector, non-governmental and community-based organisations, the SDF identifies George/Mossel Bay as regional industrial and tourism/leisure centres (Figure 2.1).

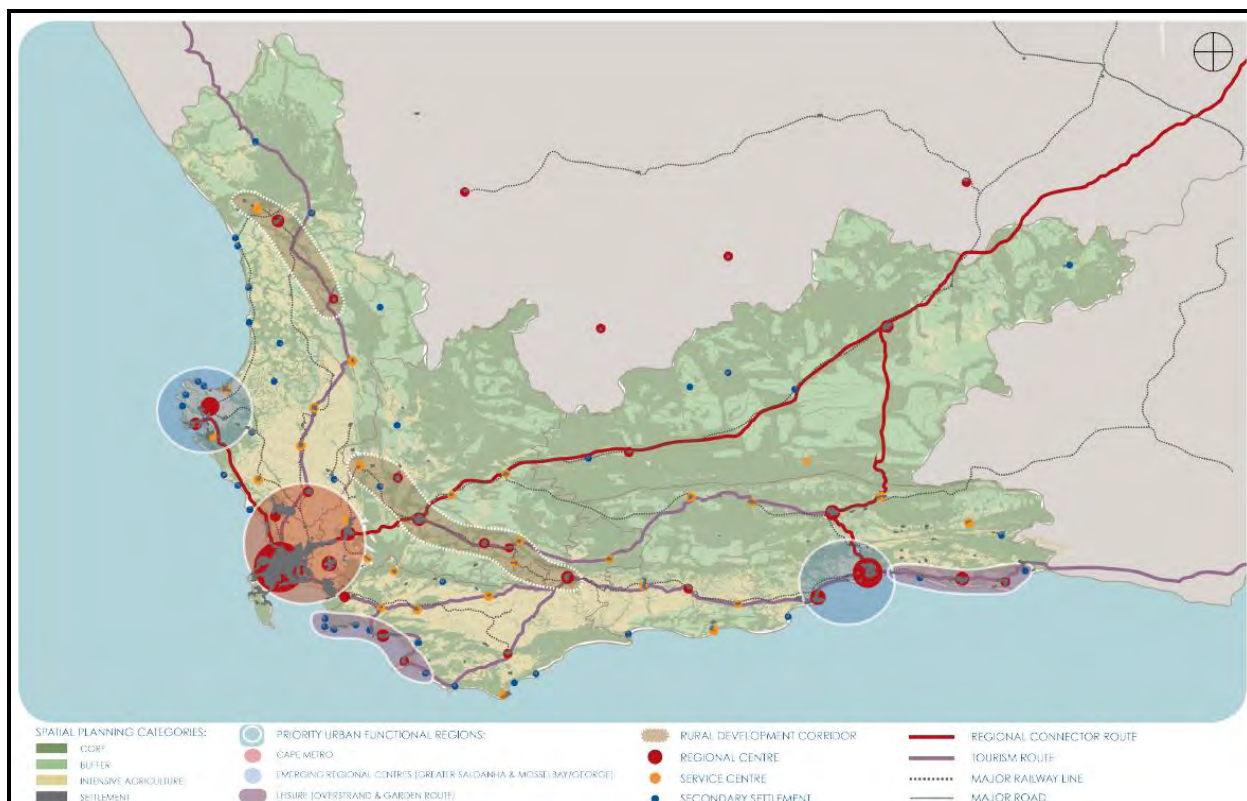


Figure 2.1: Composite SDF for Western Cape Province.

2.3 WESTERN CAPE RURAL AREAS GUIDELINE

The Western Cape Rural Areas Guideline (WCRAAG) has been framed to take forward the **PSDF's provincial spatial agenda, as well as give effect** to the Provincial Strategic Objectives. The PSDF builds on the complementary national and provincial development agendas of the NDP and OneCape2040.

The WCRAAG, like the SDF, notes that the Western Cape economy is founded on the **Province's unique asset base**. These include farming resources and its natural capital and varied scenic and cultural resources which make the **Western Cape the country's** premier tourism destination. In order to ensure the sustainable development of the Western Cape's economy requires 1) sustainable development of its rural areas; 2) conservation of their biological diversity; 3) functionality of ecosystems; 4) protection of agricultural productive

land; and 5) safeguarding of rural heritage and culture. In support of this, the following rural vision is aspired to:

- **The Province's rural economic base, particularly agriculture and tourism, strengthens,** offers opportunities for economic empowerment, and adopts sustainable business practices.
- Rural amenities and economic opportunities are accessible to the **province's residents,** particularly poor communities with limited mobility and universal access.
- Gender-based inequality challenges are redressed, and all men and women and the youth have equal access to and share in economic structures, activities, and policies as well as resources when management of natural resources and safeguarding of the environment is concerned. **The Province's varied and unique natural, cultural and agricultural landscapes** enjoy adequate protection, and its blighted landscapes are rehabilitated.
- **A clear distinction should exist between the province's** urban and rural landscapes, and there is a legible and logical structure of human settlements.
- **The Province's** core natural (i.e. untransformed) habitats are inter-connected and managed to sustain biodiversity.
- **The Province's rural landscapes are maintained,** either by a responsible party (e.g. statutory authority, land owner, user group, community) or by a partnership between interested parties.
- National, provincial and local government collaborate and align their efforts to plan, manage and sustainably develop **the Western Cape's rural areas.**

In relation to the rural vision, the RAG strives to achieve the following performance qualities:

- Rural areas providing leisure opportunities and unique and sustainable livelihoods for the benefit of all residents, men and women, the youth, the elderly and disabled, and those less advantaged.
- Settlements and surrounding rural areas functioning as interconnected systems.
- Rural development reinforcing a logical network of settlements of varying sizes and functions.
- Optimising historical investment in rural infrastructure and adopting sustainable technologies in new investments.
- **Maintaining the authenticity of the Western Cape's unique** rural areas, which involves: preserving the dominance of working agricultural landscapes,
 - ensuring that new development in the rural landscape is as unobtrusive as possible and responds **to the 'sense of place',**
 - securing and consolidating the conservation estate, and
 - integrating rural developments with existing regional and sub-regional movement routes.
- Planning, implementation and consultation processes and actions will consider needs and requirements of all residents in a gender-responsive manner.

The RAG notes that desired land use patterns are reflected in the delineation of landscape-wide Spatial Planning Categories (SPCs), namely Core, Buffer, Agriculture and Settlement.

Kleinbos Farm is located in an area designated as Agriculture. The Agriculture SPC includes:

- Intensive agriculture including Irrigated crop cultivation (annual and perennial).
- Dry land crop cultivation including tillage of non-irrigated crops (annual and perennial).
- Forestry and timber plantations and space extensive agricultural enterprises (e.g. piggeries, intensive feed-lots, poultry battery houses, packs sheds, cooling stores).
- Extensive agriculture including extensive livestock or game farming.

The purpose of the Agriculture SPC is to:

- Consolidate and protect existing and potential agricultural landscapes.
- Facilitate sustainable agricultural development, land and agrarian reform, and food security.
- Stabilise and manage ecosystems to restore ecological functionality.

The RAG identifies the type of activities that are compatible with Agriculture SPC. Of relevance to the Kleinbos Farm these include:

- Activities and uses directly related to the primary agricultural enterprise.
- Farm buildings and activities associated with the primary agricultural activity and associated structures (e.g. one homestead, agricultural buildings such as barns, agri-worker housing, etc.).
- Activities or land uses of appropriate scale that do not detract from farming production, that diversify farm income, and add value to locally produced products, e.g.: farm tourism;

In terms of location, the guidelines indicate that the location of agricultural activities will be dictated by local on-farm agro-climatic conditions (e.g. soils, slope, etc.), but wetlands, floodplains and important vegetation remnants should be kept in a natural state. Farming activities should also be undertaken in accordance with existing guidelines regarding slope, setbacks around wetlands and streams, soil potential, availability of irrigation water etc. (as per CARA and NEMA Regulations).

Based on the review of the available information the activities that are proposed on Kleinbos Farm are aligned with the WC RAG.

2.4 GARDEN ROUTE DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK²

The Garden Route (Eden) District Municipality Spatial Development Framework (SDF) notes that the overriding intention is to build Garden Route District into a region made up of “**complete**”, just and inclusive ecosystems, societies and economies, where all can participate without undermining the resources needed to sustain future generations.

Section 4 of the SDF outlines the spatial development framework of the District, including the spatial strategies and proposals. In this regard the SDF is underpinned by three key spatial strategies, namely:

- Strategy 1: The economy is the environment in Garden Route District.
- Strategy 2: Regional accessibility for inclusive and equitable growth.

² Garden Route DM was previously known as the Eden DM. The SDF was prepared when the DM was called the Eden DM. The report therefore refers to the current name, the Garden Route DM.

- Strategy 3: Co-ordinated growth management for financial sustainability.

Strategy 1, The economy is the environment is relevant to the proposed development.

Section 4.2, the Economy is the Environment, notes that the economy of ED is highly dependent on its underlying natural resource base. The importance of the natural resource base in supporting livelihoods and its potential to improve the quality of life of all the **District's residents cannot** be underestimated and thus the protection and enhancement of the environment is one of the three main drivers of the spatial concept. The spatial strategy is to protect, enhance and develop the distinct attributes and resources of the Klein Karoo and Garden Route, as two different but interconnected places each with their varied:

- Natural and agricultural resource base.
- Economic role and potential.
- Diverse landscape, lifestyle, and tourism offerings.

Section 4.2.1, Objectives, outlines the objective associated with spatial strategy 1, the Economy is the Environment. The section notes that climate change, global economies and urban development are placing pressure on the declining rural economy. In terms of development opportunities, of relevance to the proposed development the SDF notes that ultimately, the environment is the basis for economic development and growth in the District.

The SDF lists a number of strategic policies and guidelines aimed at unlocking the **District's** economic growth potential while at the same time protecting the its natural assets. The relevant policies and guidelines include:

- Policy 1.1. Establish, manage and market the Garden Route and Klein Karoo as two unique sub-regions of District. Linked to this policy is Guideline 1.1.1, Contain development and manage rural areas through appropriate application of Spatial Planning Categories (SPCs).

