

# **First COFISA Foresight Workshop in the Eastern Cape**

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**Final Draft report**



**kDs**  
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# 1 Introduction

Foresighting refers to methods and techniques used to develop viable and sustainable futures for communities. The strength of foresighting over short term development strategies is in its proactive development approach towards desired futures. It is a departure from short term incremental planning, which typically focuses on *how to* solve present problems. Foresighting on the other hand focuses on what *can be* and then directing efforts towards systematically developing the desired futures.

## 2 Purpose

The Foresight workshop held at the Regent Hotel, East London, was the first in a series of three workshops to be held to develop realistic and implementable futures for the Eastern Cape Province. The purpose of the workshop was to introduce participants to the overall COFISA innovation systems programme, and the foresighting process in particular. The participants were then employed to use 3 specific foresighting techniques; i) The futures wheel, ii) the futures table, and iii) story development to kick start the *what* (themes) component of the foresighting process.

## 3 Workshop programme: inputs and expected outcomes

### 3.1 Inputs and expected outcomes

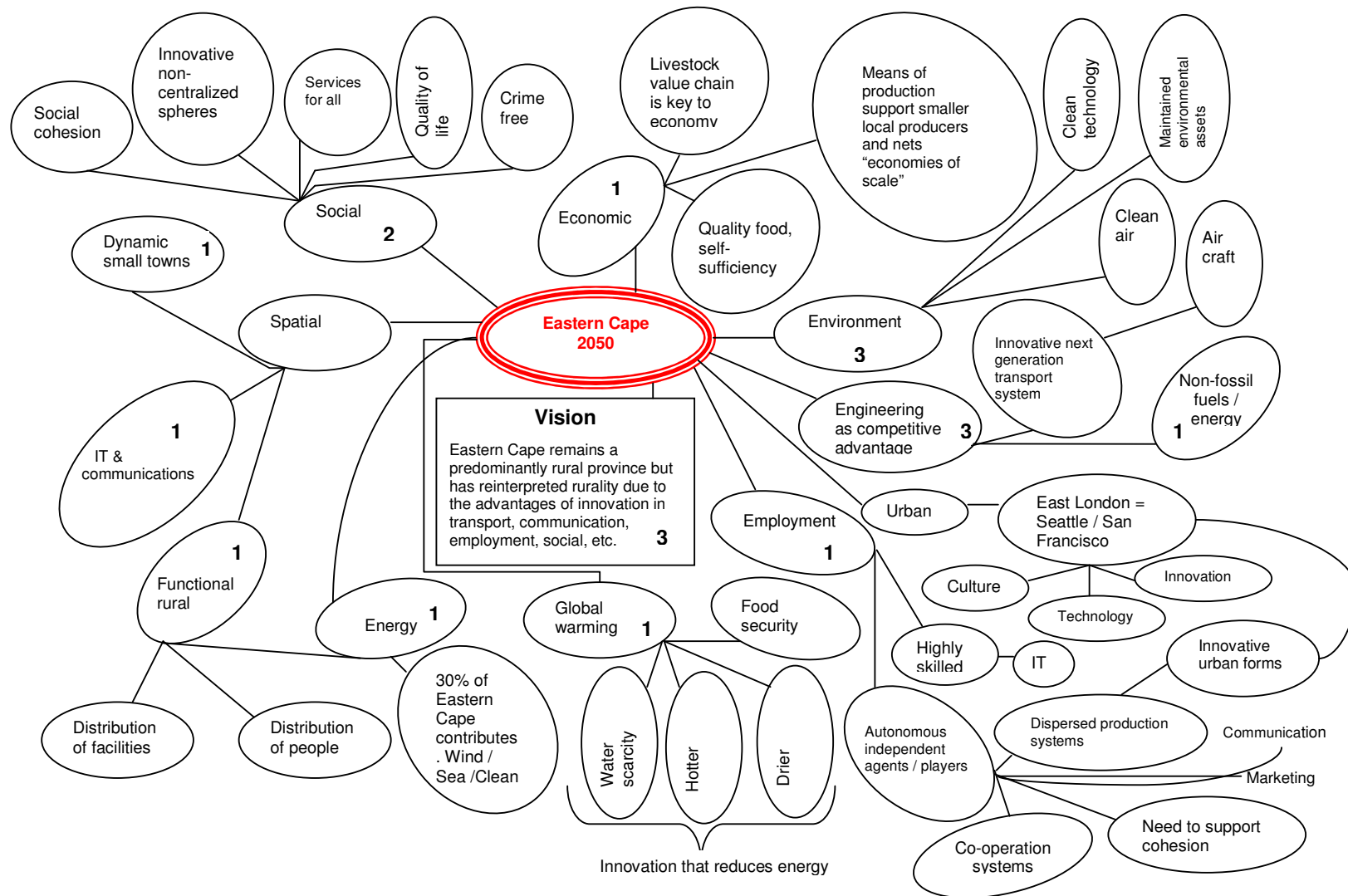
Mrs. Nirvashnee Seetal, the COFISA South African National Coordinator provided an overview of the aims and objectives of the COFISA programme. Dr. Bob Day, the principal South African foresight consultant gave a “state of the province” overview of the Eastern Cape, based on an analysis of baseline data collected by IsambuloAmi. Ollie Hietanen, Foresight expert and lead consultant from Finland was the chief facilitator assisted by several COFISA team members. The full agenda is provided in Annex 1.

