

Physical Address
Enterprise iLembe, Cnr. Link Road and Ballito Drive, Ballito, 4420

Postal Address
PO Box 593, Ballito, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa, 4420

Tel: +27(0)32 946 1256 | Fax: +27(0)32 946 3515

Email: info@enterpriseilembe.co.za
Web: www.enterpriseilembe.org.za

Welcome to the second Enterprise iLembe newsletter.

We hit the ground running this year and although we are already in the middle of 2011, we are proud to say that we have worked as hard and as fast as the year is going by.

There is much that has been done at Enterprise iLembe that has strengthened and aided our growth and that of the communities that surround us:

The Team at Enterprise iLembe

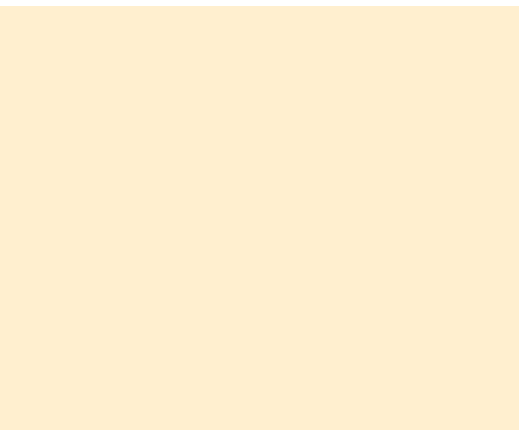


The team at Enterprise iLembe has certainly been growing over the past few months. The staff component now stands at 10.

Chief Executive Officer
Chief Financial Officer
Manager: Trade & Investment Promotions
LED: Tourism
LED: Agriculture
LED: Social Facilitation
LED: Vineyards Extension Officer
LED: Agricultural Extension Officer
Administration Officer
PA to the Office of the CEO

Ms. Kanyi Gasa
Mr. Linda Africa
Ms. Cheryl Peters
Mr. Mthoko Ngidi
Mr. Sinethembe Koyi
Ms. Eugenia Mbense
Mr. Roy Newlands
Mr. Michael Mkhwanazi
Ms. Khwezi Mabaso
Ms. Kerry Van Der Linde

The team recently went on a Team Building expedition with the aim to becoming a 'High Performance Team'. Much fun was had by all through experiential and practical learning both in the classroom and out on the field. Needless to say, it is during this time that you really get to see and discover what your colleague's personalities are like, and we are by far one of the most competitive teams you will ever come across.



Trade & International Marketing/Trade Missions

Our CEO attended the India – Agri bio summit from 28 January – 4 February 2011. The main aim of this mission was to identify opportunities for EI to unlock partnerships with organisations in the agricultural space in India.

India has one of the fastest growing populations and as such, drives successful agricultural activities and projects that tackle food production and poverty alleviation. At the summit, Enterprise iLembe was provided an opportunity to present as well as highlight some of our projects and key areas of development. Subsequent to showcasing our Agric projects and hubs, the CEO was then invited by a company called Vibha seeds who specialises in the manufacture of seeds that produce high quality production through bio technologies.

The CEO was hosted by the MD of Vibha Seeds and had the opportunity to conduct site visits at the Vibha plant. Vibha is looking at expanding into the African market and exploring iLembe as possible springboard to it and discussions are continuing around this topic.

The CEO also attended the International Hotel Investment Forum in Germany from 7-9 March 2011 and this was the first for EI. Key outcomes and learning's included a further understanding of international businesses views and appetite for investment into Africa. International tourism investors are showing interest in primarily Northern Africa rather than South Africa.

Internationally, a few key players that include Hotels and hospitality investors, tourist boards, tour operators, travel businesses, financial institutions and funding organisations, associations and system providers dominate South Africa and key industry players in the hospitality industry. What was evident is that transformation of the tourism sector is a global issue, with limited players of colour and women in the industry. Enterprise iLembe together with TKZN have continuously indicated the need to understand the potential international investor, including the existing local investors.