The planning approach adopted by the SDF is in line with the WC DEA&DP (2017) guidelines for rural land use development. In this regard new investment in rural areas should not:

- Have significant impact on biodiversity.
- Alienate unique or high value agricultural land.
- Compromise existing farming activities.
- Compromise the current and future use of mineral resources.
- Be inconsistent with cultural and scenic landscapes within which it is situated.
- Involve extensions to the **municipality's reticulation networks**.
- Impose real costs or risks to the municipality delivering on their mandate.
- Infringe on the authenticity of the rural landscape and heritage assets.

The proposed development is in line with and supports the WC DEA&DP (2017) guidelines for rural development.

The District SDF is also adopts the Spatial Planning Categories (SPC) contained in the Draft WCG Rural Land Use Planning and Management Guidelines (2017) and their definitions. The relevant SPCs include:

- Buffer 2: This category includes areas designated as Other Natural Areas, located in an extensive and/or intensive agriculture matrix (i.e. livestock production) as the dominant

land use. The Buffer 2 SPC requires that habitat and species loss is minimized, and that ecosystem functionality is preserved through strategic landscape planning. Buffer 2 areas offer flexibility in permissible land uses, but some authorisation may still be required for high-impact land-uses.

- **Agriculture:** Comprises of existing and potential intensive agricultural footprint (i.e. homogeneous farming areas made up of cultivated land and production support areas). It includes areas in which significant or complete loss of natural habitat and ecological functioning has taken place due to farming activities. Existing and potential agricultural landscapes should be consolidated and protected; sustainable agricultural development, land and agrarian reform, and food security should be facilitated, and ecosystems must be stabilised and managed to restore their ecological functionality.

A number of policies contained in the GRDM SDF are also relevant to the proposed development. Policy 1.2, Protect the district cultural landscape and heritage resources. The focus of this policy is largely on the impact of urban development on the **District's** cultural landscape and heritage resources. However, development outside of the urban areas also has the potential to impact on the **District's** heritage, cultural, scenic and environmental assets.

Guideline 1.2.3, Identify and protect scenic and cultural landscapes in ED, is linked to Policy 1.2. The guideline notes that the area natural assets, that include agricultural landscapes and landscape features such as mountains, valleys, passes, estuaries, rivers and plains, drive growth of the service sectors. The landscape character of the District must be safeguarded, and uncompromising development on ridge lines or in important view corridors must not be allowed.

Based on a review of the relevant information the proposed development will not impact on the **District's heritage, cultural, scenic** and environmental assets. Likewise, the proposed development is aligned with and supports Guideline 1.2.3. The findings of the Heritage study indicate that the proposed development would not impact on heritage resources considered of cultural significance. Based on this the study recommends that the no future heritage related studies are required, and the development may proceed (Perception Planning, July 2021).

Policy 1.3. Grow an inclusive agricultural economy. The SDF notes that agriculture plays a significant role in Garden Route District municipality, it provides opportunities to increase employment and grow products for local and international markets. Protecting and promoting the agricultural economy is therefore a priority for the District. The preservation of agricultural land and the integrity of agricultural operations must be protected and enhanced.

The SDF also notes that development directed at ensuring water security for the agricultural sector and job creation for the inhabitants of the District should be a priority. In order to achieve this, disaster risk management measures must be implemented in order to protect important agricultural land, resources and employment that may be lost through flooding, water shortage and wild fires.

The SDF also highlights the need to support the agricultural economy in the Garden Route District, including broadening of production and expansion to products. As indicated above, the proposed development involves the establishment of an avocado plantation. Avocados are a relatively new agricultural product in the area.

Policy 1.7. Mitigate fire risks and impacts on disaster management. The SDF recognises that veld fire is a natural ecological process that occurs in many parts of the region. However, if it is not managed fires pose a significant risk to life and property in both rural and urban areas, at a significant economic and social cost. This was borne out by the fires in 2018 in the region. Guideline 1.7.8, Implement veldfire management zones, notes that high veld fire risk areas and asset protection zones should be identified and incorporated into municipal planning systems and effective fire management plans should be drawn up and implemented.

It is recommended that the proposed development of the property include the development and implementation of a fire management plan.

Guideline 1.7.9. Alien Vegetation Management. Alien vegetation reduces biodiversity, exacerbates fire and flood risk and invades wetlands and catchment areas. Wetlands and catchment areas then lose the ability to retain rainwater runoff that feeds rivers, which in turn negatively affects municipal water supply. In addition, the loss of riverine vegetation results in a higher rate of erosion and estuarine siltation.

It is recommended that the proposed development of the property include the development and implementation of an alien vegetation management plan.

Section 4.4, Sustainable Growth Management, identifies urban nodes as service centres that provide services to the surrounding rural population and agricultural areas. The settlement of Friemersheim is the closest rural settlement to the site (Figure 2.2).

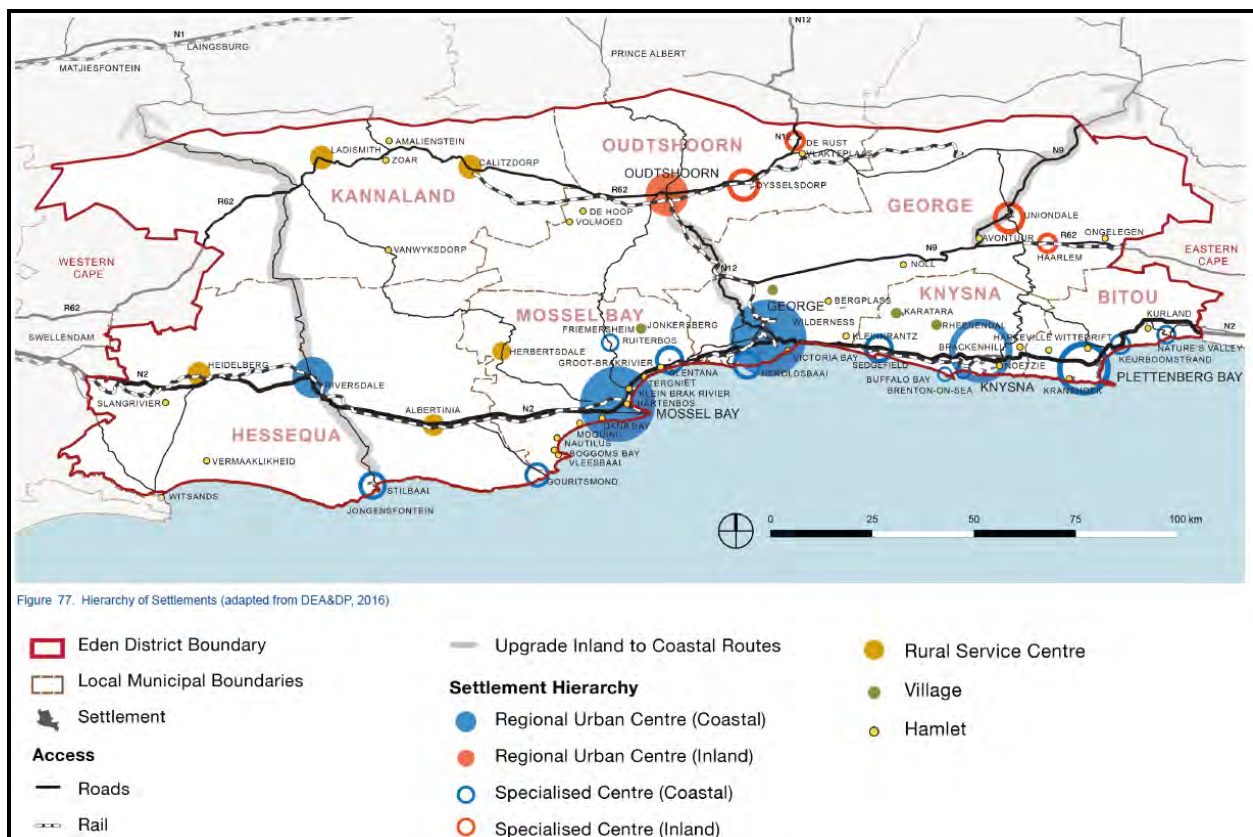


Figure 2.2: Settlement Plan Garden Route District

2.5 MOSSEL BAY SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

The Spatial Vision contained in the Mossel Bay Spatial Development Framework (MBSDF, 2018) is to create a long-term, sustainable land use pattern that:

- **Conserves Mossel Bay municipality's** significant rural resources for the biodiversity conservation of its:
 - Rivers, wetlands, estuaries and coastline,
 - Natural vegetation,
 - Scenic landscapes, and
 - Extensive and intensive agriculture resources, to support rural tourism and agricultural economic growth and employment creation. The municipality places a greater focus on leveraging its history, heritage, and sense of place of the natural scenic areas and old town to revive its underperforming tourism economy; and,
- Promotes inclusionary, efficient, urban growth that:
 - Provides comfortable and convenient access to urban opportunities and livelihoods for all of its existing and future residents.
 - while at the same time decoupling this growth from excessive water, energy and land consumption along the coastal settlement strip; and,
 - the municipality should place effort and energy in developing partnerships, lobbying and undertake proactive planning initiatives in seeking to upgrade, refurbish and link **the 'old town' with the existing port in a heritage appropriate** way to create a new jewel in the crown of the Garden Route which both attracts visitors but creates a solid locally-driven economy.

The SDF illustrates the Broad Conceptual Spatial Development Framework for the Municipality (Figure 2.3), which comprises the following two main components:

- A rural hinterland providing wilderness and agricultural tourism opportunities and ecosystem services in the form of pristine catchment areas providing water quality and biodiversity conservation.
- An urban coastal settlement strip.

Of relevance Kleinbos Farm is located in an area identified as Intensive Agriculture (Figure 2.3 and 2.4). The proposed development of avocados on the property is therefore aligned with and supported by the SDF.

