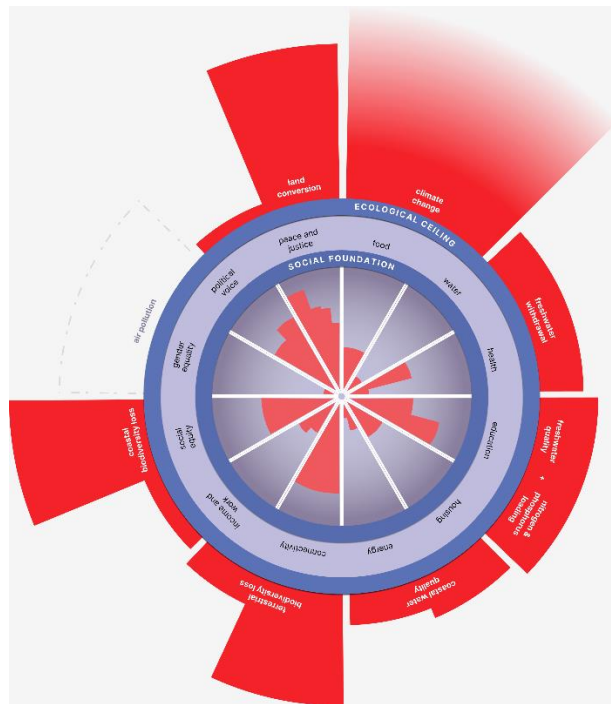


# Submission to the Saldanha Bay Municipality 5th Generation Integrated Development Plan 2023- 2027



#Maak Saak Residents Group – Future Matters

8 September 2022

## Executive Summary

This submission has been prepared by a group of committed citizens of the Saldanha Bay Municipality (SBM). We call ourselves #Maak Saak<sup>1</sup>. We have focused on the economy because it powerfully shapes human lives and the relationship we have with the Earth and our impact on it. We are advocating to be the first municipality in South Africa that implements [South Africa's Just Transition Framework](#) by applying the Doughnut Economics framework

*In essence, this is a motivation for the SBM to reimagine its economic future by adopting a model that is regeneratively future-focused and serves the wellbeing of its residents and the sustainability of livelihoods in the context of the multiple crises we face.*

This submission is comprised of three parts:

- A brief explanation of the Doughnut Economics model, which also explains why it is a useful framework to apply to SBM
- A summary of the local indicators that have been developed for SBM
- The suggestions by the Maak Saak group of the priorities they have identified for SBM over the next one to five years.

The Doughnut Economics model (Doughnut) is a tool to align governance, politics, economics, science, business and civil society towards a safe and just space where humanity can thrive while regenerating our planet and reducing our ecological impact to within viable ranges. Thus, this model takes environmental and social indicators into account while recognising that the economy is highly dependent on both these factors i.e., an embedded economy which can only thrive if the environment and social foundations are thriving. The vision for the Doughnut is “A world in which every person can lead their life with dignity, opportunity and community – and where we can all do so within the means of our life-giving planet.” (Raworth, 2017: 43). As South Africans, many of whom grew up under apartheid, who are fortunate to live in a democratic society, we cannot see how anyone could find fault with this vision, regardless of political or any other allegiance. We call on the SBM to be the first government entity in Africa to adopt the Doughnut, not as a “final”, rigid model, but as a framework for ongoing experimentation and learning in the context of high uncertainty, volatility and vulnerability for the Earth's inhabitants.

This submission localises the Doughnut for the SBM based on substantive research and produces a comprehensive view of the municipality's social and environmental state. We calculated eight planetary boundaries for SBM. **The municipality overshoots six of the eight -water withdrawal, water pollution, land conversion, terrestrial biodiversity loss and marine biodiversity loss.** One planetary boundary is within the safe threshold (air pollution, although this is contested) and there is a lack of national and local data for the eighth threshold (ocean acidification).

When compared to national performance on the same social indicators, SBM performs well on one social indicator -residential access to water and sanitation. Performance on five of the social indicators – food, health, energy, political voice, and gender equality – is fairly good. **SBM performs poorly on six social indicators: education (the biggest concern), housing, income & work, peace & justice, social equity, and networks.** Despite the comparatively good indicators, the concerning indicators

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<sup>1</sup> See ... for a list of names and contact information.

have extensive long-term implications for the municipality. Moreover, high levels of migration due to challenges in other parts of Southern Africa, such as poor service delivery and climate change, will need new and innovative solutions to ensure the social fabric of the municipality is maintained.

**Section 4 of this document outlines priority actions for the SBM across the period of the IDP** currently in development. We have addressed most of the environmental and social indicators. These recommendations cannot be summarised here and should be read as part of this executive summary.

We also outline **five economic goals** that are supported by many of the environmental and social recommendations. The economic goals are aligned to our vision of a more resilient, beautiful municipality and are focused on creating livelihoods rather than jobs. The two main industries that will contribute towards ecological resilience and nature conservation are **eco-tourism and sustainable fisheries within the region**. Then, in order to mitigate and adapt to climate change, we have identified **the retrofitting of buildings**, building **community-owned renewable energy systems** and **localising food production** as additional important economic sectors for Saldanha Bay Municipality. Finally, investing in the **care economy** will both create jobs and improve the social foundation for SBM. **We wish to see the Municipality redirecting the SBIDZ to align to these goals**, instead of their current strategy that focuses on the oil, gas and marine services industries and does not take the environment and global trends into account.

The value of the Doughnut Economy to the SBM is multifaceted. A key benefit is that its deeply integrated thematic structure presents a milestone opportunity for the municipality to reorganise itself from the current functionally siloed design that tends to distance government and citizens from each other to a situation-based organisation capable of perceiving, understanding and taking action within complex contexts in ways that maximise the possibility of real innovation, that promote thriving, and minimise the risk of unintended harm. The current relationship between government and the people is characterised by extremes of cool distance and heated conflict. By integrating the economy around themes that recognise the essentiality of collaborative relationships among humans and the intimate relationship among humans and the natural environment, the Doughnut highlights closeness, interdependency and thus solidarity. It brings perspective on big picture factors to the local level and vice versa, and has the power to generate warmth and togetherness among human beings regardless of their rank and official status.

This submission is not a strident, adversarial demand, but a warmly assertive invitation to our fellow citizens who work in and govern our local municipal economy to join us in pursuing #Maak Saak's purpose to make SMB a *"A flourishing, nourishing beautiful place that says all creation matters."*

## Contents

Executive Summary	2
1. Introduction	6
2. Saldanha Bay Municipality: the first African Municipality to apply the Doughnut Economics Framework	7
What is Doughnut Economics?	7
Why is Doughnut Economics a useful framework to apply?	8
Why use the Doughnut for Saldanha Bay Municipality?	9
How can this framework be applied?	10
Who else is applying this framework?	10
A note on the Economy	10
3. Summary: Saldanha Bay Doughnut Indicators	13
4. New Priorities for the Saldanha Bay Municipality IDP	17
4.1. Environmental Goals	17
4.1.1. Climate Change	17
4.1.2. Ocean Acidification	21
4.1.3. Water Withdrawal (Fresh water)	21
4.1.4. Water Pollution	22
4.1.5. Air Pollution	24
4.1.6. Land Conversion	25
4.1.7. Terrestrial Biodiversity Loss	25
4.1.8. Marine Biodiversity Loss	26
4.2. Social Goals	27
4.2.1. Water quality and access	27
4.2.2. Housing	27
4.2.3. Energy	27
4.2.4. Food security	27
4.2.5. Health	27
4.2.6. Education	28
4.2.7. Income and Work	35
4.2.8. Peace and Justice	35
4.2.9. Political Voice	35
4.2.10. Social Equity	36
4.2.11. Gender Equality	37
4.2.12. Networks	37
4.3. Economic Goals	38

4.3.1.	Prioritise Small-Scale Fishing Activities	38
4.3.2.	Develop a Sustainable Tourism Sector	39
4.3.3.	Localise Food Production and Food Systems in SBM	39
4.3.4.	Retrofitting of Buildings and Community-owned Renewable Energy Systems	40
4.3.5.	The Care Economy	40
5.	Conclusion	40
6.	Supporting documents: Full report on Doughnut Indicators for Saldanha Bay Municipality and Localised Food research	41

## 1. Introduction

According to Section 152 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, the objectives of local government are to both provide democratic and accountable government for local communities and encourage the involvement of communities and community organisations in the matters of local government.

This submission to the Saldanha Bay Municipality (SBM) Integrated Development Planning (IDP) process is in response to the call for residents to participate in the development of the IDP and is the outcome of a group of SBM residents, from different towns within the municipality, who have worked together, to participate meaningfully in the governance of their local municipality. Each of these residents cares deeply about the wellbeing of their community and of the environment in which SBM is based.

This group of residents, also known as #Maak Saak, was introduced to the concept of the Doughnut Economics model by the NGO, Green Connection, in February 2022 and has been working together since then to identify things they can celebrate and things that concern them about SBM. This submission acknowledges that the residents of SBM would like to participate in creating a municipality that works for all residents, human and non-human alike. Or, as the shared purpose for #Maak Saak reads, *“A flourishing, nourishing beautiful place that says all creation matters.”* At the same time, a number of residents who hold positions of leadership within the community were asked about their vision for the future of SBM, with some very beautiful, visionary responses.

This submission is compiled in three parts:

- The first part explains why applying the Doughnut Economics framework to SBM’s IDP and general governance is useful both now and for the future of SBM.
- The second part identifies key indicators for SBM – essentially localising the Doughnut.
- The third part of this submission is what the #Maak Saak residents have prioritised as important for the Municipality to include in its IDP and to develop a budget aligned to these priorities.