Thirty participants attended the workshop and were randomly placed in 3 groups. It was expected that the groups would use the futures wheel to identify a wide range of issues and opportunities reflecting desirable 2050

futures, from which a theme would be prioritised. This theme would then be placed within the context of the futures table to determine; required services, relevant actors, benefactors, targets, values, drivers, and obstacles, for a more focused discussion of *what* issues mattered. Two to three scenarios were developed using this table. Finally, the groups were to write out a story based on their chosen scenario to illustrate the salient features of those 2050 futures.

## 3.2 Outcomes

### 3.2.1 Group 1: Futures wheel



### 3.2.2 Group 1: Futures table

ACTVOD	TOPIC: Engineering	TOPIC: Reinterpreted Rural Reality
<b>Actors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Motor vehicle manufacturers, innovators</li> <li>▪ Telkom, Eskom, mobile phone operators</li> <li>▪ Universities, petrochemicals</li> <li>▪ R&amp;D institutions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Government</li> <li>▪ Social scientist formations</li> <li>▪ Industry</li> <li>▪ Everyone</li> </ul>
<b>Customers</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Households</li> <li>▪ Industry</li> <li>▪ Business</li> <li>▪ Government</li> <li>▪ Everyone</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Government</li> <li>▪ Social scientist formations</li> <li>▪ Industry</li> <li>▪ Everyone</li> </ul>
<b>Targets</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Better eco life in the Eastern Cape</li> <li>▪ 30% contribution of clean energy to South Africa</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Quality and sustainable life</li> <li>▪ Functional and eco sustainable rural – rural systems</li> </ul>
<b>Products, services, actions...</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Non-infrastructure based vehicles</li> <li>▪ Fossil fuel free vehicles</li> <li>▪ Information technology and communications</li> <li>▪ Clean energy production technologies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Alternative transport</li> <li>▪ Delivery of services</li> <li>▪ Employment models</li> <li>▪ Social Models</li> <li>▪ Settlement forms</li> </ul>
<b>Values</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Equity</li> <li>▪ Quality of life</li> <li>▪ Environmental sustainability</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Equity</li> <li>▪ Quality of life</li> <li>▪ Environmental sustainability</li> </ul>
<b>Drivers</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Increasing cost of fuel</li> <li>▪ Environmental degradation</li> <li>▪ Cost of infrastructure</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Social decline</li> <li>▪ Social and environmental degradation</li> <li>▪ Increasing cost of maintaining current model of life</li> </ul>
<b>Obstacles</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Lack of capacity</li> <li>▪ Most of actors</li> <li>▪ Funding</li> <li>▪ Global control of sector</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Vested interests</li> <li>▪ Lack of imagination</li> <li>▪ Lack of capacity</li> </ul>