Business retention, expansion and attention to local investors need new energy and just as much attention as international investors. TKZN and EI are currently investigating an invitation by TUI, a mass tourism and sea cruise liner operator, to visit a site in Kenya as we try to persuade TUI to invest in Kwa-Zulu Natal.

The Manager: TIP attended the ITB in Berlin from 9 – 11, March 2011 which was held at the Messe Berlin. ITB is the premier tourism event in Germany and is attended by the following key players in tourism players:

- Hotels,
- Tour operators,
- Carriers,
- Associations
- Tourist boards,
- Travel businesses,
- Organisations,
- System providers.

It is a prime convergence of the tourism industry and forms one of the major forums for the industry players to network and share knowledge. The exhibition area and various segments, along with the comprehensive congress programme and supporting events represent the entire product spectrum of the tourist industry. At the same time, these form the basis for the development of new ideas, global approaches and targeted marketing. ITB is the ideal platform for establishing new customer contacts and conducting business with key strategic partners such as Tour Operators and Airlines. The German market is now number three in terms of key source arrivals surpassed only by the UK & the US and this makes it number two key source markets in Europe. Enterprise iLembe partnered with TKZN and Durban Tourism on this initiative. The recommendation is that TKZN & Durban Tourism should on the same basis so as to leverage off the existing partnerships and relations already establish future participation over the years.



International Funds for Agricultural Development



From Left to right: Kanayo F. Nwanze, President of International Fund and Agricultural Development, SA Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries Ms Pieterson, and Enterprise iLembe's LED Officer, Sinethemba Koyi.

On the 3rd to the 5th of June 2011, a conference on International Funds for Agriculture was held in Cape Town Southern Sun hotel. Among the delegates were the President of international fund for Agricultural development, SA Minister of Agriculture Ms Pieterson as well as the Ministers of Agriculture from Tanzania and Uganda.

Some of the most important topics that were discussed at the summit were the state of rural poverty globally. The minister made it clear that there is a lot of work that needs to be done to improve the poverty situation around the globe, and the statistics show that a greater number of people around the world live in rural areas which is 55% of the world population. This indicates clearly the role that agriculture can play in alleviating poverty and creating jobs in rural areas. The minister stated very clearly that in order to broaden the opportunities for rural poverty reduction and economic growth, there is a need for a broader approach to rural growth and emphasis on the larger rural non-farm economy. A focus on smallholder agriculture requires particular attention to increasing investments and four areas need to be taken into consideration:

- Improving the overall environment of rural areas,
- Reducing the level of risks that poor rural areas and helping them to improve their risk management,
- Advancing individuals capabilities,
- Strengthen the collective ability of rural people.

Partnership to Help Local Business Grow



Enterprise iLembe, together with iLembe Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Tourism and the Industrial Development Corporation (IDC), announced that they would be commencing with a programme that aims to identify opportunities for local businesses and to address obstacles to expansion and growth in the region.

The programme is referred to as the Business Retention & Expansion (BR&E) Visitation Programme, which is being driven by a trained task team made up of local business people and government officials. "Job creation is one of our highest priorities," said Kanyo Gasa, CEO of Enterprise iLembe adding "International research shows that up to 80% of new jobs are created by the growth of existing businesses."

BR&E programmes have been utilised successfully in various countries for many years and in South Africa since 2003. The basics are simple and involve trained volunteers surveying the opinions of local business people. The survey is confidential and no financial or other sensitive information is required. The data collected will be collated and analysed using professional research methodology. The critical issues and common concerns identified will be collected by the above task team who will draft proposals to address them. These will be presented at a stakeholder meeting, including all businesses interviewed, for approval and to mobilise local support and action.

"We are completely behind this exciting initiative. It is a unique opportunity for the ideas, concerns and opinions of local business to be heard", said Trenley Tilbrook, CEO of the iLembe Chamber of Commerce, industry and Tourism.

