

# A LOGISTICAL HUB AS A LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE FOR THE VAAL REGION

by

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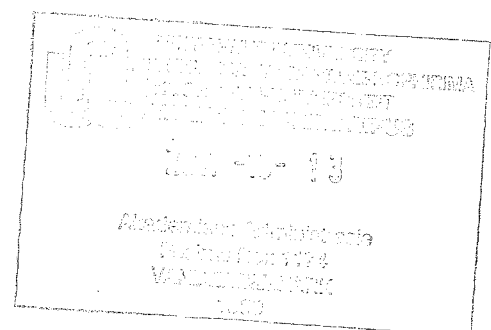
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***“The world that we have made as a result of the level of thinking we have done thus far creates problems that we cannot solve at the same level as they were created.” – Albert Einstein***

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To my Serenity. I owe you so much. For all your patience and belief in me. For all your unflagging support and boundless love. I dedicate this thesis to you, as you are my ultimate inspiration.

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*Om shanti shanti shanti.*

## **ABSTRACT**

The purpose of this thesis was to show that a logistical hub would be a perfect local economic development initiative for the Vaal region given its current level of poverty and unemployment and the potential excess capacity that exists within its dominant industries.

The research methodology applied by the study was twofold. First an analysis of relevant literature relating to the theoretical perspectives regarding local economic development and spatial development initiatives was undertaken. This established the link between the need for an LED initiative within the Vaal region and a possible vehicle for the project, namely an SDI or IDZ. The benefits of industrial clusters were highlighted in order to further establish the need for all three components of the VLH.

A situational analysis of the Vaal region was undertaken in order to determine the extent of poverty and unemployment within the Vaal region. It was found that 53.5% of the Vaal population is unemployed, while 51.6% live below the respective poverty lines for the region. The sectoral analysis indicated that 22% of all employment opportunities within the Vaal originate from manufacturing activities. The secondary economic sector also provides the greatest source of backward and forward industrial linkages and sectoral multipliers available to the region. It was determined that any initiative instituted in the Vaal should be have the secondary sector as its main focal point. The VLH would be established to ensure the sustainable growth of the Vaal's dominant industries.

This study suggests that the VLH would enable local industries to take advantage of the opportunities presented by its proximity to two of South Africa's major trade routes, thereby increasing output and eventually economic growth and development. By using similar projects as a template for the VLH, it can be assumed that the project would generate over R 1 billion in investment revenue and would create between 28 000 and 42 000 direct jobs (those relating to the actual VLH) while 9 000 to 14 000 jobs would be created from the downstream activities located in the VIDZ. There is no question that the VLH would increase LED within the Vaal region.

## OPSOMMING

Die doel van hierdie tesis was te wys dat a logistieke hub 'n perfekte plaaslike ekonomiese ontwikkeling ("local economic developmet" – LED) inisiatief sal wees vir die Vaal gebied gegee die lopende vlak van armoede en werkloosheid en die oordad bekwaamheid wat in die dominant nywerhede bestaan.

Die navorsingsmetodologie was tweevoudig van aard. Eerstens 'n literatuurstudie in verwantskap met die teoretiese perspektiewe van plaaslike ekonomiese ontwikkeling en omgewing ontwikkeling inisiatiewe was geonderneem. Dit het die koppel tussen die nood vir 'n LED inisiatief in die Vaal gebied en 'n middel vir die projek, soos 'n SDI of IDZ te vasstel. Die voordele van industrielekomplekse was beklemtoon om die nood van al drie komponente van die VLH te vasstel.

Tweedens, 'n toestand analyse van die Vaal gebied was geonderneem om die uitgestrektheid van armoede en werkloosheid in die Vaal gebied te bepaal. Van die populasie van die Vaal, 53.5% is werkloos en 51.6% lewe onder die onderskeie armoedsgrens van die gebied. Die sektor analyse dui aan dat 22% van al werk geleenthede in die Vaal gebied is vanaf vervaardigings aktiwiteite. Die sekondêre sektor bepaal die grootste bron van agterlik en voorspeler industriele skakel en sektor vermeningvuldigers beskikbaar vir die gebied. Dit was bepaal dat enige inisiatief wat in die Vaal gevestig word moet die sekondêre sektor as die hoof brandpunt hê. Die VLH sal gevestig word om volhoudende groei van die Vaal se dominant nywerhede.