## 2. Saldanha Bay Municipality: the first African Municipality to apply the Doughnut Economics Framework

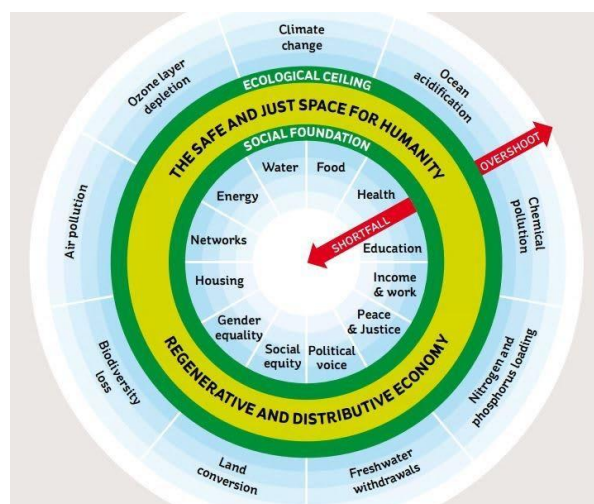
Saldanha Bay Municipality is ideally placed to be a ground breaker as the **first municipality in Africa to apply the Doughnut Economics framework** and lens to its planning and decision-making processes. This framework can be applied to the Integrated Planning Process (IDP) because the Doughnut is able to easily:

- Identify the residents' needs.
- Assist with strategy development.
- Identify projects that should be prioritised with indicators to measure the outcomes.
- Integrate projects and priorities to formulate a plan and a budget aligned to implementing the plan.

### What is Doughnut Economics?

*Doughnut Economics* was published in 2017 by economist Kate Raworth. In this book, Raworth explores an alternative economic model to cope with the challenges humanity is facing in the 21<sup>st</sup> century – trying to identify humanity's long-term goals and the economic thinking that would enable us to achieve these goals. The visual representation of these goals is in the form of two concentric circles which form a doughnut ring, referred to hereafter as the 'Doughnut'. The Doughnut is a simple visualisation of the dual conditions - both social and ecological – that underpin collective human wellbeing and a vision of a world in which people and the planet can thrive in balance.

The social foundation is the inner ring and is composed of 12 social dimensions, derived from the social priorities specified in the United Nations 2015 Sustainable Development Goals. In this vision of the future no one falls below this social foundation, or into the hole in the middle of the Doughnut (DEAL; Biomimicry 3.8; C40 Cities; Circle Economy, 2020). The ecological boundaries are represented by the outer ring, derived from nine planetary boundaries defined by the Stockholm Resilience Centre. Between the social foundation and the ecological ceiling Raworth identifies 'the safe and just space for humanity' (Raworth, 2017, p. 9). Most countries operate far from this space as we face both social deprivation while simultaneously operating beyond many of our planetary boundaries. This is true for Saldanha Bay Municipality too.



## Why is Doughnut Economics a useful framework to apply?

If the impacts of Covid-19 have taught us anything, it is that resilience is a collective good, dependent on the ability of individual households and businesses to absorb shocks. As a new age of unstable climate dawns, these are lessons to hold dear. Civilisation is facing a multi-dimensional crisis. This crisis is not just ecological but as we sit on the brink of ecological collapse, we realise that our crises occur across many fields: economics, politics, ethics, energy, food and social, spanning all continents (Acosta, 2019; Kothari, et al., 2019). South Africa is particularly vulnerable to this multi-dimensional crisis: not only do we already have high levels of poverty, inequality and unemployment, but South Africa is very exposed to the climate crisis and to extreme weather events associated with global warming (Presidential Climate Commission, 2022).

All these problems are interconnected. Stronger environmental policies do not exist without societal support, and societal support requires a stable economy. This, in turn, does not exist without forward-looking economic policy. These problems need a mosaic of solutions that work together towards a thriving and resilient community, like that of Saldanha Bay Municipality, with ideas that address not only one cause, but several at the same time. Transformation will require a change in practices, policies, lifestyles, and mental models in place in SBM by destabilising and phasing out bad practices and at the same time building the resilient good practices.

Many people believe that the outlook for current and future generations is bleak and we face extensive uncertainty (Kothari, et al., 2019). As Acosta (2019) declares: *'This calls for great transformational solutions.'* Brand et al. (2021) call for the solutions to include not only planetary boundaries but some form of social boundaries to facilitate a sustainable transformation, and address our multidimensional crisis.

**South Africa's Just Transition Framework** highlights the importance of various forms of justice that should be included in transformational solutions (Presidential Climate Commission, 2022). At the same time, the Framework asks 'How do we empower people and communities in the transition to a low-emissions economy? How do we ensure that the most impacted do not get left behind? How do we support the goals of social inclusion and decent work for all? How do we continue to solve South Africa's triple challenges (inequality, poverty, and unemployment)...?'. **As South Africa begins to implement its Just Transition Framework, so too must Saldanha Bay Municipality not be left behind as it too needs to decarbonise** (substantially reduce its carbon emissions).

This Doughnut model, as Raworth (2017) and Brand et al (2021) claim, provides us with a tool to align governance, politics, economics, science, business and civil society towards a safe and just space where humanity can thrive while regenerating our planet and reducing our ecological impact to within viable ranges. More simply put: **using the Doughnut will allow SBM to create a 'big picture' and understand both the social foundation and the ecological ceiling under which the municipality operates.**

Economic theory will play a defining role in solving the crises which we face. However, we need to change the way we think and base our new economic thinking on the twenty-first century; our economic models need to match the multi-dimensional aspects of complexity of the world at global, national and local levels in order to create a resilient, regenerative and redistributive world (Raworth, 2017; Hickel, 2020). Thus, applying these findings will allow the municipality to **reimagine its economic future**, both for the wellbeing of its residents and the sustainability of livelihoods. **Simultaneously, the municipality has the responsibility to verify that its local economic vision for the future does not further compromise already vulnerable residents and ecosystems.**



## Why use the Doughnut for Saldanha Bay Municipality?

We have identified Saldanha Bay Municipality as an important municipality in which to implement the Doughnut because it has both suffered economically from the closure of Saldanha Steel, and more importantly, has looked to oil and gas for its economic future. This is evident in both its Integrated Development Plan (updated for 2021 – 2022) and the Saldanha Bay Industrial Development Zone Strategic Plan 2020/21-2024/25. Furthermore, the amended IDP of May 2018, has contradictory and confusing strategic objectives, especially ‘To diversify the economic base of the municipality through industrialisation, de-regulation, investment facilitation, tourism development whilst at the same time nurturing traditional economic sectors.’

While oil and gas may be ‘easy money’, the municipality’s reliance on oil and gas poses two significant risks. First, whether there are major accidents or not, oil and gas activities disrupt other environmentally based livelihoods such as fishing and tourism – both of which are essential to SBM’s economy. Second, with developing countries rapidly moving to decarbonise economies, investment in the oil and gas industry may be one that creates stranded assets that never fulfil their economic promises. Oil and gas therefore risk not only displacing existing livelihoods, but also being a dead end in and of themselves.

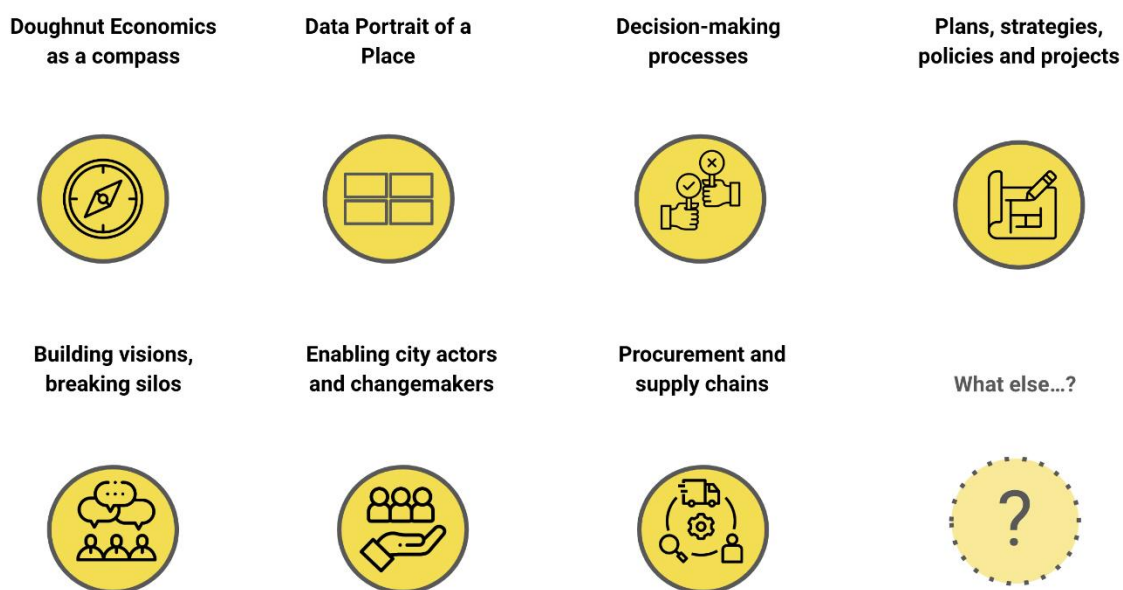
In reimagining its future, Saldanha Bay needs to consider two questions. First, **to what extent will its choices contribute to improving the socio-economic conditions of its population as a whole?** Despite having an economy that performs better than most of the country’s secondary cities, Saldanha Bay’s socio-economic indicators attest to widespread food insecurity, school overcrowding and high inequality (Western Cape Government, 2018). Second, given that the municipality has the responsibility to verify that its local economic vision for the future **does not further compromise already vulnerable ecosystems, how can Saldanha Bay reimagine its economic future, both for the wellbeing of its residents and the sustainability of livelihoods based on aquaculture and fishing?**

The Saldanha Bay Industrial Development Zone (SBIDZ) has a mandate of ‘...**sustainable economic development** and job creation in the localised economy, diversification and transformation of a historically under-developed and under-supported economic sector, and broadening of the regional and national economic base, thereby building in robustness to South Africa’s economic base.’ However, it has been pursuing a strategy that focuses on the oil, gas and marine services industries and does not take the environment and global trends into account. Moreover, the SBIDZ aims to transform Saldanha Bay from a fishing village to a city built on a maritime economy, which is unlikely to create prosperity for all who live and work here. In addition, from a global perspective, the Port of Saldanha provides the municipality with a complex connection to the rest of the world and it is crucial to understand these linkages better. Already, water quality and scarcity, and the decline of biodiversity have been flagged as major concerns (GreenCape, 2018; Clark, et al., 2020). While allowing further damage may create financial yields in the short term, the socio-economic and ecological costs in the medium- to long-run, like the impacts of the oil and gas industry or focusing on industrialisation, will be devastating.