The programme will initially focus on businesses in the Ballito area but will be expanded further into the district next year.

iLembe Investor Summit



The iLembe Investor Summit was held on 30 & 31 March 2011 at eBandla Hotel & Conference Centre. Approximately 100 delegates attended the plenary session on day one and around 70 delegates on day two. Speakers at the Summit included the likes of IDC, IFA Resorts, iLembe Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Tourism, and Signature Life Hotels.

The MEC for Economic Development Mike Mabuyakhulu delivered a keynote address on day two.

The Summit comprised of a plenary session on day one and sector focused breakaway sessions on day two. The breakaway sessions on day two focused on the four key sectors i.e. Manufacturing (facilitated by Manoj Seonath from IDC), Tourism (facilitated by Thabisile Mhetwa from TKZN), Agriculture (facilitated by Mr Dlamini from DOA) and Services (facilitated by Dominic Collett from SSI). A copy of all the presentations is available on Enterprise iLembe's website; www.enterpriseilembe.co.za

Some of the key issues raised at the Summit included;

Manufacturing

- Infrastructure upgrade: The cost of bulk services is a huge challenge for the entrepreneur
- Regulatory issues, especially in the green industries (biodiesel, wind power, solar power etc.) There is a feeling of a lack of understanding of what the official regulation should be. Departments need to cooperate more and finalise these regulations ASAP.
- Lead times for approvals are too long. Some of the reasons for this are undue processes and red tape (EIAs), as well as human attitude and customer service. Although the policies are good, there is room for improvement in adherence thereto and monitoring.

Tourism

- The job of destination marketers is to create interest about the product. It is up to the service providers (such as hotels) to provide good service. The challenge is delivering to the customer the same excellent product as promised by the destination marketer. There is a need for dialogue with trade if the above is to be successfully fulfilled.
- Brand building, use Ballito as the 'Hook' as it is an established brand.
- Unlocking opportunities inland: There is also a need to develop key tourism points / main attractions of the region.

Agriculture

- Different climactic conditions throughout the area allow for different crops to be planted. These can supplement each other in terms of the seasons during which they are harvested.
- Further opportunities exist in poultry farming, essential oils etc.
- Challenges faced is that there is no sustainable markets, reliable suppliers, no value-chains, no unity in the sector.

Services

- Waste disposal: Opportunities exist around recycling of cans, bottles, cardboard etc.
- Alternatives to conserving water can be taught on the reuse of grey water. These could include treating waste water, desalination, community spring protection in rural areas.
- There's a dire need to enhance existing infrastructure, e.g. Improve the railway link on the Verulum, Tongaat, Kwa-Dukuza route

Existing businesses are important for the region, not only for growth but also to spread the word about iLembe's economic and investment opportunities. "Keep those at home happy, while remaining attractive to outside prospective investors".

MEC Economic Development, Michael Mabuyakhulu





North Coast Big 5 Competition Winners

The inaugural North Coast Big 5 Competition has finally come to an end with the official prize-giving event, taking place on Tuesday 3rd May at the Sangweni Tourism Office, Ballito. Businesses nominated throughout the 3 month long competition were cordially invited to attend on Tuesday evening, with Zulu Dancers, refreshments & canapés to await the discovery of the first North Coast Big 5 Winners.

The event was attended by some of the regions most well respected representatives including the Mayor, Cllr S.W. Mdabe, Deputy Mayor, Cllr Amitha Badul, Enterprise iLembe CEO, Kanyi Gasu, Enterprise iLembe Manger of Trade & Investment Promotions, Cheryl Peters, CEO of ICCIT, Trenley Tilbrook as well as the local media.

The competition was conceptualised late last year by the team at Sugar Rush as an aid to boost local tourism & commercial activity. The competition encouraged the local community and passing tourists to vote for their favourite jewels on the North Coast and within the wider iLembe District either online or in stores and businesses. Throughout the 3 months, over 90 businesses were nominated and a total of 2517 votes were received.

