

rural development & land reform

Department: Rural Development and Land Reform **REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**



agriculture, forestry & fisheries

Department: Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries **REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

Agri-Hubs identified by the Province



1: Thulisile Hlongwane from Stulwane in her maize and dry bean intercrop trial plot, January 2014



agriculture & rural development Department: agriculture & rural development PROVINCE OF KWAZULU-NATAL



KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE

27 PRIORITY DISTRICTS		
PROVINCE	DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY	PROPOSED AGRI-HUB
KwaZulu-Natal	Amajuba	Dannhauser
	Harry Gwala (Sisonke)	Ebutha Farm
	Zululand	Vryheid
	iLembe	KwaDukuza (Stanger)
	Ugu	Horseshoe Farm
	Umgungundlovu	Umgeni
	Umkhanyakude	Mkuze
	Umzinyathi	Dundee
	Uthungulu	Eshowe
	Uthukela	Bergville



2.2% of the total Gross Value Add of the District. The Dannhauser
Local Municipality contributes almost 40% to total agricultural
production in the district, and has experienced the smallest
decline of -2%. Newcastle and Emadlangeni contribute 33% and
28% to total agricultural output in the district, and have both
experienced a decline in growth of -6% from 2005 - 2009.
However, agricultural activities contributed 10% and 9% to total
employment in the Emadlangeni and Dannhauser municipalities
in 2009, indicating the importance of ensuring growth and
development within this sector. The current decline in agricultural
production in the region can be attributed to a number of factors
including:
Uncertainty about the large number of pending land claims
(70% of agricultural land is under claim in the Emadlangeni
municipality);
 Lack of support for small-scale and informal farming operations;
 Lack of relevant skills and training programmes;
Access to markets;
 Access to funding for investment into new machineryand equipment;
 Increasing input costs and competition;
 Poor institutional support and assistance in the region.



Proposed Agri-Hub: Ebutha Farm



Demographics

The Harry Gwala (previously Sisonke) District Municipality (HGDM) is located in the south western region of KwaZulu-Natal; it is approximately 1,112,800ha (10547 km²) in geographical extent. The majority of the Ingonyama land is concentrated centrally within the Ingwe municipal area. The District is made up of five local municipalities and one District Management Area on the western side of the municipal area. The local municipalities within the subject district are: KwaSani, Ingwe, Greater Kokstad, Umzimkhulu and uBuhlebezwe. Harry Gwala District Municipality (previously Sisonke District Municipality) is situated south of KwaZulu-Natal. The seat of Harry Gwala is Ixopo. The municipality is surrounded by uMgungundlovu to the north-east, Ugu to the south-east, OR Tambo to the south, Alfred Nzo to the south-west, the Kingdom of Lesotho to the north-west and uThukela to the north. It is also bordered by the Drakensberg Mountains, which form a 200km-long World Heritage Site. Economically, the most prominent employment sectors are agriculture, construction and small-scale manufacturing. The district is known for its progressive farming methods. The unspoilt natural environment has high ecotourism and adventure-tourism potential... Cities/Towns: Creighton, Himeville, Ixopo, Kokstad, Underberg, uMzimkhulu. Main Economic Sectors: Community services and agriculture (60%). Agriculture

Harry Gwala has an abundance of high quality soils, high altitude, abundant water, and climatic extremes, which makes the area suitable for dairy farming. A significant portion of dairy consumed in KZN is produced within the district. Harry Gwala is well known for high agro-ecological potential due to an abundance of high quality soils, high altitude, and abundant water. Commercial farms as well as commercial plantations form the bedrock of the economy of the region. Climatic extremes make the area suitable for a variety of products including crops and vegetables, livestock and sugar cane around Ixopo/ High flats area. Areas in Greater Kokstad and Kwa Sani Municipality have potential for Beef/ Dairy farming which needs to be enhanced. However, there is a need for strategy development around the problem of stock theft as it has secondary implications such as job losses and land subdivisions. Ingwe and uBuhlebezwe municipalities have potential for crop and fruit production. Most of the land in uMzimkhulu municipality has potential for Forestry plantation, followed by crop and fruit production and lastly subsistence agriculture. An agricultural farmers market for the district is proposed to be in the primary node of Ixopo. The dominant role played by agriculture in the district economy is evident. Agricultural activities within the Sisonke District Municipality are crop and dairy farming. The agriculture sector is indeed one of the main sectors in the region contributing to the regional economy. There are also commercial forestry plantations that provide raw materials for wood-related products. Other suitable agricultural activities that have potential for growth in the region are carrots, maize, oats, soybeans, tomatoes, wheat, sorghum, sunflower and livestock. The agricultural sector in On average between 2002 and 2010, the KwaZulu- Natal population was estimated at an average size of 10 million people. The largest number of these people lived in eThekwini Metro (32.8 percent of the provincial population), followed by uMgungundlovu (9.5 percent), and uThungulu district (9.4 percent). Sisonke contributed 4.8 percent to the provincial population, the district with the lowest population number. The total population in 2011 is 461419 with a growth rate of 0.20% between 2001 and 2011 (Census 2011). The district has 112282 households with an average household size of 3.8 (Census 2011). The total population is 461 419 and the unemployment rate is at 36%. The population in the 125 to 64 year age group is at 57.2%. The female headed households stands at 55.2%.