Although South African IDPs have been used as a model to improve service delivery and provide a framework for economic and social development, the model has not taken the environment and planetary boundaries into account (Department of Rural Development and Land Reform, 2012). Thus, due to the social, economic and environmental challenges Saldanha Bay Municipality faces, we believe that by applying the Doughnut Economic analysis, we will be better able to identify opportunities to create a regenerative, redistributive and resilient economy - one that contributes to its residents’ wellbeing and development, while avoiding the catastrophic risks of ecosystem destruction.

## How can this framework be applied?

The [Doughnut Economics Action Lab](#) (DEAL) suggests a number of ways in which the framework can be applied – including as a vision or target for what the future of SBM could look like, a way to identify strategies or projects, or as a decision-making tool. The ZOE Institute proposes the Doughnut indicators as (1) a way to **track progress towards a regenerative economy**, in particular environmental sustainability, wellbeing and resilience; (2) an **easily accessible summary of indicators**; and (3) **as a way to provide a clear visual representation** of priorities that enables decision-makers and citizens to **quickly grasp important trends** and **interconnections** between policy objectives that need to be balanced and **gaps in goal achievement**.



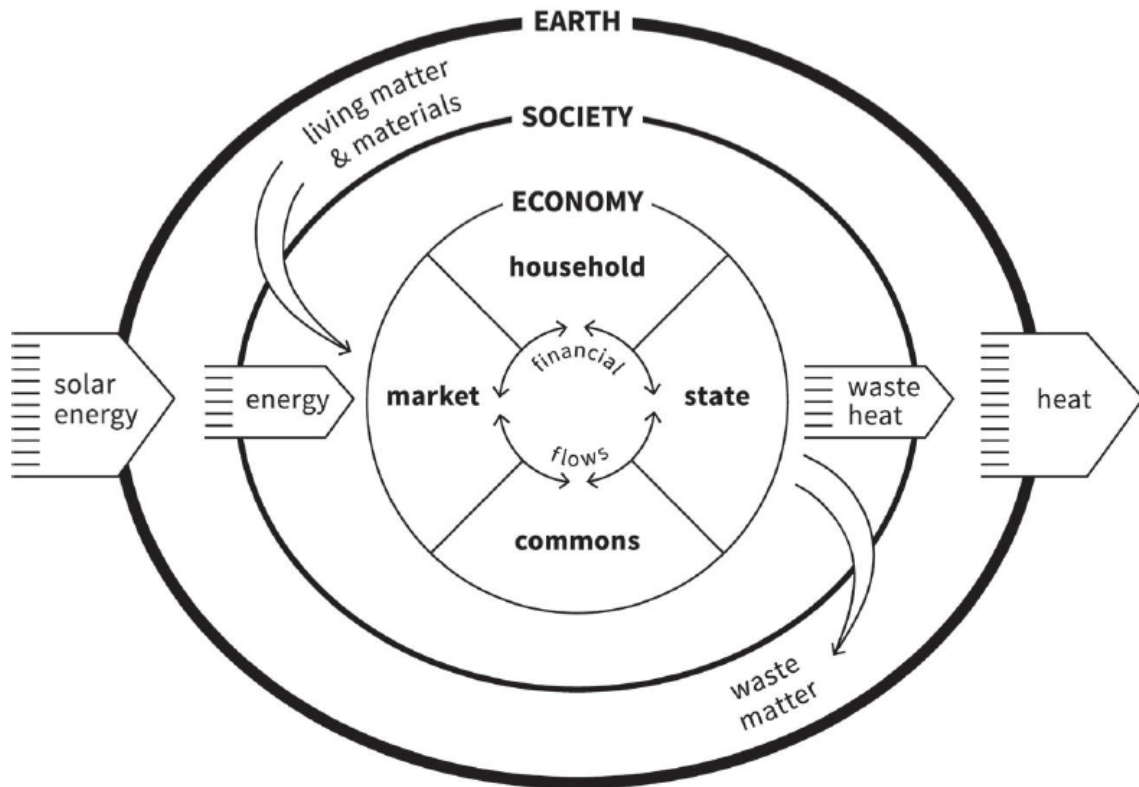
## Who else is applying this framework?

While Saldanha Bay Municipality would be a trailblazer by being the first African municipality or region to apply the Doughnut, there are a number of other cities and regions, both in the Global North and South, which have publicly applied the Doughnut framework. There are also a few others who have not made their analysis public as yet. Brussels, Amsterdam, Glasgow, Melbourne and El Monte in Chile are amongst the earliest adopters of this framework. Moreover, the local government of Santiago de Cali in Ecuador embedded the Doughnut into their four-year developmental plan, using a set of locally determined social and ecological indicators based on the Doughnut as a framework for measuring progress. Grenoble in France has launched its '2040 Approach' - a transition path and resilience strategy, which will be using the Doughnut as one of the guiding frameworks, and is about to start a process of developing a City Portrait.

## A note on the Economy

Although many of the indicators for the Doughnut are focused on the environmental and social issues, a key foundational principle of the Doughnut is that it recognises that classic economic models reduce economic players or realms to 'market' and 'state' – and that this is inadequate. The Doughnut takes a different starting point: it argues that for a balanced society, we need to see our economy as being comprised of the market, the state, the household, and the commons. In addition, rather than having an inevitably oppositional dynamic as characterised by classical models, the four realms should be

seen as interdependent. The importance of noting this is to provide a framework that explains why investment in work that is largely invisible, such as care work, as well as in public goods such as adequate health care, education and wellbeing, are an investment in an area's economy, rather than drawing from it – even if they may not be expressed as GDP.



*The Embedded Economy, which nests the economy within society and within the living world, while recognising the diverse ways in which it can meet people's needs and wants.*

In order to embed the economy within Saldanha Bay Municipality and build resilience and avert potentially extreme social and environmental breakdown, our proposal is to draw on the work of the Transition Towns movement. The Transition Towns movement began in 2005 in the UK and was initially framed as a response to both climate change and peak oil. However, the power of the movement is its ability to reframe the challenges that humanity faces to a positive, historic opportunity to do something new and remarkable and it has become a movement of communities reimagining and rebuilding our world (Kothari, et al., 2019). Transition Towns emerged from the permaculture and localisation<sup>2</sup> movement, while drawing inspiration from feminism and indigenous cultures. There are currently over 1000 Transition Towns all over the world, including [Greyton](#) in the Western Cape Overberg, and the network continues to grow.

<sup>2</sup> Bollier defines local as “protected against global capitalists who treat everything as alienable for market purposes.”

**“The purpose of our local economy is to maximise the wellbeing of our entire community: to create an abundance of opportunity to satisfy our needs; use and distribute resources fairly; and respect natural limits.”**

#### Totnes & District Economic Blueprint

The Transition Towns movement’s approach to development focuses on:

- Appropriate localisation: supporting a systemic shift towards localisation or making/ growing goods nearer to consumers especially regarding food production, energy generation and building materials. As Norberg-Hodge & Read (2016) note, it is important to provide a framework that will allow the secure re-establishment of national, regional and local polities and economies that meet real human needs without compromising the natural world on which all life depends. Moreover, it is important to emphasise that localisation does not mean isolation or nationalism, but rather international collaboration.
- Resilience: putting in place infrastructure which enables communities to be better placed to withstand shocks, while taking this as the opportunity to reimagine the local economy and to meet local needs more effectively.
- Low carbon: creating projects and enterprises which are inherently low carbon in how they operate and what they create.
- Community assets: where possible, it is about bringing assets (land, businesses, energy generation, buildings) into community ownership. This puts people so much more in control of their ability to shape their future.
- Natural limits: recognizing that we no longer live in a world where credit, resources, and energy are infinite.
- Not purely for personal profit: a variety of business models are emerging, such as social enterprises, cooperatives, and those focused on maximisation of social return.





A key element of the Transition Towns movement has been their REconomy Project. REconomy develops tools and models for enabling communities to build economic cases for the work they do. A particularly important tool for this proposal is the Economic Evaluation tool, which forecasts how much revenue and how many jobs a localised economy might produce. The localised economy is largely focused on food production, energy generation, retrofitting buildings and the care economy. However, SBM may want to focus on sustainable tourism and water as additional sectors.





For example, the Totnes & District Local Economic Blueprint mapped their food economy and identified that up to £22 million leaves the local food economy each year and that retrofitting homes in their district to consume less energy had the potential to generate £26 million, while investing in local renewable energy technologies could generate over £6 million worth of energy for households and investors each year.

### 3. Summary: Saldanha Bay Doughnut Indicators

The Doughnut Economic model has allowed for a **comprehensive view of the social and environmental state of Saldanha Bay Municipality (SBM)**. This work follows Green Connection’s work on both National and Provincial ‘Doughnuts’ for South Africa. The indicators for SBM have been compiled using numerous data sources, with the majority of data available at municipal level. However, this was not true for all the indicators, as there is either a lack of up-to-date data for some indicators or there is no data available at all for South Africa. It is crucial for the municipality to have a holistic view of what is happening at a local level and the data indicates that the majority of environmental (planetary boundaries) and social indicators are of concern for the municipality. The data we have used is presented in the Appendix to this document.










