

RIVIER MUNICIPALITY

BERGRIVIER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVES

WORKSHOP 3 MARCH 2011, ORG DE RAC, PIKETBERG

“WHAT SHOULD BERGRIVIER DO TO FACILITATE AND INITIATE PROJECTS?”

1. The possibility to cultivate the European salt water species asparagus in certain selected areas in the Berg River Estuary is being investigated and research will be conducted soon. Job creation and a contribution to local economic development can possibly result from this.
**Salicornia europaea*: four species of *Salicornia* currently form the largest percentage of the flora in the Berg River Estuary wetlands with Dr D Schreuder coordinating the initiative.

2. Waste recycling projects: Less fortunate children can collect waste once a week and deliver it to a central site where they will receive basic necessities for school, etc.

3. Tourism . zoning and ways in which the municipality can encourage tourism businesses.

4. Gardening project . teach children to cultivate vegetables and how to farm with earthworms. Also a feeding scheme for needy children.

7. Arboretum for Velddrif

8. Blue flag beach status for Dwarskersbos and surrounds; more tourists, job opportunities . lifesaving, public toilets.

9. Infrastructure . road to be repaired, eg. Velddrif/Piketberg . Piketberg/Velddrif road.

10. Cut flowers

Wet/dry tunnels: export market . which flowers? Market analysis . where available?

- Purslane tree (*Portulacaria afra*) or spekboom (?) . carbon footprint, Co2 conversion.
- Alternative for fodder.
- Environment awareness talks . school.
- Shredding of alien plants for compost.

11. Tourism

- Camping sites (berg areas / river . kayak trips.
- Bushman paintings . hiking trails
- Mountain bike routes . caves / indigenous routes with the emphasis on biodiversity
- 4 x 4 routes
- historic buildings . smaller towns . history of origin, culture, etc..



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- Guided tour packages
- Piket Bo-Berg.
- Buchu route . Eco-Agri tourism / rock structures/waterfalls etc.
- Backpackers
- Fruit picking
- Animal Farms (farm holiday)
- Develop a sound local business life . the more businesses, the more people will be drawn to Piketberg, whether as visitors/residents.

Develop and expand businesses carefully. Beware of development by persons who do not see local development as a priority.

Realise that tourism is not the alpha and omega of development . it is a very important part, but not the most important.



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