### **3.2.3 Group 1: Futures story**

#### **A DAY IN A LIFE OF TAMARA IN BUTTERWORTH**

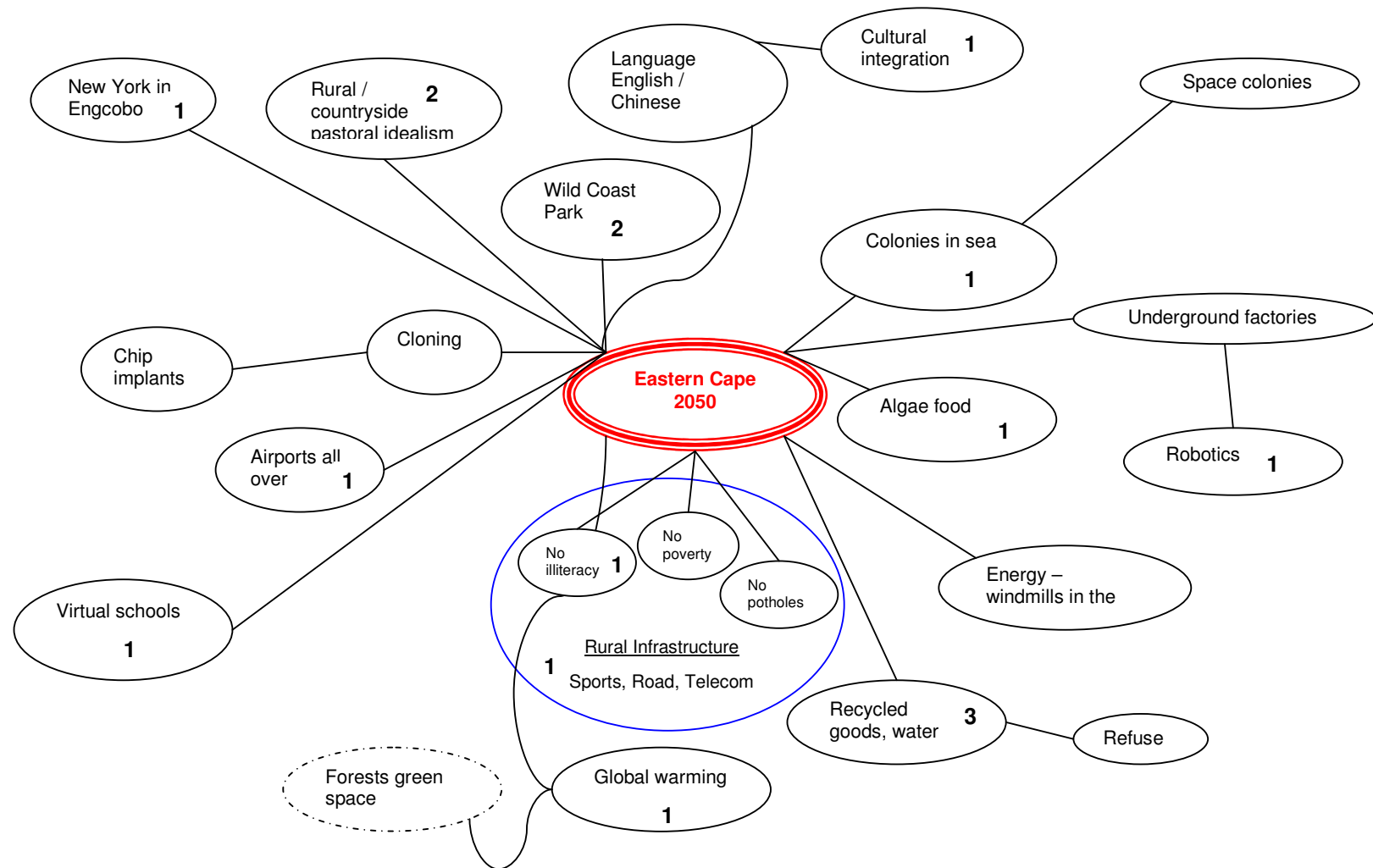
Tamara gets up. It's a beautiful morning and she decides to go shopping in East London using her brand new red NEXT GEN. Her vehicle has been built locally and it meets the stringent eco standards that have been set by the government. It was the result of cooperation between the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University and Audi AG, and the vehicle is able to fly at various heights up to 25 metres in a very economical way.