After totalling the votes the Sugar Rush and Enterprise iLembe team were privileged to announce the 5 winners on Tuesday the 3rd of May as follows:

Winner of the Activities category
Crocodile Creek www.crocodilecreek.net

Winner of the Health & Lifestyle Category
Fashion Lab Hair Studio www.fashionlab.co.za

Winner of the Destinations category
Chaka's Rock Chalets www.chakas-rock-chalets.co.za

Winner of the Community Category
Luthuli Museum www.luthulimuseum.org.za

Winner of the Entertainment Category
The Litchi Orchard www.litchiorchard.co.za

The above businesses have received an award for Service Excellence, 12 month free advertising on the Sugar Rush website and a slot on the SABC 3 morning show, Espresso, as part of the North Coast feature to air soon.

Sugar Rush would like to extend their gratitude and thanks to Enterprise iLembe for their support throughout this competition. Much gratitude also goes to the official media partner, the North Coast Courier, other supporting partners, The Stanger Weekly, North Coast Jewel of the Zulu Kingdom and all supporting businesses.

The competition is hoped to be an annual event and we look forward to working with the local community again to discover the 2012 North Coast Big 5.



Indaba 2011

Enterprise iLembe showcased our spectacular North Coast at the recent Indaba held on 7-10 May 2011 at the ICC in Durban. In order to ensure maximum benefit and exposure for the region, nine local tourism operators were afforded the opportunity to utilise the North Coast stand to profile their various businesses. The businesses that partnered with Enterprise iLembe were Hampshire Hotel, Prince's Grant Golf Estate, The Vineyard on Ballito, Holland Farm Guest House, Rain Farm Game Lodge, Zimbali Vacations, HOLA World & Petite Provence Guesthouse.



Enterprise iLembe Hosts WGE Delegation

Members from the World Golf Events conducted site inspections of various golf courses in KZN in preparation for the World Golfers Championships that is scheduled to take place in October/November this year. Enterprise iLembe hosted some of the team members for a cocktail at Caledon during this time and we are pleased to announce that of the four golf courses required for the tournament three are situated in iLembe. These include the main host, Fairmont Zimbali, as well as Umhlali Country Club and Princes Grant Golf Estate. We now look forward to hosting a successful and memorable event in our beautiful North Coast.



The Business of Birding on the North Coast

Birding is one of the world's fastest growing hobbies, so much so that in recent times, the expenditure on birding has exceeded that of golf in countries such as the USA to take birding to the top spot as "most popular outdoor pursuit."

Understanding this multi billion-dollar niche tourism market is the rationale for Enterprise iLembe developing the recently launched North Coast Birding Route. The North Coast Birding Route boasts a spectacular bird list of over 460 species; this is more than the entire European continent put together! Much of this diversity is owed to the major ecological transition zone with a great variety of habitats including the coast with many estuaries and lagoons, rare grasslands, a diverse range of forests and woodlands as well as upland cliffs, gorges and valleys.

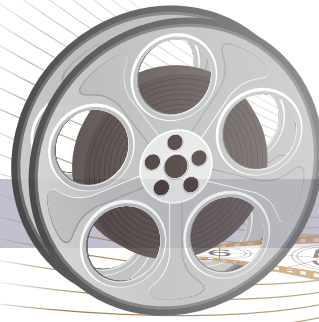
The impressive Tugela River is at the core of the region, which stretches from Kranskop inland and along the coast from Tinley Manor in the South, covering the Umvoti and Zinkwazi areas, to Amatikulu in the North. The species richness is also evident amongst other life forms. The area boasts the greatest diversity of butterflies and the greatest concentration of the elusive Bushbuck in the country. It also competes with the best in terms of tree and habitat diversity, and is home to many plant, insect, reptile and mammal endemics.

Having said this, it does well to highlight that the North Coast Birding Route is so much more than a collection of birding spots, it's a vehicle to create employment for bird guides and act as a catalyst for eco-tourism development in areas such as Amatikulu, Otamati Gorge and Kwaloshe Forest where birders literally flock to tick off new and special species such as Swamp Nightjar, Mangrove Kingfisher and African Finfoot. According to Duncan Pritchard, (Director of ETC-Africa project managers for the Zululand and North Coast Birding Routes), Birding routes provide a viable avenue for rural communities to become involved in the tourism industry whilst also integrating socio-economic and conservation needs of an area.