With regards to planetary boundaries, we calculated eight planetary boundaries for SBM. The municipality overshoots six of the eight planetary boundaries, one planetary boundary is within the safe threshold (air pollution, although this is contested) and there is a lack of national and local data for another threshold (ocean acidification).




Indicator	Status	Summary of Concerns
<i>Climate Change</i>		Climate change can have a devastating impact on many industries in SBM because of the decrease in precipitation and increase in droughts, storms and flooding events. The carbon emissions data for the municipality is outdated and needs to be updated to understand the municipality’s current contribution to greenhouse gas emission, especially considering the historic data that shows an extremely high per capita emission for the municipality.
<i>Ocean Acidification</i>		South Africa lacks data on ocean acidification which is of particular concern for the SBM because of the impact it will have on bivalves and the marine ecosystem. This in turn will have a large negative impact on the economy of the municipality which is highly dependent on the marine ecosystem. This is an important gap in the current knowledge of the coastal ecosystem.
<i>Water Withdrawal</i>		Water withdrawal and water quality (freshwater and coastal) are of particular concern. This is because SBM forms part of the bigger Berg River catchment, which is beyond the jurisdiction of the municipality. Water withdrawal from the Berg River catchment already exceeds the allocated amount and uses almost 50% of the defined ecological reserve. Exceeding the allocated volume of water withdrawal will negatively impact the surrounding ecosystems and groundwater recharge.  The municipality has limited groundwater sources of good quality and yield. The groundwater system is an important source of fresh water for the Langebaan lagoon and requires careful management to limit the impact of extraction on the lagoon. A vulnerability assessment considers the majority of the high yielding groundwater sources to be at risk of water quality degradation.
<i>Water pollution</i>		Fresh water quality in the Berg River catchment is deteriorating, especially downstream from the source, as a result of human activities such as agriculture, industries and wastewater treatment that discharges pollutants into the river.

		<p>Human activities are impacting negatively on the coastal water quality. The coastal water has shown a decline in oxygen availability, increase in heavy metal concentrations, and faecal coliform loads that exceed the safe limits.</p> <p>This, in turn, will impact the aquatic ecosystem, the municipality's ability to provide safe drinking water to residents and industries that rely on water or ecosystems</p>
<i>Air pollution</i>		<p>Air pollution was the only indicator that was within the defined safe boundaries for air quality and dust fall. However, it remains a concern for community members as they do not feel that the measurement standards of air quality truly reflect the status quo.</p>
<i>Land Conversion</i>		<p>Almost half (48%) of natural land has been converted for human activities such as agriculture and urban settlements. The municipality has the largest percentage of degraded land in comparison to neighbouring municipalities (13% compared to an average of 1% to 6%). Most of the area is considered to have a low land capacity and high risk of soil erodibility, which will impact agricultural productivity.</p>
<i>Terrestrial Biodiversity Loss</i>		<p>The biodiversity is negatively impacted by human activities in SBM. The terrestrial vegetation is highly threatened: 7 of the 10 vegetation types are vulnerable, endangered, or critically endangered.</p> <p>The vulnerability of key animal species is not as alarming as vegetation types, but only a limited number of species were assessed. Degradation of terrestrial vegetation will impact the future abundance of animal species in the long term and therefore the tourism industry that relies heavily on some key species like fynbos.</p>
<i>Marine Biodiversity Loss</i>		<p>Similar to terrestrial biodiversity, coastal water vegetation is deteriorating. Seagrass and saltmarsh bed abundance has declined in the lagoon.</p> <p>Deterioration of vegetation will have a knock-on effect on other organisms that rely on vegetation for food and shelter e.g., a massive decline in wading and other coastal birds has been observed. Several fish stocks in the bay and surrounding water have been overexploited, which results in a decline in abundance.</p> <p>Changes in the coastal ecosystem composition can have a negative effect on the municipality's economy that relies on these natural resources e.g., the fishing industry, as well as general food security for residents.</p>

SBM performs well on many of the social indicators when compared to national performance on the same indicators. Despite the comparatively good indicators, SBM still has some very concerning indicators which will have extensive long-term implications for the municipality. Moreover, as indicated in other reports, high levels of migration due to challenges in other parts of Southern Africa,

such as poor service delivery and climate change, will need new and innovative solutions to ensure the social fabric of the municipality is maintained.

Indicator	Status	Summary of Concerns
<i>Water</i>		Treated water for residential consumption is of good quality despite the challenges in the catchment area. The majority of residents have access to piped water within a 200m radius of their dwellings and access to a flush or chemical toilet.
<i>Food</i>		Household food security is a challenge in the municipality: almost 25% of households stated that they did not have sufficient money to purchase food at the end of the month. However, the malnutrition rate for infants under the age of one is comparatively low, which could be a result of the municipality's proximity to the ocean where people can harvest seafood.
<i>Health</i>		Residents in the municipality participate in high health risk activities more frequently than in neighbouring municipalities, e.g., drinking, using drugs and smoking. Infant health is concerning, as many mothers don't breastfeed their infants and childhood immunisation levels are low. The combined high-risk activities, low breastfeeding and poor immunisation levels in the municipality could lead to increasing health costs in the mid- to long-term.
<i>Education</i>		The <b>biggest concern</b> for the municipality should be the poor school retention rate and the large number of residents who do not complete matric (65% of residents 20 years and older). This impacts the resident's potential to participate in post-school education and obtain skilled employment opportunities, which negatively impacts development in the municipality.
<i>Housing</i>		Access to affordable formal housing seems to be a challenge as almost 20% of households live in informal dwellings, which is similar to the percentages observed in some cities. The continuous population growth resulting from a combination of natural growth and influx of migrants has exacerbated this issue in the municipality.
<i>Energy</i>		The bulk of households have access to a safe source of electricity, but a small percentage of households (between 2 and 4%) still use unsafe energy sources like paraffin and wood for cooking and heating.
<i>Income &amp; Work</i>		SBM has a broad unemployment rate of 26% and narrow unemployment rate of 18%. This means that a quarter of the working age population are not employed. High unemployment rates could lead to an increase in the prevalence of crime.
<i>Peace &amp; Justice</i>		Drug related crimes and house burglaries are the most prominent crimes committed in the municipality. These are often symptoms of other social ills like low income, unemployment, and lack of access to basic needs. Many residents expressed that they feel unsafe in their community, school and houses. Creating a safe space for residents is important for the community's wellbeing.
<i>Political Voice</i>		Having and using their political voice ensures that residents can participate in governance decision making in their community, but often when residents don't feel appreciated, they withdraw from

		<p>this crucial participation. Election turnout has decreased since the first democratic elections in SA. Residents' participation in the community is low: less than 30% of residents stated that they are active in the community and attend community meetings. Despite many residents being aware of the IDP, only 12% had participated in IDP meetings. This indicates poor community participation in the municipality.</p>
<i>Social equity</i>		<p>There are high levels of social inequality apparent in SBM (the high levels of income inequality are indicated by the Gini coefficient of 0.62). Almost 50% of the residents don't have access to recreational facilities, which is important for wellbeing. We have included vandalism as an indicator that further contributes to social inequalities. The municipality spent about R920 000 on vandalism over a three-month period, which reduces the budget available to tackle other concerns in SBM.</p>
<i>Gender equality</i>		<p>There is a lack of data available on gender equality for SBM. However, national data indicates that there is still a big gap between men and women in education, income, assets and access to basic services.</p>
<i>Networks</i>		<p>A large number of residents don't have affordable internet access. The internet is an important education tool, especially considering the necessity of access during the COVID-19 pandemic.</p>

In conclusion, SBM faces numerous challenges with respect to environmental and social issues. Working with residents, the municipality could address these challenges to create a space where residents, human and non-human alike, can flourish.



## 4. New Priorities for the Saldanha Bay Municipality IDP

In line with the #Maak Saak group’s vision of creating ‘A flourishing, nourishing beautiful place that says all creation matters’, we have identified a number of priorities for the IDP. We have tried to structure these as either environmental, social or economic goals. Furthermore, we have provided a timeline of activities for each activity: short, medium and long. We see these priorities as crucial to ensuring that the place we live in can continue to provide for us while creating a sense of wellbeing for all residents.

#Maak Saak identified SBM’s assets or elements of the municipality we love and celebrate. This includes:

- Amazing ocean
- Variety of fynbos
- Clean streets
- No potholes
- Natural resources
- Good culture
- Good service delivery
- Generosity of people
- Some of the best people who lived in cities are now our new ‘inkommers’
- Good relationships
- People have a sense of ownership & agency
- It’s an evolving and changing place that can be flexible.

Priorities identified as important for the IDP are:

### 4.1. Environmental Goals

#### 4.1.1. Climate Change

Climate change refers to two elements: **mitigation**, or reducing the impact that residents of Saldanha Bay Municipality have on global carbon emissions; and **adaptation**, or how Saldanha Bay Municipality puts measures into place to cope with the impact of climate change. There has been extensive research on how to mitigate against climate change, including international research by [Project Drawdown](#) and national research by [C40 Cities](#) which also takes the need for job creation in SA into account.