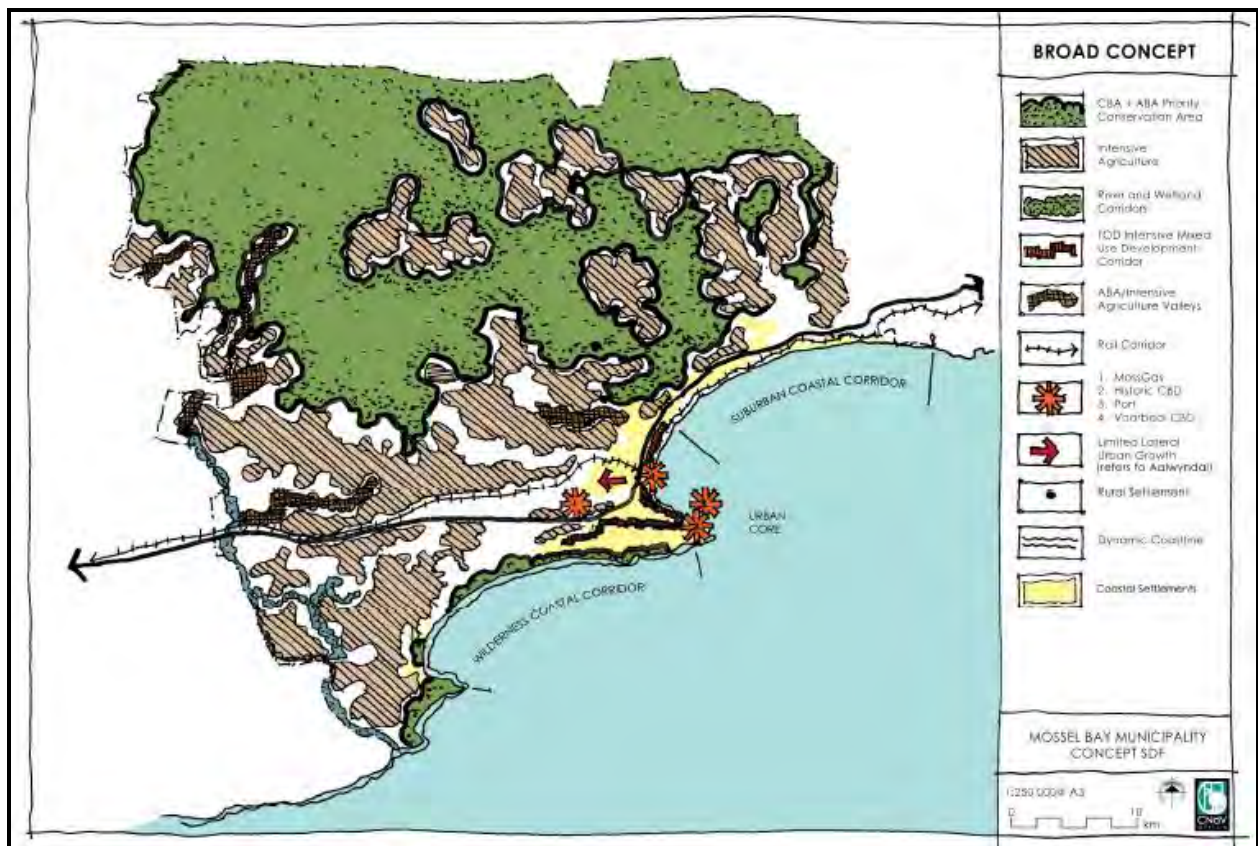


Figure 2.3: Conceptual Spatial Development for MBLM

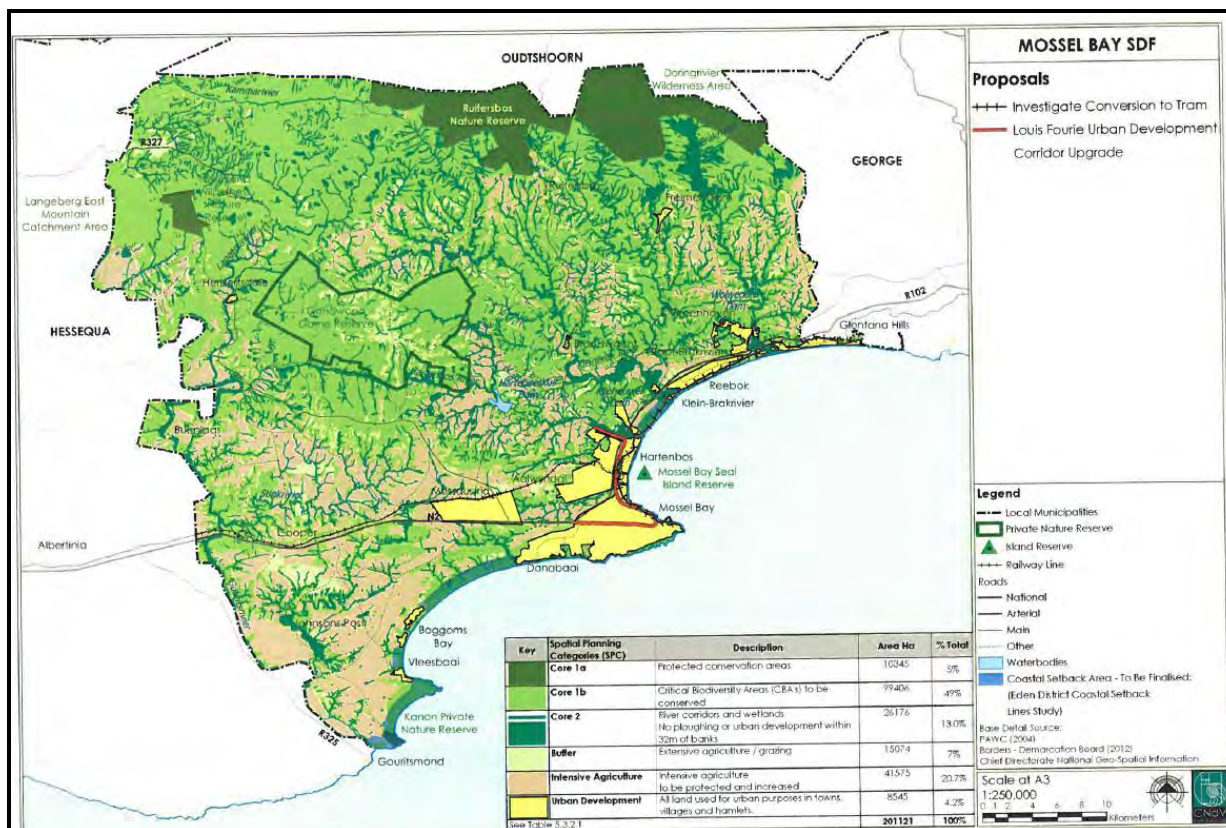


Figure 2.4: Conceptual Spatial Development for MBLM

2.6 MOSSEL BAY INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT PLAN

The vision of the MBLM as set out in the Integrated Development Plan (IDP, 2017-2022) is “We strive to be a trend-setting, dynamic Municipality delivering quality services responsive to the demands and challenges of the community and our constitutional mandate, in which all stakeholders can participate in harmony and dignity”.

The mission linked to the vision is:

- To render cost-effective and sustainable services to the entire community with diligence and empathy.
- To create mutual trust and understanding between the municipality and the community.
- To have a motivated and representative municipal workforce with high ethical standards, which is empowered to render optimal services to the community.
- The community is our inspiration and our workforce is our strength in the quest for community development and service delivery.

The IDP lists five Key Performance Areas (KPA) and associated Strategic Objectives (SOs):

- KPA 1: Basic services delivery and infrastructure development.
- KPA 2: Spatial development and environment.
- KPA 3: Community safety and security.
- KPA 4: Community development and education.
- KPA 5: Economic development and tourism.

The first four KPAs are linked to meeting the needs of the local communities that reside in the MBLM. KPA 5, Economic development and tourism is therefore the most relevant KPA to the proposed development. The SO associated with KPA 5 is to facilitate economic (and tourism) development to the benefit of the municipality and all residents. The proposed development represents an investment in the MBM and supports economic development.

Chapter 5 of the review provides an overview of each ward within the MBLM, including the service delivery and community development needs identified during the IDP public engagement process. opportunity to identify ward-based projects that will directly be funded from the ward discretionary budget allocation. The proposed development is located in Ward 14.

As indicated in Figure 2.5, Ward 14 is located in the northern part of the MBLM and is a largely rural area that includes the rural settlements of Ruiterbos, and Friemersheim. Kleinbos Farm is located in the area to west of Friemersheim.

Table 2.1 summarises the findings of a SWOT analysis for Ward 14. Of relevance to Kleinbos Farm, the SWOT analysis identifies unemployment as a threat.