Analysis

Based on analysis done by the province they decided that Ebutha Farm near the town of Umzimkulu should be developed as an Agrihub in the district due to the following:

- There is a CRDP site to the west of the proposed location
- Good road and railway connectivity, although road condition may be poor due to actual road surface condition
- · Land capability is marginal to moderate
- · Potential vacant state land to the east of the site
- At least 2 SPAR food stores in Umzimkulu town
- There should be good water supply from rivers in the area
- Many Restitution Claims is the area
- Location is surrounded by poorest wards (PIMD)
- There a few scattered CASP 15-16 projects surrounding the proposed location
- Ebutha farm is not an EDD district gateway

the Harry Gwala District Municipality has been one of the largest sectors of the district economy. Unfortunately, the sector is failing to fulfill its potential.

The Harry Gwala District Municipality currently has a competitive advantage in terms of the domestic dairy industry: the district produces 10% of the milk consumed in South Africa in Kwa Sani Municipality alone, 400 000 litres of milk are produced a day and 35% of Clover Milk is from this area. Moreover, the lxopo Milk Procurement depot has a major capital expansion project which is set to result in a +/-4% increase in Clover's total intake in the 2012/13 financial year. Moreover, the industry is expected to grow by approximately 5% per annum for the next 5 years. Maize is the most important roop in South Africa, and the second largest crop produced in the country after sugar cane, and it is grown in Harry Gwala District.

There is a high level of fruit production in many parts of Harry Gwala District Municipality, and great potential for improved returns if more farmers engage more in processing of fruits. Case studies suggest that small scale fruit and vegetable processing has potential these improved returns will come as long as appropriate processing equipment, processing skills, packing materials, and marketing information are made available.

Livestock farming has a very long history in the district. Kwa Sani Local Municipality alone contributes a substantial amount to total agricultural income in the area. The number of cattle slaughtered has increased, mainly due to increasing demand. The beef supply chain is also becoming increasingly vertically integrated, with feedlots owning abattoirs. However, beef farming in Harry Gwalais hindered by the lack of an abattoir in the area. The industry also faces a difficult environment in the district. Beef production has declined, causing the Ixopo Agricultural Society to be dissolved. This is unlikely not to improve as there are currently no projects involving commercial cattle production.



Proposed Agri-Hub: KwaDukuza (Stanger)



The total population is 606 809 (Census 2011) with a growth rate of

0.8% between 2001 and 2011. iLembe is located between two of

Africa's busiest ports, Durban and Richards Bay, on the primary

economic development corridor in the province, and is therefore well

positioned not only to local, but also international markets. The recent

development of King Shaka International Airport and the Dube Trade

Port just a few kilometres from the southern border of iLembe has

Demographics

District Context

The iLembe District Municipality is situated on the east coast of South Africa, in the KwaZulu-Natal Province. ILembe is one of the 10 district municipalities of the KwaZulu-Natal province and is also the smallest District Municipality in the whole province. The District Municipality covers approximately 3260 square kilometres and is divided into four local municipalities. The four municipalities:Ndwedwe, Mandeni, KwaDukuza and Maphumulo Local Municipality. Total Area: 3 260km² iLembe District Municipality is situated on the east coast of KwaZulu-Natal and is the smallest of the province's district municipalities. The majority of the rural inland areas are tribal authority areas, characterised by subsistence farming. iLembe consists of four local municipalities located between Durban and Richards Bay: Mandeni, KwaDukuza, Maphumulo and Ndwedwe. The town straddles the Tugela River, the traditional border between former Colonial Natal and the Kingdom of Zululand, the site of historical and cultural events. The seat of iLembe is KwaDukuza (previously Stanger). This district lies to the north of Ethekwini metro. It has a dense distribution of restitution claims that covers about 40% of the surface. There are also a few scattered land reform projects in the central area of the district. The area is suitable for sugar cane in terms of agricultural enterprise, with 5% suitable for wattle, cattle, maize and woolled sheep (in that order). Cities/Towns: Dolphin Coast/Ballito, Isithebe, KwaDukuza, Mandeni, Ndwedwe, Nkwazi/Zinkwazi Beach. Main Economic Sectors: Agriculture. The District is made up of 45 Traditional Authority areas where settlement is controlled by Traditional Authorities according to a traditional land tenure system. These TA areas cover approximately 63% of the total area where the State and the Ingonyama Trust own the majority of the land within Municipality of Maphumulo, the lower reaches of Ndwedwe (69%) and coastal and inland reaches of Mandeni (49%).