The ten minutes drive is made more interesting by the wildlife and scenic views on the way to East London.

In East London she is reminded of the terrible stories of hijacking and car stealing as told to by her grandmother. But that is in the past and she is happy to live in 2050. The first thing she wants to buy is the holographic telephone that was designed in Dwesa for her grandmother who likes electronic gadgets.

Tonight, back in at the Eco Park she will have to recharge her NEXT GEN. She is happy that the strong winds and the sea of the Wild Coast now provide energy that is essential to her life.

### 3.2.4 Group 2: Futures wheel





### 3.2.5 Group 2: Futures table

ACTVOD	TOPIC: Green Future
<b>Actors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Government</li> <li>▪ Labour unions</li> <li>▪ Investors</li> <li>▪ Universities</li> </ul>
<b>Customers</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Local and global consumers</li> <li>▪ Businesses</li> <li>▪ Other provinces</li> </ul>
<b>Targets</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Employment in green industries</li> <li>▪ Eastern Cape as a world class tourism destination</li> <li>▪ Improved quality of life</li> <li>▪ World class R&amp;D centre</li> </ul>
<b>Products, services, actions...</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Clean energy</li> <li>▪ Recycled products</li> <li>▪ Wild Coast Park</li> <li>▪ Virtual Office / learning</li> </ul>
<b>Values</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Environment</li> <li>▪ Solidarity</li> </ul>
<b>Drivers</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ High education level</li> <li>▪ ICT</li> <li>▪ Global trends</li> <li>▪ Political will</li> <li>▪ Investment</li> <li>▪ Research and Development</li> </ul>
<b>Obstacles</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Lack of long term vision and will power</li> <li>▪ Political instability</li> <li>▪ Short term profits</li> </ul>

### 3.2.6 Group 2: Futures story

#### GREEN FUTURE

Tshepo woke up in Port St Johns and opened his computer. He poured his coffee and looked out the window. He saw windmills and icebergs and wondered how his group of tourists / investors from Finland were doing out there on the iceberg. He reflected on his daughter Litha who is studying at his *alma mater* Umtata Institute of Environment and she was preparing for a thesis on Hotel Refuse – To Fuel. He thought he could wake her up so that she could get working on her computer. Tshepo sent out an email to ECCONSF. He put on his jetpack and travelled to a meeting. He wondered how the 30hr Day Project was going as the Eastern Cape was becoming a serious place for Green Futurists. He was running out of time in the day.