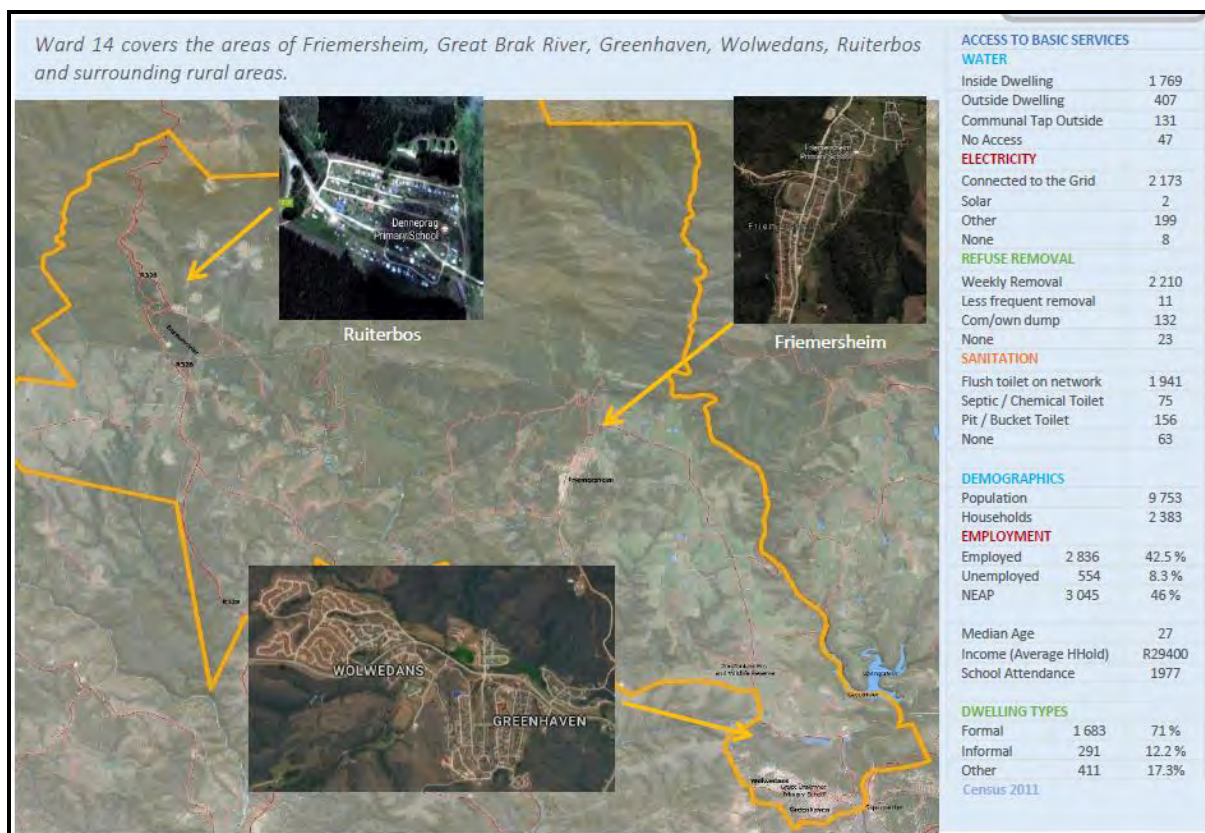


Figure 2.5: Overview of Ward 14

Table 2.1: SWOT analysis Ward 14

	STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES	OPPORTUNITIES	THREATS
SOCIAL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Child Welfare Disabled Crèche Schools Churches Sport Clubs Community Hall Youth Café 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Community Hall for Ruiterbos No Social Clubs for Elderly No Community Development Worker No Youth Activities No Ambulance Service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Playground (Friemersheim and Ruiterbos) Community Hall for Ruiterbos Full Time Ambulance Grade 7 Camp Youth Programmes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teenage Pregnancy Drug and Alcohol Abuse School Drop Outs HIV/ AIDS Tuberculosis
BASIC SERVICES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Municipal Offices Access to Municipal Services Free 20KWH Electricity Indigent Subsidy Support Refuse Transfer Stations Inadequate Street Lights 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sub-Standard Service in Ruiterbos Sub-Standard Service in Informal Settlements Inadequate Housing Provision Inadequate Storm Water 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wi Fi Hot Spot / Broadband for all Areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Illegal Electricity Connections Immigration
SAFETY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Police Forum for Great Brak River Community Workshops for Parents and Children (Great Brak River) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Mobile Police Station in Friemersheim and Ruiterbos. No Neighbourhood Watch in Ruiterbos and Friemerheim 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need Neighbourhood Watch in Ruiterbos and Friemerheim Need School Patrols in Friemersheim 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Taverns and Drugs Smugglers Street Lights Request for all areas in Ward 14. Crime increase especially in dark areas (Friemersheim)
ENVIRONMENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Natural Scenery for Tourist Attraction Travel Distance to Travel to Mossel Bay 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inadequate Skips Stray Animals Steep Landscape and Topography Land Availability for Development Gravel Roads Linking Settlements Development within Floodlines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refuse Skips Small Farming Development Planting Trees SPCA Visits Go-Green Project to enhance Recycling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fire Outbreaks Woodline Treatment Plant is a Threat or Danger and health risk Greattbrak River mouth Flooding
ECONOMY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Great Brak Business Hub Upcoming Entrepreneurs Informal Trading Local Tourist Office 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Slow SMME Development No available Land for Small Business Development No Formal Business in Wolwedans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Business Skills Development Sub-Contractor Development Programme, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unemployment

The IDP also identifies strategic themes and deliverables aimed at promoting economic development in Mossel Bay. The following strategic themes are listed:

- Integrated Management.
- SMME Development.
- Empower and Skills Development.
- Technology and Innovation.
- Green Economy.
- Spatial Development.
- Rural Development.
- Special Intervention.

SMME Development, Empower and Skills Development, and Rural Development are all relevant to the proposed.

SECTION 3: OVERVIEW OF STUDY AREA

3.1 INTRODUCTION

Section 3 provides an overview of the study area with regard to:

- The administrative context.
- The economic context.
- The demographic and services context.
- The site and surrounding land uses.

3.2 ADMINISTRATIVE CONTEXT

The proposed development is located within Mossel Bay Local Municipality (MBLM). The MBLM is one of seven LMs which constitute the Garden Route District Municipality (GRDM). George is the administrative seat of the Garden Route DM. Mossel Bay is the administrative seat of the MBLM. The proposed development is located in Ward 14 of the MBLM.

The MBLM covers an area of 2007 km² and includes the towns and / or settlements of Mossel Bay, Boggoms Bay, Brandwag, Buisplaas, D'Almeida, Dana Bay, Glentana, Fraaiuitsig, Friemersheim, Great Brak River, Hartenbos, Herbertsdale, Hersham, KwaNonqaba, Little Brak River, Outeniqua Beach, Reebok, Ruiterbos, Southern Cross, Tergniet and Vleesbaai.

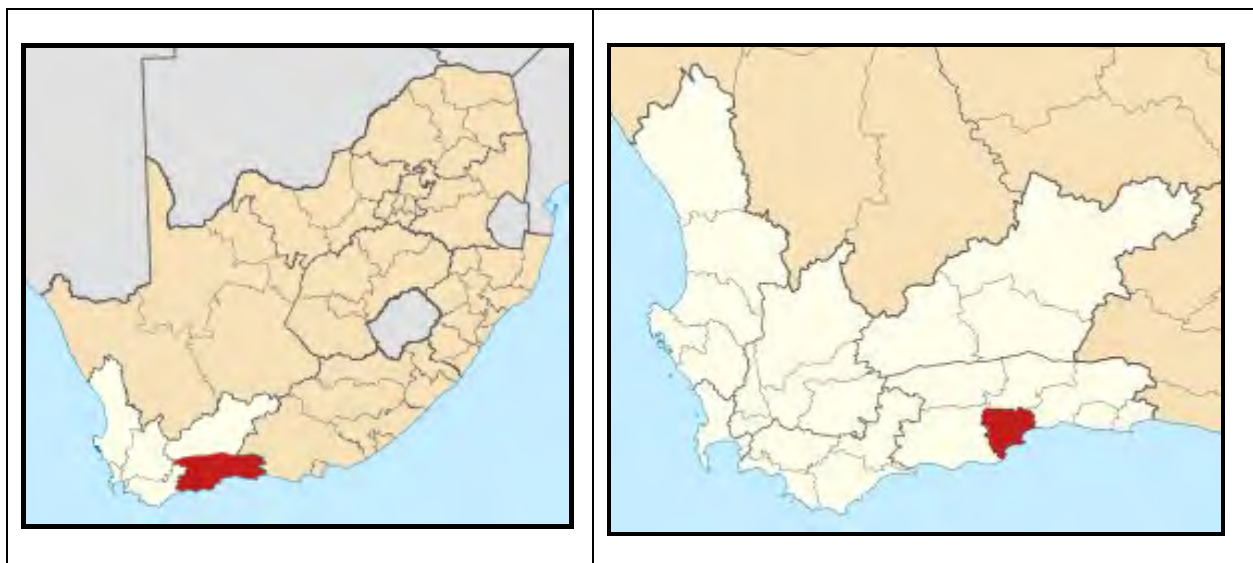


Figure 3.1: Location of Garden Route DM (left) and Mossel Bay LM within the Western Cape Province (source: *Wikipedia*)

3.3 ECONOMIC PROFILE

The Mossel Bay municipal area is the second largest local economy within the Garden Route District Municipality (GRDM), with regional gross domestic product amounting to R6.47 billion in 2015. This amounted to almost 20% of the Garden Route District Municipality's GDP R29.65 billion in 2015. The GRDM is the third largest district economy in the Western Cape, after the City of Cape Town and the Cape Winelands District.

The MBLM's GDP growth averaged 3.2 % per annum over the period 2005-2015, which is marginally lower than the District average of 3.5 %. In terms of employment, the MBLM employed 15.9 % of the Garden Route **District's labour force** in 2015. The majority (28.2%) fall within the semi-skilled sector, which has contracted by 0.6 per cent per annum on average since 2005. Most of the job losses experienced during the recession emanated from this sector. The low-skilled sector employed 17.9 % **of the municipality's workforce**, and contracted by 1.0 % per annum on average since 2005. The informal sector, which employs 33.4 % **of the municipality's workforce**, experienced robust growth of 8.7% per annum over the past decade and absorbed most of the job losses from the low and semi-skilled sectors. The skilled sector grew at a moderate rate of 2.1% per annum since 2005.

Primary sector: Agriculture forestry and fishing

This sector contributed 4.7% to the municipality's GDP in 2015 and employed 9.1% of the **municipality's workforce**. The majority of the workers employed in the primary sector fall within the low-skilled (39.7%) and semi-skilled (39.4%) category. The skilled sector employed only 6.6% of the workforce in the primary sector. The informal sector makes up 14.4% **of the industry's workforce** and was the only sector to experience long term growth per annum over the period 2005 – 2015. Informal employment within the Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing industry furthermore also experienced robust growth of 3.8% per annum since 2010.

Secondary sector: Manufacturing

The manufacturing sector contributed 14.6 % towards the **municipality's GDP in 2015** and employed 8.1% of the workforce. The majority of the workers fall within the semi-skilled category (43.1%), followed by the 19.7% in the skilled category and 17.4% in the low-skilled category. The informal sector employs 19.8 % of the workers operating in the manufacturing sector. The informal sector has been the only category to experience meaningful employment growth in the post-recessionary period at 2.6%. The formal sector contracted by 1.1 % per annum over the period 2005 – 2015, while employment also contracting by 1.2 % per annum.

Secondary sector: Construction

The construction sector contributed only 4.1% towards the **municipality's GDP** in 2015, making it the smallest sector. However, despite this the sector has nevertheless witnessed modest growth since 2005, growing at an average of 2.4% per annum. GDP growth in the sector has however slowed since the recession in 2008 and contracted by 2.3 % over the period 2010 – 2015.