ACTIVITY	2023	2024-2027	By 2028
<b>ENERGY EFFICIENCY IMPROVED</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Conduct energy audit of all municipal and state-owned buildings.</li> <li>● Get all businesses in SBM to conduct an energy audit</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Retrofit all municipal buildings to be energy efficient.</li> <li>● Set a goal for all SBM businesses to reduce their energy consumption.</li> <li>● Develop and implement by-</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Retrofit all RDP homes to be energy efficient.</li> <li>● Develop by-laws for all old domestic buildings to be retrofitted.</li> </ul>

	<p>on all their processes.</p>	<p>laws for all new buildings to be energy efficient, including ensuring densification strategy for the municipality.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop and implement by-laws for all businesses in SBM to reduce their energy consumption and reliance on fossil fuels (and encourage plans for all businesses focused on fossil fuels to start thinking how they will need shift their business models).</li> <li>• Conduct energy audits on domestic homes and develop retrofitting plans for these buildings, especially RDP homes.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>LOCALISE RENEWABLE ENERGY GENERATION</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop by-laws for community-owned small-scale wind turbines and mini-grids, allowing reselling to the grid.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Put out tender for Independent Energy Power Producer.</li> <li>• Appoint RE power producers.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Renewable Energy is the main source of energy access for SBM (more than 60%).</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop financial model for Independent Energy Power Producer to supply to SBM.</li> <li>• Identify suitable sites for RE, especially taking environmental factors into account.</li> <li>• Develop by-laws for Green Hydrogen Production that prioritises water and environmental concerns in the municipality while also ensuring local energy access and not just exporting of GH2.</li> <li>• Meet with current IPPs working in the municipality to identify how these could work more closely with SBM.</li> </ul>		
<b>TRANSPORT</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Begin negotiations with PRASA and neighbouring municipalities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify further plans for a modal shift of transport to more cycling and walking.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implement a modal transport shift away from roads towards improved</li> </ul>

	<p>to refurbish and takeover the railway system within SBM.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop plans and cost-benefit analysis for shifting largely to a localised railway system.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify opportunities for current businesses like taxis to transport residents from rail to home.</li> <li>• Develop a communications plan to encourage a modal shift for residents.</li> </ul>	<p>public transport and low-carbon transport systems.</p>
<b>WASTE MANAGEMENT</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct an audit of waste management for SBM, focusing on food and plastic waste.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop plans for waste management that focus on reducing food waste and eliminating plastic use within SBM.</li> <li>• Develop communications campaign for residents and businesses that focus on these issues.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduce new waste management by-laws.</li> </ul>
<b>SHIFT TO REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE IN SBM</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working with the WC Agricultural Department, develop a plan to shift all agricultural practices to regenerative agriculture.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with farmers to begin implementing these changes.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop municipal by-laws to regulate agricultural practices in SBM.</li> </ul>

Climate change adaptation is crucial for all SA towns and regions to cope with the impacts of climate change. However, each of these adaptation strategies links to other planetary boundaries, such as fresh water withdrawal, marine and terrestrial biodiversity, ocean acidification and various social impacts of climate change such as peace and conflict. These are discussed in more detail below.

#### 4.1.2. Ocean Acidification

Besides substantially mitigating against climate change in SBM, there are a few other activities which need to be undertaken to gain a better understanding of ocean acidification levels and impacts along the West Coast of South Africa.

ACTIVITY	2023	2024-2027	By 2028
RESEARCH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop a partnership with local or international universities to understand the levels and impacts of ocean acidification for SBM.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review research and understand the implications.</li> <li>Develop an action plan to reduce ocean acidification for SBM.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement plan to reduce impacts of ocean acidification on SBM.</li> </ul>

#### 4.1.3. Water Withdrawal (Fresh water)

ACTIVITY	2023	2024-2027	By 2028
REDUCE NON-REVENUE WATER LOSS (I.E., LEAKS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Send plumbing teams to every house and building in SBM to conduct audits on water leaks and develop costing plans to have these repaired.</li> <li>Conduct an audit on all SBM water infrastructure.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop a communications campaign to ensure all residents understand the dire state of water in SA.</li> <li>Develop learning relationships with cities or states such as Israel that have implemented systems to monitor non-revenue water losses.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement long-term plans to monitor and reduce non-revenue water losses.</li> </ul>
CHANGE WATER SYSTEMS IN SBM TO RECYCLE STORM WATER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify and measure water losses</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement stormwater</li> </ul>	

	<p>through stormwater drains.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop plans to recycle stormwater.</li> </ul>	<p>recycling measures.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify effluent water reuse and recycling opportunities.</li> </ul>	
<b>REDUCE REVENUE GENERATING WATER USE</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Audit businesses and SOEs' water usage.</li> <li>• Working with businesses, identify water reduction strategies.</li> <li>• Strengthen desalination regulation and standards to ensure desalination does not impact marine biodiversity negatively.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduce stricter by-laws on water usage.</li> <li>• Implement systems to monitor water usage on a long-term basis.</li> <li>• Get all new builds to include rainwater reservoirs.</li> <li>• Cost and plan to implement rainwater collection systems for all domestic businesses.</li> </ul>	
<b>MONITOR BERG RIVER WATER LEVELS, ENSURING ECOLOGICAL RESERVES</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop partnerships with local municipalities to monitor and preserve the Berg River catchment system.</li> </ul>		

#### 4.1.4. Water Pollution

<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024-2027</b>	<b>BY 2028</b>
<b>IMPROVE COASTAL WATER QUALITY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce polluted effluent and stormwater that is flowing into the ocean</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implement a programme of stopping all plastic usage in SBM</li> <li>• Strengthen regulations to reduce salinity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthen municipal by-laws and introduce strict sanctions for businesses</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Stop plastic waste going into the ocean</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● from desalination plants</li> <li>● Identify source of metal pollutants and stop these from taking place</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● breaking these</li> </ul>
<b>IMPROVE HEALTH OF RIVERS IN SBM</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Increase monitoring of rivers in SBM.</li> <li>● Identify specific causes of poor river health.</li> <li>● Reduce plastic waste in SBM to improve river health.</li> <li>● Hold regular river clean ups.</li> <li>● Identify important rivers and wetlands in the SBM and create management plans for them</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Use green infrastructure to support river health.</li> <li>● Change farming practices to reduce nitrogen and phosphorus run-off.</li> <li>● Businesses to improve quality of industrial waste water flowing into rivers.</li> </ul>	
<b>IMPROVE GROUND WATER QUALITY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Monitor ground water</li> <li>● Be especially careful of the impact of <b>Green Hydrogen developments</b> in SBM</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>●</li> </ul>	

#### 4.1.5. Air Pollution

Air pollution was identified as a serious concern to the #Maak Saak group due to its impact on health, tourism and living standards.

ACTIVITY	2023	2024-2027	By 2028
<b>INCREASE MONITORING OF AIR POLLUTION</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Independent researchers and monitoring stations appointed by SBM.</li> <li>● Work with civil society in SBM to identify key concerns.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>●</li> </ul>
<b>DEVELOP COMPREHENSIVE UNDERSTANDING OF AIR POLLUTION FOR THE WHOLE OF SBM</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Analyse monitoring statistics to fully understand the impacts of air pollution on SBM including health costs, financial costs, loss of business costs, impacts on biodiversity, etc.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Work with National and Provincial Government as well as District municipality to ensure that Air Quality is looked at as a whole and that the correct measuring systems for air quality are implemented.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Have meaningful data on Air Quality in the SBM that can be drawn upon for decision making on further industrial development in the area.</li> <li>● Working alongside the community and all spheres of government to ensure that Air Quality is set as a priority.</li> </ul>
<b>STRENGTHEN MUNICIPAL BY-LAWS ON AIR POLLUTION</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Ensure that the “punishment fits the crime” when it comes to breaking the Dust Emissions By-Law and</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Update and strengthen municipal by-laws for air pollution in SBM to ensure that they are in line with industry</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Ensure that by-laws apply to EVERYONE and that National Government as a polluter is not exempt from complying to</li> </ul>



	ensure that everyone is aware of what that punishment would be.	norms worldwide.	the by-laws set by the SBM.
<b>IMPLEMENT BY-LAWS</b>		Implement by-laws	

#### 4.1.6. Land Conversion

In comparison to neighbouring municipalities, SBM has extensive land degradation. Residents have multiple suggestions such as shifting to regenerative agriculture, reducing monocropping, restoration of land, etc. However, in addition to these suggestions, SBM should draw on the work of Louis La Grange (2016) who proposes the use of natural resource management as a tool within the spatial planning paradigm to enable strategic, integrative interventions along with improved implementation of ecologically sensitive development in Saldanha Bay Municipality. He notes that Spatial Planning is a tool used for long term planning that brings together a variety of policy decisions from diverse sectors to resolve spatial and temporal conflicts through the spatial coordination and alignment of strategies and actions.

La Grange (2016, pp 82 – 98) documents in great detail the proposed developments and land uses stated in the 2011 SDF of Saldanha Bay Municipality, and the 2015 EMF, which describes the assets that are critically important for the ecological integrity of the region and thus need to be kept intact. Moreover, he identifies the expansion of the industrial development zone (IDZ), the increase in ribbon development and poor and inadequate basic services and infrastructure as the biggest threats to long-term sustainability in the region. The Maak Saak team would like SBM to acknowledge these concerns and protect key assets that are critically important.

#### 4.1.7. Terrestrial Biodiversity Loss

<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024-2027</b>	<b>BY 2028</b>
<b>LAND RESTORATION</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Audit the location, ownership, current condition and potential regenerative uses of degraded land. This process should be used as an opportunity for SBM to</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop policy and plan for land restoration and top soil regeneration that includes incentives for agricultural regeneration and natural environment conservation. This should include uses</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement the policy and plan, and establish an independent citizen board to monitor it using a process such as H��l��ne Landmore’s</li> </ul>

	learn and apply an Asset-Based Community Development (ABCD) approach. It should be facilitated in participation with communities, using an ABCD asset mapping tool.	for eco-tourism and “alternative” approaches to agriculture, such as permaculture and organic farming. This should be supported through education initiatives, and work / income opportunity creation.	<a href="#">Open Democracy</a> <sup>3</sup> .
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#### 4.1.8. Marine Biodiversity Loss

ACTIVITY	2023	2024-2027	By 2028
RESTORATION OF SEAGRASS IN LAGOON	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop plan with Conservation SA.</li> <li>Stop releasing effluent into the lagoon</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Restore seagrass bed and other marine life.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>
RESEARCH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conduct research, in conjunction with other organisations, to find out what has happened to the birds?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Find away to restore birdlife for SBM as its both environmental ly important and a tourism attraction</li> </ul>	

<sup>3</sup> [https://www.newyorker.com/news/the-future-of-democracy/politics-without-politicians?source=EDT\\_NYR\\_EDIT\\_NEWSLETTER\\_0\\_imagenewsletter\\_Daily\\_ZZ&bxid=5be9f15624c17c6adf0d1238&cndid=38999871&esrc=&mbid=](https://www.newyorker.com/news/the-future-of-democracy/politics-without-politicians?source=EDT_NYR_EDIT_NEWSLETTER_0_imagenewsletter_Daily_ZZ&bxid=5be9f15624c17c6adf0d1238&cndid=38999871&esrc=&mbid=)

## 4.2. Social Goals

### 4.2.1. Water quality and access

This is relatively good and doesn't need to be a focus for most of SBM, except for new settlements due to migration.