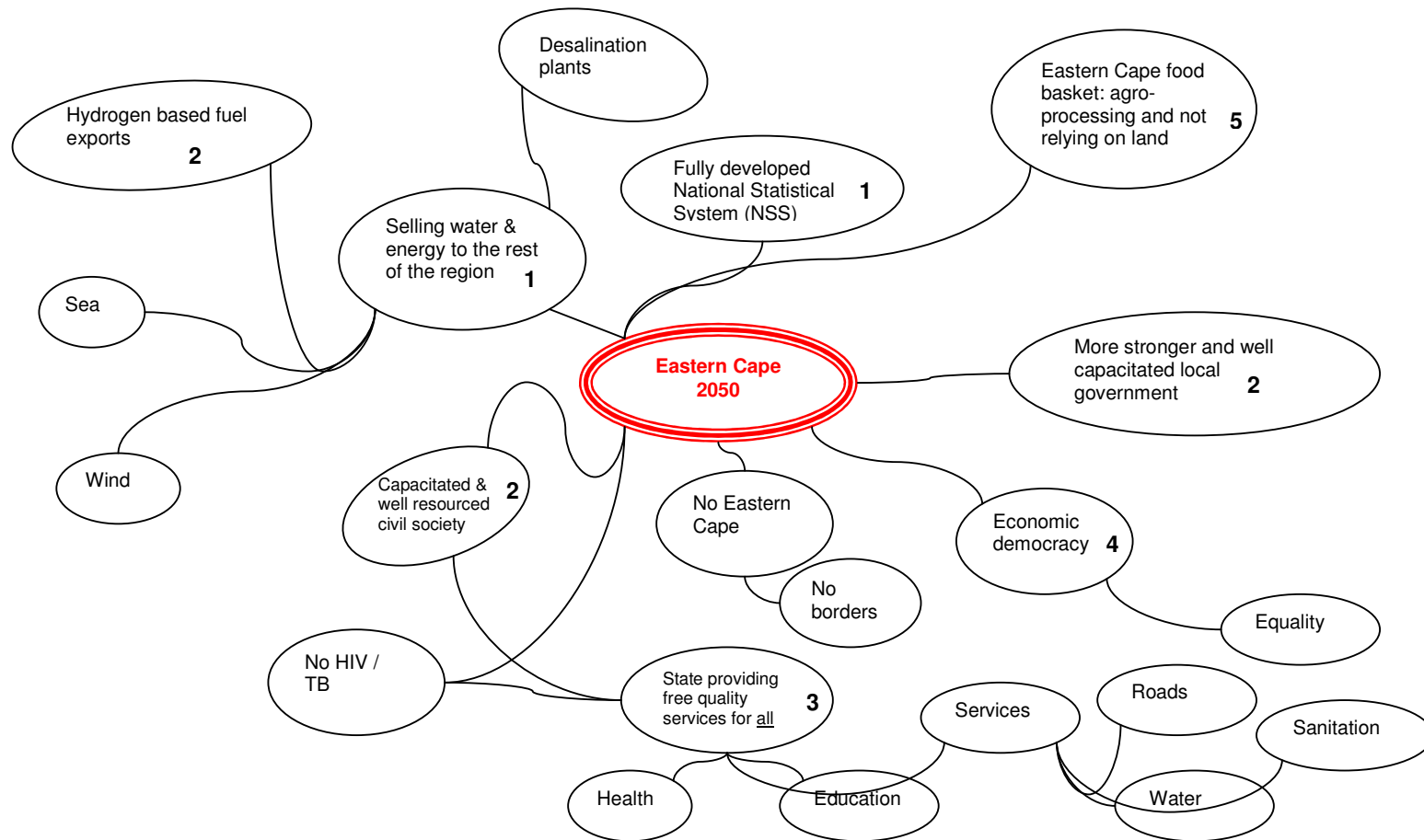
### 3.2.7 Group 3: Deliberations

- Rural / Urban distinction
  - Less – “Rurban”
- Basic needs met **(2)**
- Logistics centre
- Investment in R&D
  - R&D Province
- Province of “education” **(1)**
- Model local government
  - Others benchmark
- Power source
  - Alternative environment friendly
- Privatisation **(1)**
  - Wind farm for example
- 10% world tourists spend in the Eastern Cape
- Preferred lifestyle province **(1)**
- Economic power
- Environment / global warming
  - Eastern Cape back to balance **(1)**
- Water source – Umzimvubu River
  - Dams - to capture water
  - Electricity – hydro electricity
  - Irrigation
- Private land ownership
- Skilled workforce
  - Developer of skills
  - Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) to promote quality education
- Ports / Harbours / Roads
- Connectivity – communication