The sector employed only 8.15 **the municipality's workforce**. Semi-skilled workers made up 24.3% of the workforce, followed by low-skilled workers (10.8 %) and skilled workers (6.9%). The majority (58.1 %) of workers operate within the informal sector. Employment growth within this sector has been consistently high since 2005. Workers employed in these sectors who have lost their jobs may have found employment in the informal sector.

Tertiary sector: Commercial services

Commercial services encompass the Wholesale and retail trade, catering and accommodation, Transport, storage and communication and Finance, insurance, real estate and business services industries. This sector is the largest sector and contributed 58.5% of the **municipality's** GDP in 2015. The industry grew steadily over the period 2005 – 2015 (4.4% per annum compared to the overall municipal average of 3.2 %), the sector has also performed relatively well in the post-recessionary period continuing to grow at a rate of 3.6 % per annum on average.

This sector was also the largest employer, employing 50.7 % of the **municipality's** workforce. Employment in the sector has shown moderate growth throughout the past decade recording a 3.8 % growth rate per annum. However, this tapered off to 2.3% over the post-recession period 2010 – 2015.

In terms of employment, 27.6 % of the workers fall within the semi-skilled category followed by 22.0 % skilled workers and 10.8 % low-skilled workers. The low-skilled/semi-skilled/skilled workforce has shown moderate growth both prior to and post-recession. Informal employment within the Commercial services industry makes up 39.6 % of the **industry's** workforce and has experienced robust growth of 10.7 % per annum since 2005. While this dropped after 2008 it has remained relatively high (4.6%) over the last 5 years.

Tertiary sector: Government and community social and personal services

The General Government and community, social and personal services contributed 15.4 % of the **municipality's overall GDP** in 2015. The sector grew at a moderate rate of 2.9% over the period 2005 – 2015, with a marginally lower rate 2.5 % per annum since 2010. The industry however employs 23.5% of the **municipality's** workforce, making it the second most important employer. The employment growth rate in the sector was 2.9% over the period 2005 – 2015, tapering off to 1.9 % since the recession. The majority of the workers fall within the low-skilled (27.6 %) category, followed by skilled (27.5 %) and semi-skilled workers (20.8 %). The informal sector employed 24.1 % of the industries workforce, but grew at a rate of 15.0 % per annum over the period 2005 – 2015. This growth was however of a small base.

Employment in the skilled category grew moderately at 2.3 % over the period 2005 - 2015 and slowed to 2.0% since 2010. Semi-skilled employment grew at a rate of 1.3 % per annum since 2005. Employment in the low-skilled sector contracted by 0.2 % from 2005 – 2015.

3.4 DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

Population

The population of the MBLM in 2016 was 94 135. Of this total, 30.2% were under the age of 18, 59.1% were between 18 and 64, and the remaining 10.8% were 65 and older. The population of Ward 14 in 2011 was 9 753. Ward 14 is therefore a large, sparsely populated rural area with a limited number of settlements. Of this total, 32.9% were under the age of 18, 62.7% were between 18 and 64, and the remaining 4.5% were 65 and older.

The socio-economic profile prepared for the Mossel Bay Municipality (MBM) by the Western Cape Provincial Government in 2017 notes that the MBLM has the second largest population in the Garden Route District. Based on forecasts of the Western Cape Department of Social Development the population in 2017 was expected to be 97 981. The report indicates that the population is expected to gradually increase across the 5-year planning cycle and reach 105 556 by 2023. This equates to an approximate 7.7 % growth rate.

In terms of age groups, the majority of Mossel Bay's population is concentrated between the ages of 20 to 39, which is likely to reflect an influx of young working professionals into the region due to increased employment opportunities as a result of positive economic growth in the region. In terms of the total number of households, there were 26 025 households within the greater Mossel Bay region in 2011. The 2016 Community Survey estimates indicate that this number has increased to 31 766. There is therefore growing demand for and pressures on basic services such as, water, sanitation, refuse removal and electricity.

The report indicates that the dependency ratio in the MBLM increased from 49.7 in 2011 to 53.4 in 2017 and is expected to stabilise around 53.3 towards 2023³. The dependency ratio for Ward 14 was 62.5% in 2011. The national dependency ratio in 2011 was 52.7%, while the Western Cape Province had the lowest provincial dependency level in South Africa, namely 45% in 2011. The municipal level is therefore lower than the national level, but higher than the provincial level.

A higher dependency ratio implies greater strain on the working age portion of the population to support economic dependents (children and aged). This increase also has social, economic and labour market implications. In this regard an increase in the dependency ratio is often associated with a relative decrease in the working age population, which in turn, can result in lower tax revenues pension shortfalls, and an increase in inequality and economic hardship. At a municipal level, the decrease in the working population may also result in a smaller base from which local authorities can collect revenue for basic services rendered and will necessitate the prioritisation of municipal spending.

However, despite the increase in the dependency ratio, the 2016 Community Survey also notes that the number of poor people within the MB municipal area decreased from 3.2 % of the population in 2011 to 2.1 % in 2016. This decrease is positive in that it also reduces the strain on municipal financial resources. The intensity of poverty, i.e. the proportion of poor people below the poverty line within the MB municipal area also decreased from 43.5 % in 2011 to 43.0 % in 2016. However, despite this decrease the percentage is still high and poses socio-economic challenges and risks to the MBLM.

In terms of race groups, Coloureds made up 42.6% of the population on the MBLM (2016), followed by Black Africans (33.7%) and Whites, 23.2%. In Ward 14 (2011), Coloureds made up 88.2% of the population, followed by Black Africans (5.3%) and Whites (3%). The main first language spoken in both the MBLM and Ward 14 was Afrikaans (62.2% and 94.6% respectively), followed by isiXhosa in the MBLM (29.5%) and English (1.5%) in Ward 14.

Households and house types

There are a total number of 31 765 (2016) and 1 735 (2011) households in the MBLM and Ward 14 respectively. Of these 84% (MBLM) and 81.3% (Ward 14) were formal houses. 10.7% and 11.8% of the structures in the MBLM and Ward 14 were shacks respectively.

³ The dependency ratio is the ratio of non-economically active dependents (usually people younger than 15 or older than 64) to the working age population group (15-64). The higher the dependency ratio the larger the percentage of the population dependent on the economically active age group. A high dependency ratio can cause serious problems for a country if a large proportion of a government's expenditure is on health, social security & education, which are most used by the youngest and the oldest in a population. The fewer people of working age, the fewer the people who can support schools, retirement pensions, disability pensions and other assistances to the youngest and oldest members of a population, often considered the most vulnerable members of society.

Approximately 36% of the households in the MBLM and 38.7% of the households in Ward 14 were headed by women. The figures for both the MBLM and Ward 14 are higher than the district level, namely 33.9%. The figure for Ward 14 is also higher than the Provincial level of 38.04%. Regardless of the actual figures, women headed households tend to be more vulnerable and reflect a lack of employment opportunities in the area, which result in the men leaving to seek work.

Household income

Based on the data from the 2011 Census, 18.1% of the population of the MBLM had no formal income, 2.9% earned less than R 4 800, 4.2% earned between R 5 000 and R 10 000 per annum, 12.6% between R 10 000 and R 20 000 per annum and 15.9% between R 20 000 and 40 000 per annum (2016). For Ward 14, 8.4% of the population had no formal income, 2.1% earned less than R 4 800, 4.5% earned between R 5 000 and R 10 000 per annum, 16.2% between R 10 000 and 20 000 per annum and 27.9% between R 20 000 and 40 000 per annum (Census 2011).

The poverty gap indicator produced by the World Bank Development Research Group measures poverty using information from household per capita income/consumption. This indicator illustrates the average shortfall of the total population from the poverty line. This measurement is used to reflect the intensity of poverty, which is based on living on less than R3 200 per month for an average sized household (~ 40 000 per annum). Based on this measure, in the region of 53.7% of the households in the MBLM and 59.1% in Ward 14 live close to or below the poverty line. The low-income levels in the MBLM and Ward 14 reflect the limited formal employment opportunities in the area. This is also reflected in the high unemployment rates. The low-income levels are a major concern given that an increasing number of individuals and households are likely to be dependent on social grants. The low-income levels also result in reduced spending in the local economy and less tax and rates revenue for the MBLM. This in turn impacts on the ability of the MBLM to maintain and provide services.

The high percentage of low-income households is also reflected in the increase in the number of indigent households between 2014 and 2015 as reported in the Non-Financial Census of Municipalities released by Statistics South Africa in 2016. This increase also implies an increased burden on municipal resources. The increase in the number of indigent households appears to contradict the reduction in overall poverty.

Employment

The official unemployment rate in the MBLM in 2016 was 13.4%, while 382% were regarded as not economically active and 3.4% were discouraged work seekers. The figures for Ward 14 in 2011 were 8.3% and 3.5% respectively. These figures are significantly lower than the official unemployment 2011 rates for the Western Cape Province (21.6%) and National (29.8%). However, these rates also need to be viewed within the context of the low-income levels. Many of the employment rates linked to the agricultural sector are also likely to be seasonal.

Education

In terms of education levels, the percentage of the population over 20 years of age in the MBLM and Ward 14 with no schooling was 2.9% (2016) and 3.7% (2011) respectively, compared to 2.4% for the Western Cape (2016). The percentage of the population over the age of 20 with matric was 39.5% and 26.5% respectively. These figure for Ward 14 is lower than the provincial average of 35.2% for the Western Cape.

The Western Cape Education Department has noted that matric outcomes within the Mossel Bay area have remained consistently above 80 % between 2013 and 2015, with the highest pass rate of 92.6 % recorded in 2015. The area therefore has relatively well-educated youth.

3.2 MUNICIPAL SERVICE LEVELS

Access to water

Based on the 2016 Household Community Survey, 84.5% of households in the MBLM had piped water inside their houses, while 9.9% had piped water in their yards and 2.5% relied on community taps. Based on the 2011 Census, 94.4% of households in Ward 14 were provided water by a service provider, while 1.3% relied on rivers and 0.8% on rainwater tanks.

Sanitation

97% of the households in the MBLM had flush toilets, while only 0.1% had no access to sanitation facilities. In Ward 14, 83.5% of households had flush toilets, while 2.8% relied on pit latrines, and 3% reported that they had no access to sanitation facilities.