Hierdie studie voorstel dat die VLH sal plaaslike nywerhede in staat stel om die voordele van die geleenthede aangebied deur die nabyheid van twee van Suid Afrika se hoof handelsroete te gebruik, daardeur styg produksie en ten slotte ekonomiese groei en ontwikkeling. As soortgelyke projekte as 'n patroonplaat vir die VLH gebruik word, dit kan aanvaar word dat die projek oor R 1 biljoen in investering inkomste en tussen 28 000 en 42 000 direkte werk geleenthede en tussen 9 000 tot 14 000 indirekte werk geleenthede van die verbandhoudende aktiwiteite in die VIDZ. Daar is geen vraag dat die VLH LED in die Vaal gebied sal styg.

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## **LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS**

AGOA	:	African Growth and Opportunity Act
ANC	:	African National Congress
ASGISA	:	Accelerated and Shared Growth Initiative for South Africa
BDS	:	Business Development Services
BEE	:	Black Economic Empowerment
CASE	:	Community Agency for Social Enquiry
CBD	:	Central Business District
CBP	:	Community-based Planning
CDC	:	Coega Development Corporation
CPS	:	Current Population Survey
CSA	:	Customs Secure Area
CSIR	:	Council for Scientific and Industrial Research
CSS	:	Central Statistical Service
DEAET	:	Department of Economic Affairs, Environment and Tourism
DFA	:	Development Facilitation Act
DLA	:	Department of Land and Agriculture
DLH	:	Dallas Logistics Hub
DoL	:	Department of Labour
DoT	:	Department of Transport
DPLG	:	Department of Provincial and Local Government

DRC	:	Detroit Regional Chamber
DTI	:	Department of Trade and Industry
EAP	:	Economically Active Population
EIA	:	Economic Impact Assessment
ELIDZ	:	East London Industrial Development Zone
ELM	:	Emfuleni Local Municipality
EMA	:	Emfuleni Municipal Area
ETU	:	Education Training Unit
FPB	:	Federal Planning Bureau
FDI	:	Foreign Direct Investment
GDP	:	Gross Domestic Product
GDS	:	Growth and Development Strategy
GEAR	:	Growth, Employment and Redistribution
GGLN	:	Good Governance Learning Network
GGP	:	Gross Geographical Product
GVC	:	Global Value Chain
HSRC	:	Human Sciences Research Council
ICD	:	Inland Container Depot
IDP	:	Integrated Development Plan
IDZ	:	Industrial Development Zone
ILO	:	International Labour Organisation

IRDS	:	Integrated Rural Development Strategy
IRI	:	International Republican Institute
IISI	:	International Iron and Steel Institute
ISO	:	International Standard for Organisation
LBSC	:	Local Business Support Centre
LDO	:	Land Development Objectives
LED	:	Local Economic Development
LFS	:	Labour Force Survey
LGTA	:	Local Government Transition Act
MERCOSUR	:	Mercado Común del Sur
MDG	:	Millennium Development Goals
MLM	:	Midvaal Local Municipality
MMA	:	Metsimaholo Municipal Area
MSA	:	Moving South Africa
NBI	:	National Business Initiative
NEPAD	:	New Partnership for Africa's Development
NFLS	:	National Freight Logistics Survey
NFMF	:	National Freight Monitoring Framework
NGO	:	Non-government Organisation
NSDP	:	National Spatial Development Perspective
OECD	:	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

OHS	:	October Household Survey
PPP	:	Public-private Partnership
PWV	:	Pretoria/Witwatersrand/Vereeniging
RDC	:	Regional Development Corridor
RDF	:	Rural Development Framework
RDP	:	Reconstruction and Development Programme
SADC	:	Southern African Development Community
SAISI	:	South African Iron and Steel Institute
SALEDN	:	South African Local Economic Development Network
SBA	:	Small Business Associations
SDI	:	Spatial Development Initiatives
SEIIP	:	Strategic Economic Infrastructure Investment Programme
SEZ	:	Special Economic Zone
SIC	:	Standard Industrial Classification
SMME	:	Small, Medium and Micro Enterprises
SOE	:	State-owned Enterprises
Stats SA	:	Statistics South Africa
SWOT	:	Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats
TAFF	:	Transvaal Association of Freight Forwarders
TEU	:	Twenty-foot equivalent
TIS	:	Trade and Industry Strategy

UK	:	United Kingdom
UN	:	United Nations
UNCDF	:	United Nations Capital Development Fund
UNCTAD	:	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNIDO	:	United Nations Industrial Development Organisation
USA	:	United States of America
URS	:	Urban Renewal Strategy
VIA	:	Vaal International Airport
VICD	:	Vaal Inland Container Depot
VIDZ	:	Vaal Industrial Development Zone
VLH	:	Vaal Logistical Hub
VRG	:	Vaal Research Group
WEFA	:	Wharton Economic Forecasting Associates
WSA	:	World Steel Association
WTO	:	World Trade Organisation