- Infrastructure (1)
- Microchip in everyone's head
- Productive farms - value add (involved in supply chain)
- Bio fuels
- Value add within province (e.g. clay)
- Non-renewable energy sources
- Beautiful countryside
  - Neat
  - Clean
  - Safe
  - Paly???
  - Shops
- Cashless society (1)
  - Government no "boss"
  - Run by economy itself
  - Smart cards
- "Tolerant" society
  - Religion
  - Race
  - Crime
- Economy (1)
  - Knowledge
  - Vibrant
  - Small business innovation
  - Private initiative encouraged
- Healthy population
- Unqualified audit report from auditor general
- Efficient use of financial system (accountable officials)
- Employed population
- Health / education divorced from politics
- AIDS free
- "Content" population
- Recreation (appropriate to relevant values)
- Border wins Currie Cup!

- Retained skills
- Eastern Cape attracts capital
- Successes! Winning Province
- Learning Province
  - Opportunities for learning
  - Others learn from us

### 3.2.8 Group 3 and 4: Futures wheel



### 3.2.9 Group 3 and 4: Futures table

ACTVOD	TOPIC: Eastern Cape as the food basket for SADC	
<b>Actors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Farmers</li> <li>▪ Universities</li> <li>▪ Agri-business</li> <li>▪ Community</li> <li>▪ International partners</li> <li>▪ Government</li> <li>▪ Commodity organisations</li> <li>▪ Portnet</li> <li>▪ Co-ops</li> <li>▪ Labour</li> <li>▪ Logistics</li> </ul>	
<b>Customers</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ International and domestic consumers</li> <li>▪ Industry (automotive, confectionary...)</li> </ul>	
<b>Targets</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Food security</li> <li>▪ Economic independence</li> <li>▪ Competitiveness</li> <li>▪ Quality</li> <li>▪ Price</li> <li>▪ Availability and marketing surplus</li> </ul>	
<b>Products, services, actions...</b>	P	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Milk, meat, fibre, chicory, tea, hemp, citrus...</li> <li>▪ Processed agricultural products: Cheese, Long Life Milk...</li> </ul>
	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Agri-business, Chicory SA, tourism, specialist knowledge services</li> </ul>
	A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ R&amp;D, Bio-tech, GMO</li> </ul>
<b>Values</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Sustainable development</li> <li>▪ Protection of natural resources</li> <li>▪ Fair practice and traceability</li> <li>▪ Commitment</li> <li>▪ Innovative thinking</li> <li>▪ Entrepreneurial spirit</li> <li>▪ Integrity and ethics</li> <li>▪ Hospitality</li> </ul>	
<b>Drivers</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Agricultural Research Council (ARC)</li> <li>▪ R&amp;D funding</li> <li>▪ International cooperation</li> <li>▪ Shared vision, partnerships and political buy-in</li> </ul>	
<b>Obstacles</b>		

### 3.2.10 Group 3 and 4: Futures story

#### **EASTERN CAPE AS THE FOOD BASKET FOR SADC (SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY)**

Jean-Pierre Marcel flies into the private Mt. Ayliff Airport eager to commence his negotiations with Nontobeko and Thabo. His aim is to leverage the top-quality milk, fruit and vegetable products that have made Mt. Ayliff, once one of the poorest areas in the Eastern Cape, an international leader in the field.

Nontobeko and Thabo arrive in their bio-fuel driven luxury German vehicle, warmly welcome Jean-Pierre and then whisk him off to the farm – already bustling with activity. Their first stop is the cutting edge milking parlours and dairy systems – recognised as the international benchmark in the dairy industry – developed by the Local Science Councils in partnership with government and the university. Whilst there, they bump into the Regional Director of Agriculture who quickly takes the opportunity to invite Jean-Pierre to a meeting happening in one of the boardrooms. At the meeting, Jean-Pierre listens in on 7 entrepreneurs finalising contracts for the export of the products. Their companies have been funded via a Public Private Partnership.