### 4.2.2. Housing

SBM should plan for migration and further urbanisation as climate change, poor governance and poverty drive more people to SBM in search of a better life.

### 4.2.3. Energy

Related to climate change, plans and by-laws developed for community-owned renewable energy is a priority for residents. This has been documented in the section on climate mitigation.

In Oudekraalfontein, residents who have no geysers would like solar geysers to be installed during 2023.

### 4.2.4. Food security

While the statistics are concerning, by focusing on related aspects such as income and work, and localising food production, this statistic could be improved. However, this is something that should be monitored every quarter.

### 4.2.5. Health

ACTIVITY	2023	2024-2027	By 2028
REBUILDING THE CLINIC IN DIAZVILLE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Rebuild the clinic in Diazville.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li></li></ul>
INCREASE INFANT HEALTH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Develop a communications campaign to get all children immunised.</li><li>Working with the Provincial Health Department, improve systems that focus on children's health from birth to five years to make sure no one is left behind and any development concerns are addressed as</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li></li></ul>

	soon as possible.		
<b>REDUCE LIFESTYLE DISEASES</b>	•	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assess the public health costs of lifestyle diseases.</li> <li>• Develop a communications campaign to target lifestyle diseases.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Offer education, support and recreational facilities to reduce the burden of lifestyle diseases.</li> </ul>

#### 4.2.6. Education

Inadequate and inappropriate education is a key shortfall in wellbeing for South Africans. As an organ of state, the SMB has the duty, power and mandate to cut a new key that unlocks access to dignified work, lifelong learning and informed, accountable community participation for citizens in the municipality.

Secondary Education (Gr. 8 to Gr. 12) in ordinary schools is no longer sufficient for the learners. There can be at most 20% of the learners, who Gr. 12 pass, qualify for further Tertiary education. If further considered, there are only 34% of the learners who started gr. 1 get to Grade 12 and obtain a Matric certificate. There are many learners who cannot continue their studies at all.

Let's use the following example to illustrate this: 100 learners start in grade 1 and only 34 pass matric. 20% of 34 are 7 who can study further (so only 7 of the 100 who started studied further). What happened to the other 93 learners? This then means that many illiterate people must enter life. It is high time that it should be looked at how the system can be changed so that more learners are helped to acquire other skills than cannot be helped by the school system.

In the short term of the 2023 – 2028 IDP, SMB should focus on three areas:

1. Strengthening the foundation for young citizens by promoting literacy and reading as the basis for participation in both formal and informal education over each child's lifespan.
2. Creating viable, relevant opportunities for adults to continue learning that supports their capacity to generate livelihoods and live with dignity.
3. Building a high school in Langebaan.

#### The case for promoting literacy and reading in SBM

In 2016, one of the volunteers who compiled this submission conducted an evaluation of a tertiary bursary scheme for rural youth in KwaZulu-Natal. The evaluation highlighted the challenges faced by youth transitioning from school to post-school education and training and recommended a range of initiatives to improve the likelihood of successful throughput over the lifespan of formal education. Although the research dates from six years ago and was largely national in scope, the findings are still valid and representative of the reality of education in South Africa. The following findings from the evaluation report are relevant in SBM:

Research points to an urgent need to invest in improving children's mother tongue reading in the

Foundation Phase as a basis for all learning that follows.

Almost 60% of children do not learn to read for meaning in any language in the Foundation Phase. Analysis of oral reading fluency data collected by the National Education and Evaluation Development Unit (NEEDU) in 2013 showed that only 6% of the Grade 5 learner sample in rural schools achieved comprehension above 60% and that 41% were illiterate because they read so slowly that they could not understand what they were reading. This implies that the majority of South African children cannot access the curriculum and fall further and further behind as a result.

The research shows that children find it easier to become literate in a second language if they are already literate in their first language. In addition, reading has been identified as a critical basis for numeracy development. Prof Elizabeth Henning, Director of the University of Johannesburg's Centre of Education Practice Research was granted an NRF South Africa Research Chair in Integrated Studies of Learning Language, Mathematics and Science in the Primary School specifically to research this phenomenon<sup>4</sup>.

Dr Nicolas Spaull, a respected education economist, rates **Foundation Phase reading as a key and achievable solution to South Africa's educational problems**. Primary schools have been neglected in the over-prioritisation of high schools and the matriculation exam.

While schooling is the remit of the DBE, SBM, as an agent of local citizens, can take action to improve their children's chance of benefiting from schooling. We recommend using the nine public libraries in SBM as sites to deliver the Nal'ibali programme<sup>5</sup>. Nal'ibali is a national campaign to promote reading for pleasure. It consists of a national media campaign through Times Media newspapers, SABC radio stations, community newspapers and radio stations and other platforms. The intention is to create a culture of reading by motivating and equipping adults to engage with children using stories and reading. Children who are exposed to reading for pleasure in the care of people who themselves take pleasure in reading and who are genuinely child-centred in their way of teaching take to it naturally. This establishes reading as a life skill and as the foundation for reading to learn. It also cultivates crucial aspects of human intelligence, such as imagination and critical thinking. Nal'ibali literacy specialists are available to work with interested groups in several provinces including the Western Cape. They train and support organisations, community members, reading club coordinators and volunteers to inspire the start up and running of effective reading clubs and provide tools and materials relating to storytelling, reading and writing to incorporate into existing reading clubs or other programmes. At the core of its initiatives is a library of multilingual stories and resources for children. All Nal'ibali material is available for reading on the website and volunteers can register to receive training and start reading clubs.

The Nal'ibali programme is delivered by volunteers at a range of sites, including public libraries. The Nal'ibali website mentions the Harare Public Library in Khayelitsha, Cape Town as an example. Unfortunately, we could not access more information about this project before the deadline for this submission. The SBM should consult with the Western Cape Provincial Library Service and, if

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<sup>4</sup> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2VgZq7rYa2Y> and <https://www.uj.ac.za/newandevents/Pages/Young-minds-are-a-priority-Prof-Elizabeth-Henning-UJ.aspx>.

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.nalibali.org/>

necessary, the Western Cape Education Department, to determine how best to implement the programme. Options include training librarians to teach young children to read and how to run the Nal'ibali programme. It could be supplemented by community volunteers who help the librarians to run the programme at libraries. For the librarians, the work can be included in their job descriptions and form part of the performance management system.

The question then is what can be done to turn the bad scenario around so that more learners can be taught skills. Reading skills are neglected and cause many learners to not progress at all in the current system. It is therefore essential that better thought should be given to setting up better and more skill schools/centres to help the learners. The old-fashioned and totally obsolete words that the learners are too stupid to progress must be scrapped. There are learners who are slower in understanding and therefore they will not progress in the existing system. Yet these are the people who can one day also make a valuable contribution if they are properly looked after and are exposed to other techniques at an early age to accommodate them. Not everyone is technically inclined, but often has other skills such as being able to work with a computer/machines/entrepreneurs. What is being done to develop scarce skills? Learners will simply be exposed to science-based tests much earlier in their lives to determine what skills they have and need to be developed.

The further concern is why so many learners leave schools. It is certainly the milieu in which they grow up that is not conducive for them to progress. If Mom and Dad have not progressed at school themselves and possibly did not go to school at all and possibly cannot read and write at all, those learners will be behind. It is therefore also essential that attention is paid to helping the parents to better equip themselves as parents to be able to provide the necessary guidance. It is therefore also essential that attention is paid to establishing training centres for the parents so that they can better equip themselves.

#### The case for supporting adult skills development in SBM

Although we did not find specific data for SBM, South Africa generally has low levels of good quality and relevant skills development opportunities for adults who have not completed formal education and who are not employed by large companies that contribute to and utilise the skills development levy system. A [recent profile](#)<sup>6</sup> of young people not in education, employment or training (NEET) published by the Southern Africa Labour and Development Research Unit (SALDRU) offers these key insights:

The South African youth not in education, employment or training (NEET) rate has been consistently over 30% and it has worsened over the past ten years. The young NEETs are a heterogeneous group that is predominantly female, black, slightly older youth (20-24), reside in urban areas, live in income poverty and have less than, or only, a matric or matric equivalent. The majority of young NEETs are unemployed (43.9% are searching unemployed and 24.4% are discouraged job seekers) and just under a third (31.7%) are inactive (i.e., 'disengaged' from the labour market). A large proportion of searching unemployed NEETs are new entrants into the labour market and many of them have been looking for work for extended periods without success. There is a need for place-based targeted interventions to help different young NEETs successfully enter the labour market or re-engage in education and training activities.

We are advocating a multi-stream approach that includes supporting in-school youth to complete their schooling and to offer out-of-school youth appropriate opportunities to continue learning so they may either find jobs or create viable work for themselves. We include the latter because of the reality that the capacity of the current economic model to create jobs has not delivered the desired

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<sup>6</sup> <https://www.saldru.uct.ac.za/2022/06/30/profile-of-young-neets-in-south-africa/>

outcome. The national Government is focusing on the informal sector in the hope that it will be able to generate jobs, which means local economic development and thus local skills development.