To date five community-based bird guides have been trained to operate along the route, these guides receive ongoing mentorship and marketing support from Enterprise iLembe and other partners such as the Zinkwazi Conservancy. Research undertaken into the community bird guide model further north along the Zululand Birding Route found that the average community bird guide was earning in the region of R2240 per month, R1642 more than they were earning before their involvement in tourism. Guides such as Junior Gabela from Amatikulu have also established other business opportunities around birding such as canoe tours on the estuary and doing environmental education courses with school children.

Mayor of iLembe District Municipality, Cllr S.W. Mdabe commented that he was extremely excited about this niche marketing initiative. "Projects of this nature have the potential of diversifying the tourism product on offer on the North Coast. They offer tourists alternatives to the wonderful beach experience and allow for community participation in the tourism sector", he said.

Northern KZN Film Office



Lights, Camera, Action!

Enterprise iLembe entered into a partnership with Uthungulu District Municipality and Umhlosinga Development Agency on the establishment of a Film office for the region. The establishment phase of the project was funded by Cogta. The vision of the Film Office is to develop a sustainable and vibrant film industry in northern KZN that contributes significantly to economic growth and employment in the region and increase the contribution from northern KZN to the South African film industry to at least 3% within 3 years.

The function of the Film Office is to;

- Market and promote the local area as a film production location in a variety of ways;
- Developing local filming policy to guide the local filming approval process;
- Manage the filming approval process on behalf of the respective local authority;
- Facilitate between film producers, local government and local communities about film production.

The name Northern KZN Film Office is currently under review by the Project Steering Committee in order to ensure that all three districts are covered and will be able to benefit in terms of exposure. Indeed the world is a stage.

Watch this space!

Agri-processing hub

The purpose of this project is to establish 8 agri-hubs in each municipality within the iLembe District municipality including a Nursery and a processing facility. The main aim of the project was to firstly to plant market driven commodities to ensure that our businesses/projects will be sustainable in the future. At this stage it is very important to work together with as well as establish a good working relationship with the market. This relationship will enable the enterprise together with the farmers to know what is needed in the market. Secondly, people on the ground need to be well trained both on technical and business training so that people are clear of the operations on the ground and most importantly they operate more as a business than a project. Once a sustainable business is running then we are assured of sustainable and descent jobs in our farming communities.

Current Status

5 tunnels of 2500m² each have been erected in our local Municipalities in the following manner:

- 1 Maphumulo,
- 1 Mandeni,
- 1 kwaDukuza,
- and 2 iNdwedwe.

The Maphumulo tunnel, planted, with tomatoes, is now up and running. The KwaDukuza tunnel is completed and cucumber will be planted before end of August 2011. Below is the picture of the tunnel before planting in Bulwer.

Forth-Coming Activities

The Maphumulo tunnel will be sped up as soon as electricity is available onsite. The Ndwedwe tunnels are also awaiting electricity supply from Eskom; thereafter the operation will be sped up. Expenditure to date is approximately at R11 000 000.00. So far Agri-hubs have employed a total of 61 people made up of 23 youth, 16 Male (elderly), and 22 female (elderly). The goal is to have all 8 tunnels fully operational by the end of year 2011 with a formal market where producers will supply their produce as well as to supply value added products to the regional and national market. This in turn will turn these projects into sustainable businesses that will create sustainable jobs.

Long-Term Objectives

The long-term objective of this project is to employ 2 people per bay depending on bays per tunnel. The average number per tunnel will then be 16 people. With all tunnels fully functional, 128 people will be employed. The establishment of these tunnels will address food security that is associated with rural poverty and create employment opportunities within the rural communities. We want to make sure that entrepreneurship in the rural areas is stimulated through rural enterprise development. Lastly we want to effect skills development and achieve robust and sustainable agri-processing operations.