## 4 Workshop summary

Valuated Futures Themes in Futures Wheels: Eastern Cape in the year 2050			
Group One	Group Two	Group Three	Group Four
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>IT &amp; communications (1)</li> <li>Dynamic small towns (1)</li> <li>Economic (1)</li> <li>Non-fossil fuels / energy (1)</li> <li>Functional rural (1)</li> <li>Energy (1)</li> <li>Global warming (1)</li> <li>Employment (1)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New York in Engcobo (1)</li> <li>Airports all over (1)</li> <li>Virtual schools (1)</li> <li>Rural Infrastructure: Sports, Road, Telecom (1)</li> <li>Global warming (1)</li> <li>Algae food (1)</li> <li>Robotics (1)</li> <li>Colonies in sea (1)</li> <li>Cultural integration (1)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Province of "education" (1)</li> <li>Privatisation (1)</li> <li>Preferred lifestyle province (1)</li> <li>(Environment / global warming) Eastern Cape back to balance (1)</li> <li>Infrastructure (1)</li> <li>Cashless society (1)</li> <li>Economy (1) (Knowledge, Vibrant, Small business innovation, Private initiative encouraged)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Selling water &amp; energy to the rest of the region (1)</li> <li>Fully developed National Statistical System (NSS) (1)</li> <li>Hydrogen based fuel exports (2)</li> <li>Capacitated &amp; well resourced civil society (2)</li> <li>More stronger and well capacitated local government (2)</li> </ul>
<b>Top Three Issues:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Social (2)</li> <li>Environment (2)</li> <li>Engineering as competitive advantage (3)</li> </ul>	<b>Top Three Issues:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rural / countryside pastoral idealism (2)</li> <li>Wild Coast Park (2)</li> <li>Recycled goods, water (3)</li> </ul>	<b>Top Three Issues:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Basic needs met (2)</li> </ul>	<b>Top Three Issues:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>State providing free quality services for <u>all</u> (3)</li> <li>Economic democracy (4)</li> <li>Eastern Cape food basket: agro-processing and not relying on land (5)</li> </ul>
<b>Focused Substance Area:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engineering</li> <li>Reinterpreted Rural Reality</li> </ol>	<b>Focused Substance Area:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Green Future</li> </ol>	<b>Focused Substance Area:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Basic needs</li> </ol>	<b>Focused Substance Area:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Eastern Cape as the food basket for SADC</li> </ol>

# Annex 1: Agenda for first Provincial Foresight Workshops



## **Agenda for first Provincial Foresight Workshops**

09h30-10h00:	Registration
10h00-11h45:	<p><b><i>Opening Session:</i></b></p> <p>Welcome (Mrs. Nirvashnee Seetal)</p> <p>Background and Targets (Aki Enkenberg)</p> <p>Baseline Data Analysis (Dr. Bob Day)</p> <p>Foresight Grouping Process explained &amp; implemented (Olli Hietanen)</p>
11h45-12h00:	Tea
12h00-13h00:	<p><b><i>First Working Group Session:</i></b></p> <p>Produce “future wheel” for innovation system</p> <p>Identify 2 or 3 most important issues</p>
13h00-14h00:	Lunch
14h00-15h00:	<p><b><i>Second Working Group Session:</i></b></p> <p>Capture ACTVOD responses for each important issue</p>
15h00-15h30:	<p><b><i>Third Working Group Session:</i></b></p> <p>Produce summary story for each issue (based on ACTVOD results)</p>
15h30-15h50:	Tea
15h50-17h30:	<p><b><i>Final Plenary Session:</i></b> (Olli Hietanen)</p> <p>Group report back followed by general discussion</p>
17h30:	Way forward and thanks (Mrs. Nirvashnee Seetal)