The polycrisis that the Doughnut addresses is bringing a shift in work, which demands fresh thinking about education and training. Formal education opens the way to formal employment and the kind of entrepreneurship that feeds and eventually merges into the formal sector. The reality is that many people will never follow that path and do not need the standard, academic matric qualification. They will start as small, “survivalist” entrepreneurs, creating tiny businesses that function within local communities: carpenters, plumbers, electricians, food gardeners, chicken farmers, bakers, hairdressers, etc. The kind of businesses that may employ one or two assistants who, in turn, learn on the job. The question we wish to address is: If a young person in a rural or semi-rural area has already dropped out of school, what are they hoping to achieve by getting an academic matric? The local formal economy’s capacity to absorb such people is limited. We believe it is better for them to get a skill plus some type of qualification that they can upgrade later, once they are able to sustain themselves and their families. This is possible because accredited short courses can be accumulated towards recognition for access to formal qualification streams offered in TVETs, for example.

We would like to see SBM using its skills development mandate and our taxes to support the provision of short skills courses that are strengthened with life and requisite business skills to enable these kinds of entrepreneurs to find their feet and create dignified work for themselves and others in their communities. This stream of learning can also encompass adult basic education and a matric equivalent.

The Community Education & Training Colleges (CETCs) that fall within the ambit of the DHET are a possible route, but there are significant hurdles, as these colleges are very poorly resourced. There is a CETC in each province. Delivery occurs in Community Learning Centres across the province. Most Community Learning Centres offer only adult education (literacy, numeracy and the alternative matric stream) because of staffing costs. The other limitation of the Centres is that they do not have workshops for practical training, also due to inadequate funding. Information on the DHET website indicates that the Western Cape CETC has one learning centre in SBM, located in St Helena Bay. This in itself suggests that this system is currently not serving the SBM’s education and training needs well.

We spoke to a representative of the Catholic Institute of Education (CIE), which has developed programmes in this area, utilising its existing physical infrastructure, which includes workshops. CIE is working around the Government's bureaucracy that gets in the way of its capacity to implement its policies for job creation through the development of the informal economy. They have developed short course curriculum that is accredited by the Quality Council for Trades and Occupations (QCTO). The QCTO has created some innovative courses, e.g., cellphone and bicycle repair. CIE provides a sound model for community-based skills training. They have developed accredited life skills courses to support their technical and vocational skills offering and are establishing “Opportunity Hubs”, where people who have done short technical / vocational and life skills courses receive mentoring over a period of two years or more while they establish their survivalist businesses. These are facilities where the community can have conversations about the practical aspects of being in business and get help with things like structuring. This is an essential added service because survivalists generally cannot meet Government’s compliance requirements for things like formal business plans, etc.

There are a number of training providers in SBM that are accredited by the QCTO. CIE is willing to make its curriculum and community skills needs mapping tools available to community learning initiatives in SBM. We believe it is possible for local community organisations and institutions such as faith-based institutions to initiate centres for this kind of learning and, with support from SBM, work towards accreditation with state education units such as the QCTO and DHET.

Lastly, we need to build or repurpose another municipal building for a high school in Langebaan:

We currently have the following schools in Langebaan:

- Curro Private School – Preschool, Grade R, Grade 1 to 7 and Grade 8 to 12
- Longacres Private School – Preschool, Grade R, Grade 1 to 7 and Grade 8 to 12
- Topolino Private School – Preschool, Grade R, Grades 1 to 7
- Langebaan Primary School, State School – Preschool, Grade R, Grade 1 to 7

Due to the increase in numbers due to many people moving here in Langebaan, there is a great need for a State School for Gr 8 to 12 or technical school. Currently, many children are transported daily by bus to Vredenburg and Hopefield to receive high school education there. Unfortunately, there are also learners who are not in schools at all, because it is too expensive for the parents to use the bus transport or to place them in local private schools. It is a matter of urgency that attention must be given to it so that there are facilities available for learners.

ACTIVITY	2023	2024-2027	By 2028
<b>SUPPORT IN-SCHOOL YOUTH TO INCREASE THE MATRIC PASS RATE IN SBM</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Use data and conduct research to identify the biggest hurdles to getting children through matric.</li> <li>● Offer additional classes, summer and winter school for high school children to increase their opportunities.</li> <li>● Put anti-bullying programmes in place.</li> <li>● Develop communications campaigns to encourage all children to stay in school and apply themselves.</li> <li>● Celebrate educators.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Assess outcomes of 2023 intervention to improve on following years' interventions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>●</li> </ul>
<b>SUPPORT OUT-OF-SCHOOL YOUTH TO OBTAIN THEIR MATRIC CERTIFICATES</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Increase access to community classes and adult education programmes to</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>●</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>●</li> </ul>



	support youth in obtaining matric certificates.		
<b>UPSKILL OUT-OF-SCHOOL YOUTH</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with TVETs, agricultural schools and other places of education to identify useful skills programmes to upskill youth.</li> </ul>	•	•
<b>PROMOTE LITERACY &amp; READING AMONG YOUNG CHILDREN</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consult with the Western Cape Provincial Library Service on how to implement the Nal'ibali programme.</li> <li>• Recruit &amp; train librarians from the nine SBM public libraries for the programme. Selection criteria to include evidence of genuine interest in teaching young children to read.</li> <li>• Implement the programme in at least three SBM libraries.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assess the programme implementation to learn how to make it work well.</li> <li>• Extend the programme to all SBM libraries.</li> <li>• Options:</li> <li>• Recruit people in communities to support librarians. These may be volunteers or people who can be paid stipends through employment programmes.</li> <li>• Establish links with local primary schools to strengthen and expand the programme, possibly including collaboration</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to strengthen literacy and reading programmes in SBM across as many kinds of institutions as possible, including faith-based and other community-based children's programmes.</li> <li>• Conduct regular formative evaluations of the initiative using an Asset Based Community Development approach which includes communities as active participants.</li> </ul>

		with schools to implement the <a href="http://www.shineliteracy.org.za/">Shine Literacy programme</a> <sup>7</sup> .	
<b>SUPPORT THE CREATION OF COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTRES &amp; OPPORTUNITY HUBS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Identify key locations for skills training in consultation with SBM communities.</li> <li>● Conduct community skills needs mapping.</li> <li>● Source and commission relevant curriculum, focusing, inter alia, on the economic goals highlighted in this submission - eco-tourism, renewable energy, the care economy, localised food production using regenerative agricultural practices.</li> <li>● In consultation with SBM communities, determine a viable way to implement community-based learning facilities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Support the establishment of at least 4 community-based learning facilities by, inter alia, funding workshops and facilitator fees / salaries. The establishment process should be ABCD-driven.</li> <li>● Fund independent ABCD-focused monitoring and formative evaluation of the community-based learning facilities.</li> <li>● Disseminate what is being learned and publicly acknowledge and celebrate successes.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Support the establishment of more centres and of partnerships with relevant Government units, e.g. DHET.</li> </ul>

<sup>7</sup> <http://www.shineliteracy.org.za/>

<b>REPURPOSE OR BUILD A HIGH SCHOOL IN LANGEBAAN</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Working with Provincial Department of Education, plan for a new high school in Langebaan</li> </ul>	•	•
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#### 4.2.7. Income and Work

Focus on livelihood creation opportunities that require lower levels of skills development. These are discussed in the economic goals and are linked closely to the Education proposals.

<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024-2027</b>	<b>By 2028</b>
<b>IDENTIFY OPPORTUNITIES IN THE ECONOMY AND TRAIN FOR THESE SKILLS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop skills programmes and opportunities in the localised food sector.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop skills programmes and opportunities in the retrofitting and RE sectors.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop skills programmes in the care economy.</li> </ul>
<b>INCENTIVISE BUSINESSES TO TAKE ARTISANS</b>	•	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop incentives plan with SBM businesses.</li> </ul>	•

#### 4.2.8. Peace and Justice

<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024-2027</b>	<b>By 2028</b>
<b>FIX POLICE VEHICLES</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prioritise fixing policy vehicles.</li> </ul>	•	•
<b>RUN A REHABILITATION CENTRE FOR DRUG ADDICTS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop plans; get input from experienced businesses such as Akeso.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fix and staff a rehab facility.</li> <li>Rehabilitate drug addicts.</li> </ul>	•

#### 4.2.9. Political Voice

It has been the experience of members of the #Maak Saak group that, despite their inputs into local government processes such as the IDP, their voices and inputs tend to be ignored. This is a request in the immediate future, while developing the IDP, to respond to these residents with reasons as to why their inputs have or have not been included.

- Members of the group have also requested holding IDP meetings after working hours to ensure all residents can attend.

- It has been suggested that all members of municipal staff should be meeting with residents on a regular basis (reducing meetings amongst municipal staff and with other levels of government, to prioritise residents). This should be included in KPIs.

#### 4.2.10. Social Equity

ACTIVITY	2023	2024-2027	By 2028
<b>PLAN FOR MIGRATION AND URBANISATION</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Research what other places have done.</li> <li>● Put a plan in place to ensure migrants have access to a good life.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>●</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>●</li> </ul>
<b>INCREASE GREEN AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES IN SBM</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Plan to increase and upgrade green and recreational facilities for SBM in consultation with residents learning from sites such as: <a href="#">Ten Strategies for Transforming Cities and Public Spaces through Placemaking (pps.org)</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Plant trees; develop parks; increase recreational facilities.</li> <li>● Develop recreation facilities on the Beach and a lifesaving and swimming/ nippers club.</li> <li>● Revitalise Tabakbaai using water from the sea.</li> <li>● Put safety measures in place at Danger Bay.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>●</li> </ul>
<b>STOP VANDALISM OF SBM ASSETS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Run communications campaign to stop vandalism.</li> <li>● Prioritise developing a shared ownership and protection of</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>●</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>●</li> </ul>

	community assets.		
<b>REDUCE RACIAL SEGREGATION IN SBM</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Begin roundtable discussions to discuss racial issues in SBM.</li> </ul>	●	●

#### 4.2.11. Gender Equality

No priority on this as yet.

#### 4.2.12. Networks

ACTIVITY	2023	2024-2027	By 2028
<b>INTERNET ACCESS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Create opportunities for all residents of SBM to access free wi-fi</li> </ul>	●	●
<b>USING THE LIBRARY AS A HUB</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Use libraries as social and networking hubs.</li> <li>● Consult with mixed groups of librarians and library users to identify how libraries can become more relevant and appealing to citizens of all ages. We recommend using a method such as <a href="https://ubuntulabinstitute.com/">Theory U</a><sup>8</sup> for this.</li> <li>● Change librarians' Key Performance Indicators accordingly.</li> </ul>	●	●

<sup>8</sup> <https://ubuntulabinstitute.com/>

### 4.3. Economic Goals

In contrast to the former IDP, which focuses on industrialisation in addition to other economic goals, the #Maak Saak group is calling for a shift away from traditional industrialisation. This is because traditional industrialisation is not aligned to the environmental goals and tends to cause more environmental damage. Thus, we are asking for economic goals that are aligned to our vision of creating a more resilient, beautiful municipality. Moreover, these goals should focus on creating livelihoods, not jobs. Some of these findings support Stratecon's work on Socio-Economic Futures for SBM.

Two main industries that will contribute towards ecological resilience and nature conservation are eco-tourism and sustainable fisheries within the region. Then, in order to mitigate and adapt to climate change, we have identified the retrofitting of buildings, building community-owned renewable energy systems and localising food production as additional important economic sectors for Saldanha Bay Municipality. Finally, investing in the care economy will both create jobs and improve the social foundation for SBM.

Our vision is in line with the mandate of the Saldanha Bay Industrial Development Zone (SBIDZ) of ‘...**sustainable economic development** and job creation in the localised economy, diversification and transformation of a historically under-developed and under-supported economic sector, and broadening of the regional and national economic base, thereby building in robustness to South Africa’s economic base.’ The Municipality should redirect the SBIDZ to align to these goals, instead of their current goals.

#### 4.3.1. Prioritise Small-Scale Fishing Activities

Research by Standish et al. (2019) confirms the importance of the fishing industry:

‘First, the local municipality is very exposed to the fishing industry and, as a result, fish processing. These are the largest primary and secondary industries in the municipality. Fishing makes up 15% of the total value added in the SBM. Food processing is another 13% of which fish processing is a large part. This means that 25% of the direct economic activity is reliant on the fishing industry. Even this understates the vulnerability because industries like financial services, making up 15% of the economy, wholesale and retail trade (13%) and transport 8% are all dependent on the income generated by primary fishing and secondary fish processing. Employment is even more vulnerable to fishing. Fishing, at 31% of the total employment in the SBM, is the most important employer. This is followed by agriculture at 5% and then again ‘food, beverages and tobacco’ also at 5%. Fish processing is the largest part of this sector.’ (Standish, et al., 2019)

However, the fishing industry is under threat as heavy industrial activity, increased urbanisation and pollution from land-based sources entering the marine environment place a strain on the supporting environment and ecosystem for fisheries. Furthermore, the increasing levels of human exploitation places direct pressure on fish stocks. *‘These factors have significant economic and social implications, given the importance of the fishing industry on the West Coast’* (WCG, 2015: 35)

Thus, there is an urgent need for SBM to prioritise the fishing industry and there is a need for sustainable fishing solutions and co-management strategies in order to conserve the local environment and protect local residents who are dependent on the local environment (La Grange, 2016). Greenpeace (2008: 1) explains that *“a sustainable fishery is one whose practices can be maintained indefinitely without reducing the targeted species’ ability to maintain its population at healthy levels, and without adversely impacting on other species within the ecosystem – including*

*humans – by removing their food source, accidentally killing them, or damaging their physical environment”.*

#Maak Saak is requesting that the SBM works with small-scale and commercial fishers, as well as the tourism industry to collaboratively develop a plan to create a thriving fishing industry along the West Coast of South Africa.

#### 4.3.2. Develop a Sustainable Tourism Sector

The region of Saldanha Bay has a unique, diversified landscape of fauna and flora and multiple marine ecosystems which possess unique biodiversity, particularly the Langebaan Lagoon (Ramsar site), the Berg River estuary, a breath-taking coastline and the fynbos (of which a large portion is protected within the West Coast National Park) (WCG, 2015). The region has unique cultural and historically significant areas which include paleontological and archaeological sites (La Grange, 2016).

Moreover, tourism absorbs large numbers of unskilled people and can create sustainable livelihood opportunities. Therefore, #Maak Saak would like the IDP to prioritise an eco-tourism strategy that ensures the environmental goals for SBM are met (e.g., reducing biodiversity loss, reducing air and water pollution, etc.):

- In the short term, the SBM should launch an advertising campaign that draws more tourists to the region while identifying key environmental sites and species that should be preserved at all costs to maintain the environment.
- In the medium term, the SBM should focus on restoring key environmental and tourism sites, considering how to develop draw-cards to the towns.
- In the long term, SBM should develop a long-term eco-tourism strategy, with livelihood opportunities identified.

#### 4.3.3. Localise Food Production and Food Systems in SBM

Experience from Transition Towns indicates that localising food production and consumption can increase the amount of money that circulates within towns while creating more resilience against climate change and reducing carbon emissions. A small-scale piece of research on the food [value chain](#) in SBM highlights the following:

**Using the lower food spend figure per individual of R2,000 as a conservative estimate, households in the district spend approximately R240 million on food every month (R2,000 \* approx. population of 120,000).** Of this, about a third, or R80 million (i.e., about R4 million per day) is spent on daily necessities over the course of the month. According to survey respondents, the bulk of this money is spent in local, neighbourhood, independent stores. National chains in contrast are responsible for roughly one fifth of the total direct spend from households, (about R48 million per month). As a caveat to this it must be noted that it is likely that smaller independent stores buy in bulk from national chains and act as distribution points in their neighbourhoods for a small mark-up.

If we split the remaining food spend (weekly and several times a week) equally between the independent stores and the national chains, then independent stores receive approximately 56% of total food spend or R134 million, while national chains are responsible for R106 million in direct household spend.

Given these figures, it is obvious that **there is a significant opportunity to leverage the position of the local independent retailers to provide their communities with locally sourced goods.** Currently these stores are responsible for sales related to daily necessities of their

communities' households – bread, dairy, (milk, eggs, cheese, yoghurt) and other commodities. The businesses that we were able to speak to reported that about 60% of their food input-related spend was from local suppliers. However, these included local food wholesalers who, we think, are simply acting as middle men for large national suppliers.

The main motivation of these stores regarding their purchases is convenience and cost, with reliability and quality being listed as additional qualities that they would look for in increasing their local spend.

If local suppliers are in a position to meet the cost and convenience requirements of these smaller retailers, they would significantly increase their chances of redirecting spend from national chains and suppliers.

It is unlikely that these local retailers would currently consider increasing their local spend because of ethical considerations.

**Redirecting even 10% of the food-related spend currently under the national supermarket chain umbrellas (R10.6 million) would add considerably to the deepening of the local food economy, decreasing food vulnerabilities of the local economy, reducing the reliance on national food networks, possibly decreasing the carbon footprint of the food consumed in the district, as well as increasing the resilience of the district economy.**

#### 4.3.4. Retrofitting of Buildings and Community-owned Renewable Energy Systems

Recent [research by C40 cities](#) calculated the astounding potential of mitigating and adapting to climate change challenges for cities in South Africa. A similar intervention was carried out in Hopefield by the Umoya wind farm and could be replicated and rolled out on a bigger scale throughout SBM. This has been documented under the climate mitigation section above. However, the ability to create small-scale industries under the IDZ to create products that support the value-chain should be investigated.

In Oudekraalfontein, residents who have no geysers would like solar geysers to be installed during 2023.

#### 4.3.5. The Care Economy

The care economy is one of the biggest growing global sectors: almost 40% of all projected job opportunities in emerging professions will be created in the care sector between 2020 and 2023, according to a report on the [jobs of tomorrow](#) from the World Economic Forum. This is because the demand for childcare and care for the elderly is increasing as more women enter the workplace. It will thus create a great number of jobs in the coming years, especially if education becomes a priority and if the retirement industry is encouraged in SBM (Standish, et al., 2019). Thus, it is important for SBM to begin understanding the livelihood and economic opportunities available for this sector and a technical study should be prioritised in the near term.

## 5. Conclusion

This Maak Saak submission to the SBM IDP process is in response to the call for residents to participate in the development of the IDP 2023 – 2027. This is inline with Section 152 of the Constitution which encourages the involvement of communities in the matter of local government. It is also indicative of a responsive group of residents who will hold local government accountable.

This submission focused on the why the Doughnut Economics framework would be useful and how SBM could be the first African municipality to apply this framework – which would support South Africa's Just Transition to a low-carbon future. The second part identified key, local indicators for SBM



– essentially developing a localised Doughnut that can be used for decision-making, guiding future actions and an easy way to measure progress. Finally, Section 4 laid out residents’ needs and requests for the IDP and for the budgeting aligned to these priorities. Each of these needs and requests, align to the Doughnut framework to ensure SBM can shift the environmental goals to be within its planetary boundaries while also increasing the social foundation.

Finally, residents have suggested that SBM should rearrange its municipality departments, aligned to the Doughnut model so that roles and governance structures reflect the concerns measured by the local indicators that have been developed. This will also allow the municipality to shift away from silos and create better information for decision-making for all future developments (such as green hydrogen which will have negative impacts on the water systems). Moreover, it is important for SBM to get the IDZ to align this new vision and support economic goals that are environmentally supportive.

## 6. Supporting documents: Full report on Doughnut Indicators for Saldanha Bay Municipality and Localised Food research

Please see additional reports for this information.