Picture taken 2 months after planting



Picture of Bulwer tunnel before planting

The Mambulu Titanium Project



The Mambulu Titanium Project is located in the Maphumulo Local Municipality. For many years there has been speculation about the titanium deposits in Mambulu. Enterprise iLembe together with Trade and Investment KZN commissioned a feasibility study that MINTEK is conducting to determine whether there are titanium deposits in the area.

So far these are the interim findings of the study:

There would appear to be no shortage of magnetite material, both in situ and as eroded rubble that would be available for small-scale exploitation. The next main task would be to determine whether the material is suitable for iron, titanium or other metal extraction. Samples collected during the current phase of the project will be sent for assay to determine the Iron and titanium content of the magnetite material, as well as for mineralogical examination to determine the mineral associations and the extraction potential of the material. These analyses are currently in progress. If the test work confirms the possibility of economically treating the material, the last phase of the current investigation would be to determine the size, orientation and depth of the ore body and its associations with the surrounding rocks, in order to conduct a scoping level study on the viability of establishing a mine and identifying the best method and location of processing the ore. This would necessitate a dedicated geological mapping exercise, accompanied by aerial photographic interpretation, and possibly aeromagnetic and gravity analysis. In order to accurately delimit the ore body in both extent and depth, an exploratory drilling program would be necessary.

The Vineyard Project

If wine is the drink of the Gods, then at iLembe you are going to be in heaven!

The Mayor of iLembe District Municipality, Cllr S.W. Mdabe joined labourers at the Maphumulo Vineyards site in planting the first vines in iLembe soil. The aim of the iLembe Vineyards is to plant and harvest vines with the intention of producing wine, brandy, juice and table grapes. The establishment of these sustainable vineyards is expected to produce up to 25 tons per hectare of top quality grapes for producing selected products.

The iLembe Vineyards project has planted 10.1ha of Villard Blanc cultivar across three local municipalities (Mandeni, Maphumulo and Ndwedwe Local Municipality). 19000 vines were planted in the first season of planting. Vines Survival and Growth is excellent, locust and other pests are been dealt with and there have been no sign of any diseases. The Vineyards have exceeded the expected growth phase. They have adapted very well to the local climate.

Vine Mortality has been calculated as follows: Nyoni 2% and Maphumulo 7%. These are acceptable losses. Ndwedwe has a mortality of 16.5%. Next season, an additional 4600 vines are in the pipeline to be planted with the purpose of replacing the dead vines and the short supply experienced this season. The sites have all been fenced to ensure proper security and safety. Irrigation systems have been installed to ensure water supply. Containers for storage have been put on all the sites as well as ablution facilities. During winter, training of local labour will commence, as the vines will not need too much attention during this time. The training will cover all the required knowledge for the labour to have towards crop caring. The training will be done on site by a viticulturist and has already acquired knowledge during the planting season therefore the training will be easier to understand.

The project has created 80 temporary jobs during planting season with the majority being women and youth. There have been 50 permanent jobs created in the vineyards project, with 25 for both male and female. Youth accounts for 28 staff members. During harvesting the amount of jobs will increase.

Enterprise iLembe has gone out to tender to look for a technical partner to establish and operate a winery. The technical partner will be appointed before end of June 2011. This winery will process the grapes planted in our vineyards as feedstock towards making wine and other related grape products. The winery and vineyards will also serve to stimulate tourism in the iLembe District by forming a wine route.



iLembe Open Fields Project



Open Farms Project

iLembe District Municipality established the open farms concept which involves supporting community-based co-operatives to establish viable agricultural gardens which produce vegetables such as cabbage, butternut, potatoes, as well as onions, for both community needs and for sale in the market. The aim is to assist existing small-scale farmers to shift away from farming for just subsistence needs onto commercial ventures.