Refuse collection

89.6% of the households in the MBLM had their waste collected by a service provider on a regular basis, while 1.6% recorded no service. In Ward 14, 94.9% of households had their waste collected by a service provider on a regular basis, while 3.5% disposed of their waste at their own dump.

Education

In 2015, there were 25 schools in Mossel Bay which had to accommodate 16 105 learners at the start of 2015. The proportion of no-fee schools has declined slightly with 1.4 percentage points from 65.4 per cent in 2014 to 64 per cent in 2015. Given the tough economic climate, there are still a large number of parents being unable to pay their school fees. In an effort to alleviate some of the funding challenges the Western Cape Education Department (WCED) offered certain fee-paying schools to become no-fee schools. In 2015, there were 15 schools in Mossel Bay that were equipped with a library.

Health care

The Garden Route District has a range of primary healthcare facilities which includes 35 fixed clinics, 35 mobile/satellite clinics, 6 community day centres and 6 district hospitals. Of relevance to the proposed development there is 1 provincial district hospital, 3 fixed clinics and 13 mobile/satellite clinics within the MBLM. The Mossel Bay District Hospital has 90 beds and falls within the Mossel Bay/Langeberg Health District of the Southern Cape Region.

3.5 SURROUNDING LAND USES

Kleinbos Farm is located ~ 5 km west of the small settlement of Friemersheim (Photograph 3.1 and 3.2). Access to the site is via the provincial road DR1630 near km 6 onto OP6824. The farm consists of Remaining Extent of Farm Kleinbos 57 (~57.5 ha), Portion 4 of Farm Landsekloof 55 (~22 ha) and Portion 8 of Farm Landsekloof 55 (~4.9 ha). The total area is ~ 31 ha. Surrounding land uses include agriculture (livestock, crop production and pine plantations), natural areas, watercourses, homesteads and tourism facilities.



Photograph 3.1: Entrance to Friemersheim



Photograph 3.2: Church in Friemersheim

The Heritage Assessment (Perception Planning, 2021) notes that the site forms part of a somewhat isolated rural landscape set within hilly/ mountainous terrain interspersed by pockets of cultivated fields, orchards, farmsteads and other agriculture-related land uses (Photograph 3.3). The study area forms part of a headland defined by the Moordkuil and Bosmans Rivers with a natural ridgeline that effectively divides it into two sections (Figure 3.2). The western section of the study area forms part of a (generally) southwest-facing **slope facing the Bosmans River and the secluded "Leeukloof Valley"**. The eastern section consists of a relatively flat escarpment to the north and steep slopes overlooking the Moordkuil River valley floor to the east (Perception Planning, 2021).



Photograph 3.3: View of Leeukloof Valley

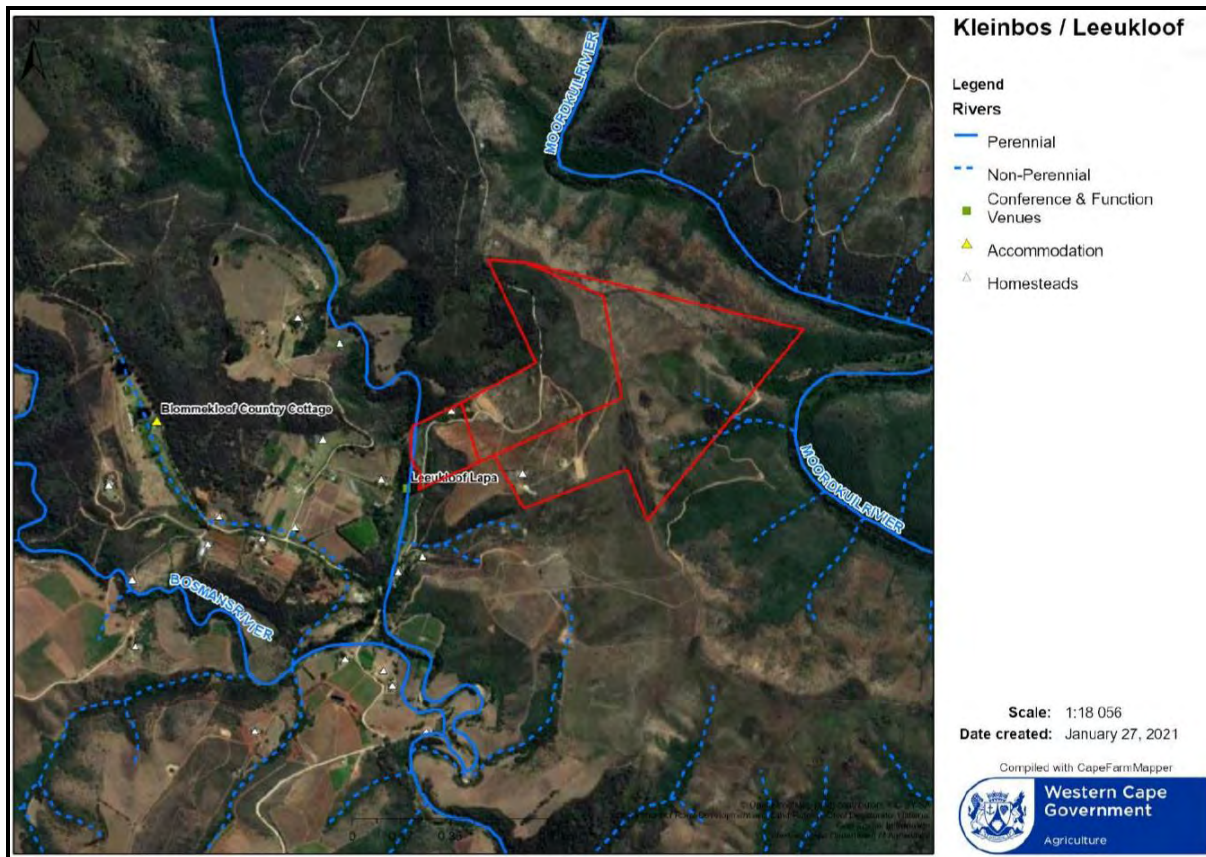


Figure 3.3: View of study area

The properties were purchased in February 2017 by the current owner. Previous agriculture on the site included livestock grazing and some pine plantations. The activities that triggered the 24G Application involved the clearing of land for the establishment of avocado trees and the construction of a small dam (0.31ha) located within the cleared areas for water pumped from an existing abstraction point. The dam is not an instream dam and replaces a previous dam that was infilled for inclusion in the crop planting area. An area of approximately 14.3ha has been cleared for the planting of avocados. An additional ± 8.23 ha is planned which will bring the total area cleared for crops to ± 31 ha.

Great Brak Avocados have a propagation nursery on a property located between George and Great Brak (Photograph 3.4) and established a packing facility in George in 2020. The **Southern Cape is South Africa's newest and smallest avocado region** and helps fill the gap between the producing seasons of Mpumalanga and KwaZulu-Natal.



Photograph 3.4: Avocado propagation nursery

SECTION 4: IDENTIFICATION OF KEY SOCIAL ISSUES

4.1 INTRODUCTION

Section 4 provides an assessment of the key social issues identified during the study. The identification of key issues was based on:

- Review of project related information.
- Review of policy and planning documents.
- Site visit to the study area.
- Experience with similar projects.

The assessment section is divided into:

- Assessment of compatibility with relevant policy and **planning context** (“**planning fit**”).
- Assessment of social issues associated with the construction phase.
- Assessment of social issues associated with the operational phase.
- Assessment of the **“no development” alternative**.

4.2 POLICY AND PLANNING FIT

The key policy and planning documents pertaining to the proposed development include:

- Western Cape Provincial Spatial Development Framework (2014).
- Western Cape Rural Areas Development Guideline (2019).
- Garden Route (Eden) District Municipality Spatial Development Framework (2017)⁴.
- Mossel Bay Municipality Integrated Development Plan (2017-2022).
- Mossel Bay Municipality Spatial Development Framework (2018).

In terms of the Spatial Planning Categories contained in the WC Rural Areas Development Guideline, Kleinbos Farm is located in an area designated as Agriculture. The Agriculture SPC includes:

- Intensive agriculture including Irrigated crop cultivation (annual and perennial).
- Dry land crop cultivation including tillage of non-irrigated crops (annual and perennial).
- Forestry and timber plantations and space extensive agricultural enterprises (e.g. piggeries, intensive feed-lots, poultry battery houses, packs sheds, cooling stores).
- Extensive agriculture including extensive livestock or game farming.

The District SDF also adopts the Spatial Planning Categories (SPC) contained in the Draft WCG Rural Land Use Planning and Management Guidelines (2017) and their definitions. The Mossel Bay SDF indicates that Kleinbos Farm is located in an area identified as Intensive Agriculture. The proposed development of avocados on the property is therefore aligned with and supported by the key policy and planning documents for the area.

⁴ Garden Route DM was previously referred to as the Eden DM.

4.3 SOCIAL IMPACTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE CONSTRUCTION PHASE

The construction phase related activities include preparation of the land for the avocado orchards and the construction of the small, off-stream dam. Based on the findings of the SIA, the potential negative impacts associated with these activities is marginal and will not impact on any of the adjacent land users in the vicinity of the site.

Potential positive impacts

- Creation of business and employment and opportunities.

Potential negative impacts

- Security and safety risks to adjacent farms posed by workers.
- Noise, dust, traffic related impacts associated with construction related activities.

4.3.1 Creation of employment and business opportunities

The creation employment and business opportunities are associated with preparation of the land for the avocado orchards and the construction of the small, off-stream dam. The client was not in a position to provide information on the financial expenditure. However, the establishment of citrus orchards costs ~ R 150 000 / ha (Farmers weekly, 2016). Using this as a proxy the cost of establishing ~ 31 ha of avocado orchards would be in the region of R 4.6 million. The establishment of orchards is also labour intensive and creates employment opportunities for low and semi-skilled workers. The majority of these workers are likely to be locally based Historically Disadvantaged Individuals (HDIs).