magnified what was already a prime investment destination. Despite its strategic location, iLembe faces numerous economic challenges such as the high levels of poverty in the rural inland areas, which contracts with rapid development along its coastal regions. The District has been proactive in developing Enterprise iLembe, a broad based institution aimed at facilitating local economic development, in response to its challenges of high rates of unemployment and correspondingly high levels of poverty. The total number of households is 157692 with an average household size of 3.8 (Census 2011). Unemployment rate is at 30.6%, with 61.3% of the population between the age groups of 15 and 64 years. Average household size is 3.8, and the percentage of female headed households is 45.8%.

Agriculture

Agricultural Potential- iLembe's agricultural sector revolves around the production of sugar cane which takes place on the flatter eastern land. Supporting agricultural activities include forestry, fruit and vegetable farming, tunnel farming and fresh cut flowers. Over the last 10 years employment in agriculture has reduced by 12% on average per year and production has decreased by 0.5% annually. Gross value has also reduced although it remains the 4th largest contributor to GGP. This is in line with the state of the industry nationally due to new labour laws, crime, emigration, and input costs, amongst other reasons. Commercial agricultural activities take up the major portion of the District, substantially located in the flatter eastern parts of the Relatively minimal diversification has taken place and District. activities relate mainly to the growing of sugar cane. The majority of the agricultural developments in the western parts are traditional subsistence farming activities.

In the high road the agricultural focus shifts from extensive sugarcane farming along the coastal belt to intensive, high profit irrigated farming in the hinterland. The agricultural industry will be reinvented. It will

Analysis

Based on the analysis above done by the Province the town of KwaDukuza is proposed as the best location for an Agri-hub based on the following

- Good road (N2) and railway connectivity
- Land capability is poor to marginal
- It is an EDD district gateway
- Enterprise area is sugar cane
- Many restitution claims in the area
- A few PL:AS projects to the north, and a few CASP Projects
- At least 3 SPAR food stores in the area
- There should be good water sources available from rivers
- A few Land Reform implemented projects to the north of the location
- Potential vacant state land parcel to the north of Mandini
- There are 3 CRDP sites to the west of the proposed location
- Proximity to poorest wards in the north west of the district (PIMD)
- A few CASP 15-16 projects surrounding the proposed location

 produce a diverse range of products, using a variety of modern and sustainable methods, in a new and reconstructed space. Big, global players will invest in long term contracts with local producers of fresh products tailored or export through the Dube Trade Port. For this to be achieved the following needs to occur: Substantial investment into infrastructure. Particularly, water infrastructure, a road connecting Maphumulo and Ndwedwe, as well as roads giving access to Dube Trade Port. Researching and attracting new global markets. Mauritius, for example, has recently moved fresh produce supply from Kenya to Australia there is potential to attract this market and others like it. Capacitating rural farmers so that they may become successful commercial farmers. This includes mobilisation of farmers associations, mentorships and training opportunities. Encouraging the development of the knowledge economy in agriculture so that research and innovation can improve efficiency and constantly reinvent the status quo to ensure that iLembe remains the first choice supplier of fresh produce. 	
Although a large number of commodities as outlined in the previous section can be grown within this area, analyses was done only on produce that is consumed in large quantities within the province, and would have a definite offset market. The Commodities identified includes the following: • Maize • Potatoes • Dry Beans • Sugar Cane	