Six farms were identified across the four local municipal areas of the iLembe District; Mathonsi, Bulwer, Siyanqoba, Kwahlongwa, Mwandle, Khelelani. iLembe District, through its Economic Development Agency; Enterprise iLembe assisted farmers with the land preparation of the sites, the provision of implements and seedlings as well as mentorship and support services. Assistance is also given with co-operative registration and support.

Once again, the Mayor of iLembe District Municipality, Cllr S.W. Mdabe joined labourers at the Maphumulo Khelelani Open Farms site in harvesting some of the fruit of hard labour. A total of about 890kg of butternut was harvested at Khelelani alone and about 3tons across the all the open farms.

Mayor Mdabe had the opportunity to interact with the co-operatives on-site and promised to address as a matter of urgency some of the concerns raised by the community members. These included the provision of suitable work-wear and more assistance with farming implements and equipment. This has since been implemented by Enterprise iLembe, including the installation of permanent ablution facilities.

Mayor Mdabe commented that the long-term aim is that these co-operatives become sustainable small businesses in their respective communities. "Agriculture is a key sector in the district and the needs of the small emerging farmers need to be taken into consideration when looking at the bigger picture of food security and poverty alleviation".

We make sure that all our four tractors are on a standby for operations such as: site cleaning, ploughing, and planting at all times.

The picture below left was taken in one of our projects that harvested and sold 380 bags of butternut at a price of R30.00 per bag. The total number of jobs that have been created through the open field projects is 59 permanent jobs, and all the projects in the portfolio are well managed with continuous support through the iLembe Agricultural field officer. Below right is the picture of one of the open field projects at Ndwedwe.

At the moment, the Project Manager of Agriculture is working tirelessly on making sure that a formal market is established for the entire project in the portfolio and the pipeline projects. We are also working on a Nursery proposal for iLembe together with the processing facility. An ideal situation is to have a close-by centralised Nursery where all the projects will be buying their seedlings, and the processing facility where some of the produced commodities can be processed and get sold as value added commodities to local markets like clinic, schools, and local shops. A proposal for the Nursery has been handed over to the Provincial Department of Agriculture, and they in principle have agreed to fund the Nursery.



Mathonsi during harvesting



Beans planted at the Mlwandle open field



Nonoti Beach Resort

The Nonoti Beach Resort project is about establishing a 3H and 4H beach resort on the North Coast. The resort will have 202 freestanding chalets and 74 freestanding self-catering units. The resort will surely be a representation of iLembe District and its diverse culture. The exterior will be very eco-friendly and African, as it will have an African Zulu theme. All these will tell a story to the visitors about the Zulu culture, history and heritage. The resort will boast 5 restaurants, each specialising in different cuisines ranging from African, Indian, Mediterranean and many more. The resort is to have many different activities that will keep all visitors entertained.

The feasibility study and business plan has been concluded and have confirmed that establishing this type of resort will be very viable. The market research done has confirmed that a 3H and 4H resort is what the majority of the both the domestic and foreign market wants. The next step is the EIA process and rezoning of the land. These processes will run concurrently to ensure a speedy process. The EIA process is expected to take up to 18 months. Enterprise iLembe is playing the leading role in lobbying government into funding the bulk infrastructure for the resort.

The process of finding a suitable operator is underway. The type of operator that is needed is an operator with the experience of operating a beach resort and someone who understands both the domestic and international market. There has been great interest from foreign and domestic hotel operators, some from very big and well-known successful operators. This will ensure that the resort is able to position itself among the other great beach destinations across the world.

KZN has been losing a number of visitors to neighbouring destinations because of lack of suitable product. This resort will address the issue of product needed to place KZN on the international map. The resort will be well positioned being 30 minutes from King Shaka International Airport and also ideally located approximately 1,5 hours away from the Hluhluwe-Mfolozi Game Reserve.

Message from the CEO

The past year has indeed been a very challenging and exciting one as Enterprise iLembe started to gain much momentum. We have a lot of work ahead of us but I am confident that we will be able to achieve all our goals and objectives together with direction and guidance from our Board, Shareholder and a passionate and dedicated TEAM.