The intention is to begin planting in 2025. Given the low income levels and limited employment opportunities in the area employment opportunities that will be associated with establishment of the avocado plantation will represent a socio-economic benefit. Although the employment opportunities associated with construction related activities are frequently regarded as temporary employment, the people employed in the construction industry by its very nature **rely on "temporary" jobs for their survival. In this regard "permanent"** employment in the construction sector is linked to the ability of construction companies to secure a series of temporary projects over a period of time. Each development, such as the proposed development, therefore, **contributes to creating "permanent" employment in the construction sector.**

The contractors employed to undertake the work are likely to be locally based and the benefits are therefore local. Likewise, the material for establishment of the orchards and construction of the dam will be sourced from local suppliers. This represents a benefit for the local economy in the Mossel Bay / George Municipality.

As indicated above, the owners have also established an avocado propagation nursery and avocado packing plant in George.

Table 4.1: Impact assessment of employment and business creation opportunities during the construction phase

Nature: Creation of employment and business opportunities during the construction phase		
	Without Mitigation	With Enhancement ⁵
Extent	Local – Regional (2)	Local – Regional (3)
Duration	Short Term (2)	Short Term (2)
Magnitude	Low (4)	Moderate (6)
Probability	Highly probable (4)	Highly Probable (4)
Significance	Moderate (32)	Moderate (44)
Status	Positive	Positive
Reversibility	N/A	N/A
Irreplaceable loss of resources?	N/A	N/A
Can impact be enhanced?	Yes	
Enhancement: See below		
Cumulative impacts: Opportunity to up-grade and improve skills levels in the area.		

Assessment of No-Go option

Current status quo would be maintained.

Recommended enhancement measures

The construction activities associated with the establishment of the small off-stream dam have already been undertaken and an area of ~14ha has been cleared for the establishment of avocados. Local contractors and workers were appointed to undertake the work. This represents the enhancement measures that would typically be recommended for construction related activities.

4.3.2 Safety and security risks to adjacent farms

The presence of construction workers in the area has the potential to impact on the safety and security of local residents and farms in the area. Based on experience the presence of construction workers can result in an increase in petty crime and theft. This is linked to the ability of the construction workers to monitor the movements of local residents and take advantage of their absence from the property. The majority of the crime is therefore opportunistic and linked to theft and break-ins.

Based on the findings of the SIA the construction related activities undertaken to date have not resulted in any safety and security impacts on adjacent farms and properties. The impact is therefore rated as Low Negative to Negligible without mitigation.

⁵ Local contractors and workers were appointed to undertake the required work.

Table 4.2: Assessment of risk posed by construction workers on safety and security

Nature: Potential safety and security risk posed by presence of construction workers on site		
	Without Mitigation	With Mitigation ⁶
Extent	Local (1)	
Duration	Short Term (2)	
Magnitude	Low (4)	
Probability	Probable (3)	
Significance	Low (21)	
Status	Negative	
Reversibility	N/A	
Irreplaceable loss of resources?	N/A	
Can impact be mitigated?	Yes	
Mitigation: See below		
Cumulative impacts: No		

Assessment of No-Go option
Current status quo would be maintained.

4.3.3 Impact of construction related activities

Construction related activities can impact negatively on adjacent landowners and road users. The typical impacts include noise, dust and traffic related impacts. Based on the findings of the SIA the majority of the impacts were confined to the site and did not impact on adjacent landowners or other road users. Given the nature of the activities, the volume of construction related traffic along the DR1630 and OP6824 was likely to have been low and limited to a short period of time (3-4 months).

The impact on construction related activities was therefore rated as Low Negative to Negligible without mitigation.

⁶ No mitigation measures identified given that the activities have been undertaken. However, even without mitigation the significance rated as Low Negative.

Table 4.3: Assessment of the impacts associated with construction activities and vehicles

Nature: Potential noise, dust and safety impacts associated with construction related activities and traffic		
	Without Mitigation	With Mitigation ⁷
Extent	Local (1)	
Duration	Short Term (2)	
Magnitude	Minor (2)	
Probability	Probable (3)	
Significance	Low (15)	
Status	Negative	
Reversibility	Yes	
Irreplaceable loss of resources?	No	
Can impact be mitigated?	Yes	
Mitigation: See below		
Cumulative impacts: Potential damage to road may result in higher maintenance costs for vehicles of other road users.		

Assessment of No-Go option
Current status quo would be maintained.

4.4 SOCIAL IMPACTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE OPERATIONAL PHASE

The key social issues affecting the operational phase include:

Potential positive impacts

- Creation of employment and business opportunities.
- Implementation of alien clearing and fire management plan.

Potential negative impacts

Based on the findings of the SIA there are no significant negative social impacts associated with the operational phase of the development that would have a bearing on the decision - making process.

4.4.1 Creation of employment and business opportunities

Based on the information provided by the client ~2 workers are employed per ha. The total number of employment opportunities would therefore be in the region of 62. The majority of the workers will be locally based HDIs. Based on the current minimum wage of R 21.69 in the agriculture sector this translates into a monthly wage of R 4000/worker. The total annual wage would be in the region of R 3 million. Given the low income levels and limited employment opportunities in the area employment opportunities that will be associated with

⁷ No mitigation measures identified given that the activities have been undertaken. However, even without mitigation the significance rated as Low Negative.

establishment of the avocado plantation will represent a socio-economic benefit. The operational phase will also create opportunities for skills development and training.

Additional downstream employment and business opportunities will also be associated with the avocado propagation nursery and avocado packing plant in George.

Table 4.1: Impact assessment of employment and business creation opportunities during the construction phase

Nature: Creation of employment and business opportunities during the construction phase		
	Without Mitigation	With Enhancement
Extent	Local – Regional (2)	Local – Regional (3)
Duration	Long Term (6)	Long Term (6)
Magnitude	Low (4)	Moderate (6)
Probability	Highly probable (4)	Highly Probable (4)
Significance	Moderate (48)	High (60)
Status	Positive	Positive
Reversibility	N/A	N/A
Irreplaceable loss of resources?	N/A	N/A
Can impact be enhanced?	Yes	
Enhancement: See below		
Cumulative impacts: Opportunity to up-grade and improve skills levels in the area.		

Assessment of No-Go option

Current status quo would be maintained.

Recommended enhancement measures

- Employ community members and contractors.

4.4.2 Benefits associated with alien clearing and fire management programme

As indicated in Section 2.4, recommended that the proposed development of the property include the development and implementation of an alien clearing and fire management plan.

These programmes would support the policies and associated guidelines contained in the SDF, specifically Policy 1.7, Mitigate Fire Risks and Impacts on Disaster Management, and the associated Guideline 1.7.9, Alien Vegetation Management.

Alien vegetation not only increases the risk of fires, but also reduces biodiversity, exacerbates flood risks and impacts on water supply by invading wetlands and catchment areas. The development and implementation of an alien invasive and fire management plan will improve the overall management of aliens and fire risks in the area which will benefit all landowners. Alien clearing will also improve water security.

Table 4.4: Benefits associated with alien clearing and fire management

Nature: Benefits associated with the alien clearing and fire management, including protecting biodiversity, reducing fire risks, increases water availability and creating employment opportunities etc.		
	Without Mitigation	With Enhancement
Extent	Local (2)	Local – Regional (3)
Duration	Long term (4)	Long term (4)
Magnitude	Medium (6)	High (8)
Probability	Highly Probable (4)	Definite (5)
Significance	Moderate (48)	High (75)
Status	Positive	Positive
Reversibility	N/A	N/A
Irreplaceable loss of resources?	No	No
Can impact be enhanced?	Yes	Yes
Enhancement: See below		
Cumulative impacts: Increased water security, reduced fire risk and improved biodiversity protection		

Assessment of No-Go option

Current status quo would be maintained.

Recommended enhancement measures

Development and implementation of an alien clearing and fire management plan.

4.5 ASSESSMENT OF NO-DEVELOPMENT OPTION

As indicated above, the site is located within an area designated as an Agriculture SPC. The Mossel Bay SDF also indicates that Kleinbos Farm is located in an area identified as Intensive Agriculture. The proposed development of avocados on the property is therefore aligned with and supported by the key policy and planning documents for the area. Within this context the no-development alternative would result in the benefits associated with the investment into avocado farming being forgone. These include the creation of employment and business opportunities associated with the initiative. The no-development option is therefore not supported.

Table 4.5: Assessment of no-development option

Nature: The no-development option would result in the lost opportunity for the local economy and HDIs who would benefit from the development.		
	Without Mitigation (Assumes no development)	With Enhancement (Assumes development)
Extent	Local-Regional (2)	Local-Regional (2)
Duration	Long term (4)	Long term (4)
Magnitude	High (8)	High (8)
Probability	Definite (5)	Definite (5)
Significance	High (70)	High (70)
Status	Negative	Positive
Reversibility	Yes	
Irreplaceable loss of resources?	No	
Can impact be mitigated?	Yes	
Enhancement: See below		
Cumulative impacts: Negative, linked to lost opportunity for the local economy and local members of the community who would benefit from the development.		
Residual impacts: See cumulative impacts		

Recommended enhancement measures

The recommended enhancement measure is for the proposed avocado farming development to proceed as planned.

SECTION 5: KEY FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 INTRODUCTION

Section 5 lists the key findings of the study and recommendations. These findings are based on:

- A review of key planning and policy documents pertaining to the area.
- Site visit to the area.
- A review of social and economic issues associated with similar developments.
- The experience of the authors with similar projects in South Africa.

5.2 SUMMARY OF KEY FINDINGS

The key findings of the study are summarised under the following sections:

- Fit with policy and planning.
- Construction phase impacts.
- Operational phase impacts.
- No-development option.

5.2.1 Policy and planning issues

In terms of the Spatial Planning Categories contained in the WC Rural Areas Development Guideline, Kleinbos Farm is located in an area designated as Agriculture. The Garden Route (Eden) SDF is also adopts the Spatial Planning Categories (SPC) contained in the Draft WCG Rural Land Use Planning and Management Guidelines (2017) and their definitions. The Mossel Bay SDF indicates that Kleinbos Farm is located in an area identified as Intensive Agriculture. The proposed development of avocados on the property is therefore aligned with and supported by the key policy and planning documents for the area.

5.2.2 Construction phase

The key social issues associated with the construction phase include:

Potential positive impacts

- Creation of business and employment and opportunities.