District Context	Demographics
The Ugu District Municipality is located South Coast of Kwa-Zulu Natal and it is approximately 5866 km ² in geographical extent. It boasts a spectacular coastline of 112 kilometers, which forms the eastern border. According to census 2011 data the district has a population of 722484 and 179 440 households. The region is bordered on the north by the EThekwini Municipality, in the west by UMgungundlovu District Municipality and Sisonke District Municipality and on the southern side it borders with the Eastern Cape Province. The municipality consists of eighty four (84) municipal wards, which culminate into six (6) local municipalities, namely Hibiscus Coast, Ezinqoleni, Umuziwabantu, Vulamehlo, Umzumbe and Umdoni. The majority of land within the uGu District Municipality is privately owned, with the presence of several commercial farms in parts of the district where there is good agricultural land potential. There is a significant amount of land held under Traditional Authority having 42% of the District under Traditional authorities. The rest consists of a small portion of state Land scattered across the district. It should be noted that all the left over parcels of land not belonging to either the State or the Ingonyama Trust are privately owned.	The total population is 722 484 (Census 2011) with a population growth rate of 0.26% between 2001 and 2011. The Ugu District municipal area of jurisdiction is comprised of 179 440 households, average household size of 5 persons per household. The municipality experienced a positive growth rate of 2.6 % population having increased from 704 030 to 722 484. Ugu District has witness a drop in its share in the province's population distribution which was at 7.3% in 2001. This might be as a result of many factors that are also external or internal to the municipality one of them being migration. Hibiscus Coast Municipality makes up 36% of the total population of Ugu District area. This clearly shows that the major population density of the Ugu District area of jurisdiction. The current population density of the Ugu District area of jurisdiction. The current population and Hibiscus Municipalities has the highest densities in the district which are 314 and 305 people/ km ² respectively which it to be expected as they are the most urbanised in the district. The total number of households is 179440 with an average household size of 4.0 (Census 2011).
Agriculture	Analysis
The key sectors of the Ugu District economy are Agriculture, Manufacturing, Community Service Construction, Trade &Tourism, the Informal Sector, and Transport. Port Shepstone is the main commercial centre and major source of Employment. The agricultural sector is characterized by a highly developed and competitive commercial farming and mainly subsistence farming on rural trust land. The major commercial farming enterprises are in sugar cane, bananas and macadamias, and to a lesser extent timber, coffee, cut flowers, livestock, poultry, game farming, mangoes, and other fruit and vegetables. Subsistence agriculture comprises mostly of livestock raising, dryland cropping and homestead gardening. The agricultural enterprise suitability divides the district as follows: coast and north eastern part: Sugar cane (45%), cattle, sheep and goats to the south (20%), wattle, cattle, maize and woolled sheep (northern part) (20%), far western part (cattle, sheep and maize) (in that order). The N2 between Durban and Mthatha is the major route.	Izikolweni is proposed by the Province as a location for the establishment of an Agri-hub for the following reasons: It is not an EDD District or Regional Gateway Land capability is poor to marginal The enterprise area is cattle, sheep, and goats There is state land parcels to the west of the location PLAS projects to the east and west of the location CASP projects to the east of the location CASP 15-16 projects surrounding the proposed location Potential vacant state land to the east of the proposed location There should be good water supply from the river in the area Good road and rail connectivity (N2) Location is surrounded by poorest wards (PIMD) Land Care project to the north west of the location Many Restitution claims to the east of Izikolweni There are many SPAR foodstores along the coast within easy reach of the proposed location
One of the traditional mainstay economic sectors in the region, agriculture, has shed jobs at an alarming rate over the past decade. These jobs have been lost to the local economy given the inability of other sectors to absorb or replace them.	
The analyses were done on production that is consumed in large quantities within the province, and would have a definite offset market. The Commodities identified includes the following: • Maize • Potatoes • Dry Beans • Sugar Cane	
 In general, the agricultural industry is currently under pressure and faces a number of key constraints and opportunities which may include: Declining investment in the sector due to declining commodity prices, influx of imports. Rising costs of production (Minimum wages, fuel, electricity). Lack of broader participation. A change of land use from "agriculture" to other commercial land uses threatens the sustainability of agricultural industries. Coordination is required between local government and Traditional Authorities Competitive advantages include: Location, Climate, Water: Tourism, Labour availability and well established Commercial Sector and Support Services. While agriculture only contributes 8% to GVA and has declined substantially over the previous ten years, Ugu still has a comparative advantage in this sector and with the addition of agri processing this sector has the potential to drive growth in the 	
district. The interventions in this sector include unlocking Ingonyama Trust land for development, value adding, promoting growth of higher value products, commercialisation of subsistence farmers, improved research and marketing through development	

of research partnerships, increase in agricultural extension
services, identifying mariculture and aquaculture opportunities, and
addressing the slow pace of land reform and facilitation of
tenure security.



Agriculture is key sector that has been identified as being fundamental for the Rural Economic Transformation Model (RETM). In the district the sector has grown in leaps and bounds relative to other sector and positions the district strategically for RETM to be realized within the district. The IDP identified various opportunities that exist in the district within the agricultural space: • vegetables • chicken farming • Forestry and logging. • Leather and footwear production. • Public administration. • Collection and purification of water. Nearly 50% of the land in the District is classified as having moderate to very high agricultural potential. The district has lot of commodities that can be found across most of the local municipalities. In the district there is an array of commodities that can be grown. The district in all the high value commodities is well positioned across most except the district does not that much of a strong presence in that regards when it comes to wheat and fruit and veg. The Msunduzi and Richmond are the strongest municipality as they have most commodities. The table below shows which commodities are in which local municipality. Although a large number of commodities as outlined in the previous section can be grown within this area, analyses was done only on produce that is consumed in large quantities within the province, and would have a definite offset market. The Commodities identified includes the following: • Maize • Potatoes • Dry Bean, Sugar cane	 Based on the analysis the province identifies the Umgeni as the best location for an Agri-hub due to the following reasons: There is no district or regional gateway in Umngeni Local Municipality (the closest is Pietremaritzburg which is a Regional EDD gateway) Land capability is good Ample water supply from the Howick Dam to the west of the proposed location State land in the local municipality Good road and railway connectivity (N3) Many Restitution claims to the north and east of the proposed location At least 6 SPAR foodstores in the municipality There is a PLAS project next to the N3 to the north east of the proposed location There is a CASP Project, and a smallholder irrigation project in the area There are 3 SPAR foodstores surrounding the proposed location
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The Umkhanyakude District Municipality is located in the North Eastern region of KwaZulu-Natal and it is approximately 13 855 km² in geographical extent. uMkhanyakude District Municipality is a Category C municipality located in the far north of the KwaZulu-Natal province. It is the second-largest district in KwaZulu-Natal. The District is made up of five Local Municipalities which are uMhlabuyalingana, The Big Five False Bay, Jozini, Hlabisa and Mtubatuba Local Municipalities. UMkhanyakude District Municipality is located in the far Northern region of KwaZulu-Natal Province in South Africa. At 12 818 km2 and with a population totalling 625,846, the District is the 2nd largest District in KwaZulu-Natal, in terms of size, behind its neighbouring District, Zululand District Municipality. UMkhanyakude District also has the World Heritage Site known as Isimangaliso Wetland Park which encompasses the entire coastline of more than 200 km. Cities/Towns: Hlabisa, Hluhluwe, Ingwavuma, Jozini,

From 2001 to 2011 the population of UMkhanyakude District increased by 0.9% to 625,846 with a total of 128195 households. After boundary changes in 2011, Hlabisa Municipality was scaled down from 19 wards to 8 wards and Mtubatuba inherited those wards which resulted in an increase from 5 to 19 wards. By 2016/2017 Hlabisa and The Big 5 False Bay Municipality will merge into one. A significant portion of the land in UMkhanyakude is under Ingonyama Trust and it is estimated that it is about 50 % of 12 819 km2 belongs to traditional authorities. Individuals per household are estimated to be about 5. Unemployment rate is estimated to be about 43% of the total population. According to Census 2011 data, the District has a population of 625,846 and 128195 households with an average of 4.9 persons per household. 55.3% of the population lies within the 15 to 64 year age group, while the unemployment rate is 42.8%. 53.9% of the households are female headed. From 2001 to 2011 the

of UMkhanyakude District increased by 0.9% to 625,846. The unemployment rate of 31% in UKDM is slightly higher than the overall provincial rate of 28.5%. The most prominent characteristic is the very high proportion of the economically active population classified as discouraged work seekers (27.7%), a figure more than double the provincial average of 13.8%. This implies a general perception of the unavailability of formal sector employment in UKDM as manifested by the high proportion of discouraged work seekers.
Analysis
 Based on the analysis done by the Province it is proposed that Mkuze be identified as the best location for the Agri-hub based on the following: It is by far the strongest EDD district gateway in the district municipality Mkuze is surrounded by restitution claims There is potential vacant state land to the east of Mkuze town There is excellent road connectivity to the N2 from Durban to Johannesburg The Jozini Dam is to the north of Mkuze and there should be ample water supply for agriculture, and there are also agricultural infrastructure at Jozini town (Ginner) It must be noted that there is no agricultural infrastructure at Mkuze, and it should be developed It is suggested that land parcels owned by the state need to be surveyed in order to know whether they are being occupied and to what extent if they are and should be the primary places to consider which the development of the Agri-park The Enterprise area for Mkuze town is beef cattle There are a few CASP 15-16 projects surrounding the proposed location



agriculture co-operatives are contributing positively towards food	
security as the vegetables produced are further sold to the community	
and surrounding areas within the district. There is a goat mover's	
project that is taking place on land that has low agricultural production	
potential, this land is to the far east Tugela Ferry the town. This	
means that this land is used for grazing of the goats. This is classified	
as an ideal use for this piece of land as it has low potential in	
production thus it is suitable for grazing. Although a large number of	
commodities as outlined in the previous section can be grown within	
this area, analyses was done only on produce that is consumed in	
large quantities within the province, and would have a definite offset	
market. The Commodities identified includes the following:	
• Maize	
Potatoes	
• Dry Beans	
• Sugar Cane	
There is limited cultivation under irrigation in the northern parts of	
UDM. The main irrigation areas are around Muden, south of	
Seven Oaks and Kranskop. Sugar cane is the main crop cultivated	
under irrigation although vegetables are also cultivated in the Muden	
area. Areas that should have potential along the Tugela River are not	
commercially utilsed. The general grazing capacity in the UDM area is	
very low and it is only in a few areas in the mountainous parts where	
the grazing capacity is between 14 and 17 animal units (one animal	
unit = 450kg cow).	



municipalities in the Province of KwaZulu-Natal, and was established during the 2000 transformation of local government. uThukela District Municipality is a Category C municipality and is located on the western boundary of the KwaZulu-Natal province. The District is well endowed with water, pockets of good soils and the natural beauty of the Drakensberg. Two national roads, the N3 and N11 transcend the District, which has a potential for economic development. The uThukela District Municipality has three district municipalities bordering onto it, namely Amajuba, UMzinyathi and UMgungundlovu. The size of the Municipality is 11500km² and is located along the western boundary of KwaZulu-Natal. It is predominately rural, with three of the five Local Municipalities being rural in nature. The uThukela District Municipality consists of five Local Municipalities, namely: Indaka, Emnambithi/Ladysmith, Umtshezi, Okhahlamba and Imbabazane. Cities/Towns: Bergville, Cathkin Park, Colenso, Estcourt, Ladysmith, Van Reenen, Weenen, Winterton. Main Economic Sectors: Manufacturing (21%), wholesale and retail trade, catering and accommodation (17%), finance, insurance, real estate and business services (15%). This municipality is characterised by socio-economic indicators such as low revenue base, poor infrastructure, limited access to services, and low economic base.

Agriculture

uThukela district municipality has a good climate and abundance of natural resources like water. Its land is fertile and capability to undergo extensive commercial farming. Agriculture contributed R946 million to the district economy in 2011 and employed 7 959 people. The sector had one of the highest average annual growth rates in terms of GVA at 8% for 2001 to 2011, although employment growth was negative at -5% per annum. The number of people employed in agriculture, forestry and fishing started decreasing in 2007, which is in line with provincial trends in the sector. The municipality's agricultural sector contributed 7% to total agricultural GVA of KZN in 2011, up from 4% in 2001. Employment in uThukela's agricultural sector as a proportion of total agricultural employment in KZN was 8% in 2011, also up from 4% in 2001. Commercial agriculture occupies a large portion of the municipal land area but subsistence farming is the dominant activity in the municipality. According to the 2007 Census of Agriculture, there was approximately 63 000 ha of area planted to crops in the district in 2007. The main crop planted was maize followed by potatoes, with the main areas for cropping being Estcourt and Bergville. In addition, there were 1 million chickens, 56 000 pigs, 47 000 cattle and 26 000 sheep in the district in 2007. Beef ranching dominates in Emnambithi local municipality, whilst chickens are the dominant activity in Umtshezi local municipality. The main area of sheep and pig farming is also in Umtshezi local municipality.

Maize can be grown with a yield of up to 4.3 tons/ha mostly on the western side of the municipality. It needs to be noted that this coincides with the highly valuable conservation land and therefore actual production of the land will be limited. The most suitable areas

as a low revenue base, poorly maintained infrastructure and limited access to social and other services. High levels of poverty, unemployment, skills shortage, a lack of resources and low levels of education is also prevalent. The settlement patterns are disbursed, which resulted in underdeveloped land and settlement patterns that make it challenging and expensive to deliver effective services. The total number of households is 147286 with an average household size of 4.5 (Census 2011). The total population is 668 848 (Census 2011). The unemployment rate is 39.6% and 58.5% of the total population lies within the 15 to 64 year age group. The percentage of female headed households is 52.6%. The Indaka and Imbabazane Local Municipalities are newly established municipalities, without a wellestablished economic centre. As a result, the most significant poverty is found in these two municipalities. The population of uThukela District increased from 657,736 in 2001 to 668,848 in 2011 recording approximately 2% growth. Approximately 286410 (42.8%) of the population has no source of income and about 184170 (27.5%) earn less than R400 per month which translate to almost 70.3% of the population live below the poverty line.

Analysis

Based on analysis done by the Province it is proposed that Bergville town be identified as the best location for an Agri-hub based on the following:

- Good railway and road connectivity
- Bergville is not an EDD district gateway
- · Land Capability is very good
- Potential vacant state land in the area close to the location
- · Grain silo, SPAR food store in the location
- · CRDP site to the south of the location
- · CASP Project to the south of location
- Many Restitution Claims to the north east of the town
- · Poorest wards to the south of the location

There are a few CASP 15-16 projects to the south and south east of the proposed location

Actual road surface condition may determine actual road connectivity

 Good water source from the dams to the east and west of the proposed location

Proximity to the N3 national road which is located to the east of the proposed location

are not situated within close proximity of the Traditional Areas. Potatoes can be grown for 5 months without irrigation along the foothills of the Drakensberg. With irrigation there is potential around Estcourt. The area to east of Bergville up to the mountain has an area where potential production is optimal and it intersects with traditional areas. There is therefore potential to implement agri projects within this area. Dry Beans can be grown with a yield of up to 1.6 tons / ha mostly on the western side of the municipality. It needs to be noted that this coincides with the highly valuable conservation land and therefore actual production of the land will be limited. The most suitable areas are not situated within close proximity of the Traditional Areas.

The challenges facing agriculture in the district are:

• Traditional value systems hinder the ability of communal farmers to become more commercialized as the economic value of their livestock is not appreciated;

Poor herd quality in terms of cattle means that commercialization of cattle farming is

limited;

· Stock theft is a major problem in the district;

• Failure of land reform to produce viable and sustainable farming operations;

• Communally owned cattle represent a huge proportion of stock in the district and this asset needs to gear further investment in agriculture;

• Whilst it is important to identify potential value adding opportunities, these must be done

within the context of the broader economy and impacts on businesses elsewhere in the supply chain;

• There is a need to make people directly responsible for their farming activities and their own success;

• Make use of existing knowledge systems within communities to make agriculture a success;

There is a need to develop incentives and tax breaks to sup

port investment in the industry;

• There is a need to improve perceptions of the agricultural industry so that it is appealing to the younger generation;

 Farmers in the region are concerned about the threat of land claims and land grabs;

• There has been a steady decline over time in the number of people entering agriculture given the challenges faced by farmers and the attractiveness of other sectors to the younger generations;

• There seems to be a sense of disillusion from commercial farmers with government and programmes to mentor emerging farmers;

• There is a need toidentify agricultural activities that are labour intensive and develop these to address some of the employment issues that exist.



located in the north-eastern region of the KwaŹulu-Natal province on the eastern seaboard of South Africa. From the agricultural town of Gingingdlovu in the south, to the Umfolozi River in the north and inland to the mountainous beauty of rural Nkandla. Total Area: 8 213km ² . uThungulu District Municipality is a Category C municipality and is located in the north-eastern region of the KwaZulu-Natal province. It covers the area from KwaGingindlovu (previously Gingindlovu) in the south, to the Umfolozi River in the north, and	The district has a total population of 907519 people of which 480122 are female and 427397 are male. The Mhlathuze municipality has the highest population in the district with about 40% of the Districts population. This is largely due to the economic opportunities that the Mhlathuze municipality presents in terms of its harbor, agricultural, tourism and manufacturing sectors. The total number of households is 202976 with an average household size of 4.5 (Census 2011). The unemployment percentage is 34.7% while 60.7% of the total
of uMhlathuze, Ntambanana, uMlalazi, Mthonjaneni, Nkandla and Mfolozi (previously Mbonambi). It has the third-highest population in the province. The N2 highway links the district to other significant	population lies within the 15 to 64 year age group. The percentage of female headed households is 48.9%. Some 80% of the population is rural and 53% is aged between 0 and 19 years. Women make up 54% of the population due to migration patterns associated with the province in general and there are large disparities in settlement concentrations.
Agriculture	Analysis
sugar cane and forestry. The cane and forestry sectors have been at the forefront of assisting emerging farmers. Traditional agriculture is practiced on most of the Traditional Council lands in the district. The development of this sector is hindered by a low skills base and a lack of organized bodies to provide financial assistance, access to markets and market channels. In the Uthungulu District Municipality there is high potential for the growth of maize. The western part of the District which includes the Mlalazi and Nkandla Municipalities is mostly the land suitable for the production of Maize within the District Municipality. Within these two Municipalities there is minimal state land parcels. The state land parcel which falls in the land suitable for maize is located in the Nkandla Municipality, South of the town of Nkandla. One can assume that this parcel of land is not vacant and consists of the communal residential activity. The Uthungulu District Municipality is predominantly suitable for the production of sugarcane. Sugarcane production is mostly suitable for the coastal municipalities within the District, namely the Mlalazi and the Mhlathuze Municipality. There are a number of state land parcels that are situated in the land suitable for the production of sugarcane. The first parcel is located in the Mlalazi Municipality to the North-Western direction to the town of Mthunzini, this parcel is situated along the N2 route. The second	Based on analysis done by the Province it is proposed that Eshowe is the most suitable site for an Agri-hub for the following reasons: • Eshowe is identified as an EDD district gateway • It orresponds with the current municipal plans which are to develop a Fresh Produce Market in Eshowe town • It within proximity to the Provincial routes which link to the N2 and to the Richards Bay Industrial Development Zone (RBIDZ) and the harbour for export to international markets • This site will be economically efficient to the inland farmers since transport costs will be less • It will also boost the inland economy of Uthungulu by enforcing the Richards Bay and Eshowe development node, creating economic growth and employment opportunities within this region • There are many restitution claims to the south east of Eshowe town • There is road connectivity • Enterprise commodity area is sugar cane • There are a few Smallholder irrigation schemes in the area • Land capability is poor to moderate • There are a few SASP 15-16 projects in the area • There are a few CASP 15-16 projects in the area • There are a fawill way link to Mandini and Richards Bay • There are many Restitution Claims to the south east and west of Eshowe town



District Context

Zululand District Municipality is situated in the north-eastern part of KwaZulu-Natal. It is primarily a rural district. About half the area falls under the jurisdiction of traditional authorities, while the remainder is privately owned commercial farms or protected areas. The Zululand District Municipality is located on the northern regions of the KwaZulu-Natal Province and covers an area of approximately 14810 km². Approximately half the area in the district is under the jurisdiction of traditional authorities whilst the remainder is divided between commercially-owned farms and conservation areas. Zululand District comprises of five local municipalities namely the eDumbe, uPhongolo, Abaqulusi, Nongoma and Ulundi. Vryheid and Ulundi are the major towns in the district; Vryheid is a commercial and business centre, whilst Ulundi is an administrative centre for the district. Cities/Towns: Louwsburg, Nongoma, Paulpietersburg, Pongola, Ulundi, Vryheid. Main Economic Sectors: General government (22%), transport, storage and communication (16%), wholesale and retail trade, catering and accommodation (15%), finance, insurance, real estate

The Zululand district has a population of 803 575 people living in isolated rural settlements and six urban areas. The population growth rate is 0.3% between 2001 and 2011 (Census 2011). Zululand district has an unemployment rate of 41%. In 2011 Census the district had 157748 households with an average household size of 4.9. The unemployment rate is 41.1% and the population group 15 to 64 years is 55.8% of the total population for the district. Female headed households comprise 54.2% of the total number of households.

and business services (11%), agriculture, forestry and fishing (10%), manufacturing (10%), community, social and business services (6%), mining and quarrying (5%), construction (3%), electricity, gas and water (2%).	
Agriculture Good agricultural potential exists in the western highlands and the eDumbe Municipality has very high potential as has most of the Abaqulusi municipality. High potential in the Phongola valley is as a result of irrigation opportunities that have been developed in this area. Although a large number of commodities as outlined in the previous section can be grown within this area, analyses was done only on produce that is consumed in large quantities within the province, and would have a definite offset market. The Commodities identified includes the following: • Maize • Potatoes • Dry Beans • Sugar Cane Maize can be grown with a yield of up to 4.3 tons/ha within the central to North Western Parts of the District, and more specifically the aBaqulusi Local Municipality, and the eDumbe Local Municipality. Limited growth potential exists within the Ulundi Local Municipality. Limited areas with growth potential intersect with areas under traditional management. These areas are typically characterized by extreme topography and therefore are not suitable for arable agriculture. Soils suitable for growing potatoes are situated in the aBaqulusi Local Municipality to the North of Gluckstadt as well as north of Vryheid Town. eDumbe Local Municipality also has vast areas with potential to grow potatoes. Limited Potential Exist in the Ulundi Local Municipality to the North of Gluckstadt as well as north of Vryheid Town. eDumbe Local Municipality also has vast areas coincide with traditionally managed areas.Soils suitable for growing dry-beans (up to 1.6 tons / ha) are situated in the aBaqulusi Local Municipality to the North of Gluckstadt as well as north of Vryheid Town. eDumbe Local Municipality also has vast areas with potential to grow potatoes. Limited Potential Exist in the Ulundi Local Municipality. Very few of the potential production areas coincide with traditionally managed areas, but do so in the Nongoma Local Municipality. The following interventions need to be employ	 Analysis After analysis by the Province Vryheid town should be developed as an Agri-hub in the Zululand District for the following reasons: Vryheid town is identified as an EDD district gateway There is vacant state land available for the use of an Agri-Park Close proximity to commercial and smallholder/subsistence farms Availability of exiting agriculture infrastructure (silo, miller, feedlot) There are many restitution claims to the north and east of Vryheid town There is a feedlot, miller and grain silo in Vryheid town There is good road and rail connectivity Land capability is moderate to high Less occurrence of degraded land The population in the area is the second highest in the district There already exists infrastructure to support the development - there are red meat and poultry abattoris that can support the development of the poultry and red meat industry Vryheid is the economic hub of the district with a significant portion of the economy depending on agriculture The area has sufficient water supply The area a few CASP 15-16 projects surrounding the proposed location Actual road condition may vary due to actual road surface condition There are many Restitution Claims surrounding Vryheid town







