The creation employment and business opportunities are associated with preparation of the land for the avocado orchards and the construction of the small, off-stream dam. Based on figures for the citrus sector, the cost of establishing ~ 31 ha of avocado orchards would be in the region of R 4.6 million. The establishment of orchards is also labour intensive and creates employment opportunities for low and semi-skilled workers. The majority of these workers are likely to be locally based Historically Disadvantaged Individuals (HDIs).

Given the low income levels and limited employment opportunities in the area employment opportunities that will be associated with establishment of the avocado plantation represent a socio-economic benefit.

Potential negative impacts

- Security and safety risks to adjacent farms posed by workers.
- Noise, dust, traffic related impacts associated with construction related activities.

The significance of the potential negative impacts with mitigation was assessed to be of Low Negative to Negligible significance.

Table 5.1 summarises the significance of the impacts associated with the construction phase.

Table 5.1: Summary of social impacts during construction phase

Impact	Significance No Mitigation	Significance With Enhancement /Mitigation
Creation of business and employment opportunities	Medium (Positive)	Medium (Positive)
Threat to safety and security	Low (Negative)	Low (Negative)
Impact of construction related activities (dust, noise, traffic etc.)	Low (Negative)	Low (Negative)

5.2.3 Operational phase

Potential positive impacts

- Creation of employment and business opportunities.
- Implementation of alien clearing and fire management plan.

Based on the information provided by the client ~2 workers are employed per ha. The total number of employment opportunities would therefore be in the region of 62. The majority of the workers will be locally based HDIs. The total annual wage would be in the region of R 3 million. Given the low income levels and limited employment opportunities in the area employment opportunities that will be associated with establishment of the avocado plantation will represent a socio-economic benefit. Additional downstream employment and business opportunities will also be associated with the avocado propagation nursery and avocado packing plant in George.

Potential negative impacts

Based on the findings of the SIA there are no significant negative social impacts associated with the operational phase of the development that would have a bearing on the decision - making process.

Table 5.2 summarises the significance of the impacts associated with the operational phase.

Table 5.2: Summary of social impacts during operational phase

Impact	Significance No Mitigation	With Enhancement /Mitigation
Creation of employment opportunities	Moderate (Positive)	High (Positive)
Benefits associated alien clearing and fire management programme	Moderate (Positive)	High (Positive)

5.2.4 Assessment of no-development option

The site is located within an area designated as an Agriculture SPC. The area has therefore been identified as suitable for intensive agriculture. Within this context the no-development alternative would result in the benefits associated with the investment into avocado farming being forgone. These include the creation of employment and business opportunities associated with the initiative. The no-development option is therefore not supported.

5.3 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

The activities that triggered the 24G Application involved the establishment of a small, off-stream dam (0.31ha) and clearing of ~ 14 ha for the establishment of avocado orchards, with a future total of ~31ha. Based on the findings of the SIA, the potential negative impacts associated with these activities are marginal and are unlikely to have impacted on the adjacent land users in the vicinity of the site.

The construction and operational phase will create a number of socio-economic opportunities, including employment, skills development, and training. Additional downstream employment and business opportunities will also be associated with the avocado propagation nursery and avocado packing plant in George.

The site is also located in an area that is identified as suitable for intensive agriculture. It is therefore recommended that the development be approved.

ANNEXURE A: LIST OF SOURCES

INTERVIEWS

- Nicole Rimbault, owner, 26 July 2021

REFERENCES

- Western Cape Provincial Spatial Development Framework (2014).
- Western Cape Rural Areas Development Guideline (2019).
- Garden Route (Eden) District Municipality Spatial Development Framework (2017).
- Mossel Bay Municipality Integrated Development Plan (2017-2022).
- Mossel Bay Municipality Spatial Development Framework (2018).

ANNEXURE B

METHODOLOGY FOR THE ASSESSMENT OF POTENTIAL IMPACTS

Direct, indirect and cumulative impacts of the above issues, as well as all other issues identified will be assessed in terms of the following criteria:

- The nature, which shall include a description of what causes the effect, what will be affected and how it will be affected.
- The extent, where it will be indicated whether the impact will be local (limited to the immediate area or site of development), regional, national or international. A score between 1 and 5 will be assigned as appropriate (with a score of 1 being low and a score of 5 being high).
- The duration, where it will be indicated whether:
 - * the lifetime of the impact will be of a very short duration (0–1 years) – assigned a score of 1;
 - * the lifetime of the impact will be of a short duration (2–5 years) – assigned a score of 2;
 - * medium-term (5–15 years) – assigned a score of 3;
 - * long-term (> 15 years) – assigned a score of 4; or
 - * permanent – assigned a score of 5.
- The magnitude, quantified on a scale from 0–10, where a score is assigned:
 - * 0 is small and will have no effect on the environment;
 - * 2 is minor and will not result in an impact on processes;
 - * 4 is low and will cause a slight impact on processes;
 - * 6 is moderate and will result in processes continuing but in a modified way;
 - * 8 is high (processes are altered to the extent that they temporarily cease); and
 - * 10 is very high and results in complete destruction of patterns and permanent cessation of processes.
- The probability of occurrence, which shall describe the likelihood of the impact actually occurring. Probability will be estimated on a scale, and a score assigned:
 - * Assigned a score of 1–5, where 1 is very improbable (probably will not happen);
 - * Assigned a score of 2 is improbable (some possibility, but low likelihood);
 - * Assigned a score of 3 is probable (distinct possibility);
 - * Assigned a score of 4 is highly probable (most likely); and
 - * Assigned a score of 5 is definite (impact will occur regardless of any prevention measures).
- The significance, which shall be determined through a synthesis of the characteristics described above (refer formula below) and can be assessed as low, Moderate or high.
- The status, which will be described as either positive, negative or neutral.
- The *degree* to which the impact can be *reversed*.
- The *degree* to which the impact may cause *irreplaceable loss of resources*.
- The *degree* to which the impact can be *mitigated*.

The significance is determined by combining the criteria in the following formula:

$S = (E + D + M)P$; where

S = Significance weighting

E = Extent

D = Duration

M = Magnitude
P = Probability

The significance weightings for each potential impact are as follows:

- < 30 points: Low (i.e. where this impact would not have a direct influence on the decision to develop in the area),
- 30-60 points: Moderate (i.e. where the impact could influence the decision to develop in the area unless it is effectively mitigated),
- > 60 points: High (i.e. where the impact must have an influence on the decision process to develop in the area).

ANNEXURE C

Tony Barbour

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING AND RESEARCH

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(E-Mail) tbarbour@telkomsa.net

Tony Barbour's experience as an environmental consultant includes working for ten years as a consultant in the private sector followed by four years at the University of Cape Town's Environmental Evaluation Unit. He has worked as an independent consultant since 2004, with a key focus on Social Impact Assessment. His other areas of interest include Strategic Environmental Assessment and review work.

EDUCATION

- BSc (Geology and Economics) Rhodes (1984);
- B Economics (Honours) Rhodes (1985);
- MSc (Environmental Science), University of Cape Town (1992)

EMPLOYMENT RECORD

- Independent Consultant: November 2004 – current;
- University of Cape Town: August 1996-October 2004: Environmental Evaluation Unit (EEU), University of Cape Town. Senior Environmental Consultant and Researcher;
- Private sector: 1991-August 2000: 1991-1996: Ninham Shand Consulting (Now Aurecon, Cape Town). Senior Environmental Scientist; 1996-August 2000: Steffen, Robertson and Kirsten (SRK Consulting) – Associate Director, Manager Environmental Section, SRK Cape Town.

LECTURING

- University of Cape Town: Resource Economics; SEA and EIA (1991-2004);
- University of Cape Town: Social Impact Assessment (2004-current);
- Cape Technikon: Resource Economics and Waste Management (1994-1998);
- Peninsula Technikon: Resource Economics and Waste Management (1996-1998).

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE AND EXPERTISE

Tony Barbour has undertaken in the region of 260 **SIA's**, including **SIA's for infrastructure** projects, dams, pipelines, and roads. In addition, he is the author of the Guidelines for undertaking **SIA's** as part of the EIA process commissioned by the Western Cape Provincial Environmental Authorities in 2007. These guidelines have been used throughout South Africa.

Tony was also the project manager for a study commissioned in 2005 by the then South African Department of Water Affairs and Forestry for the development of a Social Assessment and Development Framework. The aim of the framework was to enable the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry to identify, assess and manage social impacts associated with large infrastructure projects, such as dams. The study also included the development of guidelines for Social Impact Assessment, Conflict Management, Relocation and Resettlement and Monitoring and Evaluation.

Countries with work experience include South Africa, Namibia, Angola, Senegal, Botswana, Zambia, Lesotho, Swaziland, Ghana, Mozambique, Mauritius, Kenya, Ethiopia, Oman, South Sudan and Sudan.

ANNEXURE D

DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

The specialist declaration of independence in terms of the Regulations_

I, Tony Barbour _____, declare that -- General

declaration:

I act as the independent specialist in this application;

I will perform the work relating to the application in an objective manner, even if this results in views and findings that are not favourable to the applicant;

I declare that there are no circumstances that may compromise my objectivity in performing such work;

I have expertise in conducting the specialist report relevant to this application, including knowledge of the Act, Regulations and any guidelines that have relevance to the proposed activity;

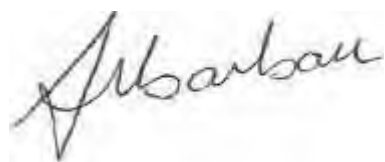
I will comply with the Act, Regulations and all other applicable legislation;

I have no, and will not engage in, conflicting interests in the undertaking of the activity;

I undertake to disclose to the applicant and the competent authority all material information in my possession that reasonably has or may have the potential of influencing - any decision to be taken with respect to the application by the competent authority; and - the objectivity of any report, plan or document to be prepared by myself for submission to the competent authority;

all the particulars furnished by me in this form are true and correct; and

I realise that a false declaration is an offence in terms of regulation 48 and is punishable in terms of section 24F of the Act.



Signature of the specialist:

Tony Barbour Environmental Consulting and Research

Name of company (if applicable):

10 August 2021

Date: