



Examining the Role of Community Based Tourism as a Local Economic Development tool: The Case of the Inanda Heritage Route.

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ABSTRACT

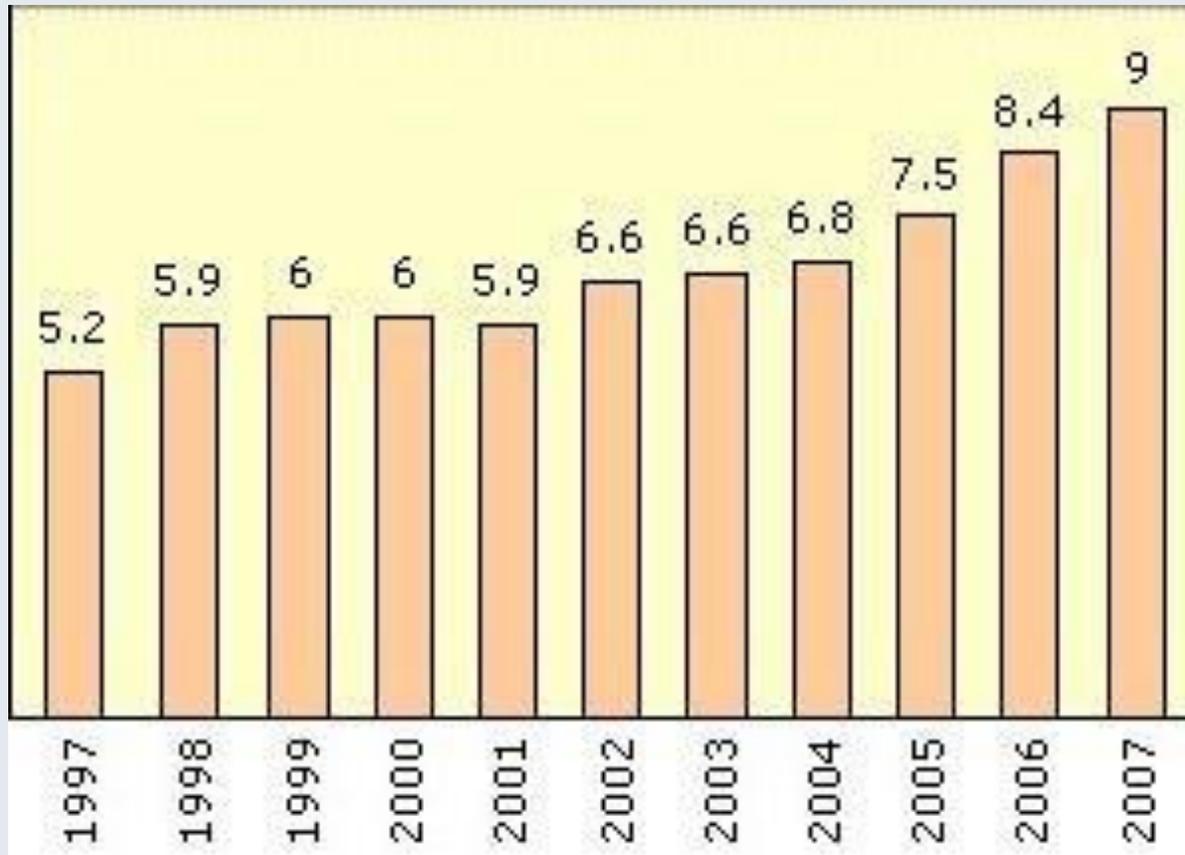
- This dissertation examines the role of Community Based Tourism as a Local Economic Development tool. It sought to establish the impact of Local Economic Development (LED) strategies employed by the Inanda Ntuzuma KwaMashu Area Based Management program (INK ABM) in alleviating poverty in Inanda Township through their living Heritage Site. It attempts to establish whether Community Based Tourism has had an impact on the economic empowerment of communities residing within the Inanda Heritage Route. Poverty Social and Impact Assessment was used in the assessment.



Introduction

- Tourism has become one of the largest and fastest growing industries in South Africa (Garth: 2010).
- Contributes social and economic development
- In 1994, the year of South Africa's first democratic only 3.9-million foreign visitors arrived in the country and by 2004, international arrivals had more than doubled to 6.7-million and in 2007 a total of 9.07-million foreigners visited South Africa - an 8.3% increase over 2006.
- Figure 1: International tourist arrivals (in millions)

Figure 1



Source: Department of Tourism: 2007

Community Based Tourism

- The White Paper on the Development and Promotion of Tourism (1996), states that Community Based Tourism (CBT) is a key tool for creating a sustainable tourism industry.
- Sustainable tourism in South Africa is aimed at integrating all the diversity (rural and urban areas) and the uniqueness of the country.
- The focus on tourism attractions is generally located in townships, peri-urban and rural areas.
- Community Based Tourism (CBT) therefore allows spatially disadvantaged communities to share the benefits of tourism development and growth, promoting a more balanced and sustainable form of development (DEAT, 1996).



Motivation of Study

- The motivation for undertaking this research is attributed to a number of questions and concerns that relate to the high levels of poverty and the stagnant economic growth within South Africa's Townships.
- The challenges of small towns, it is argued, must be addressed in order to facilitate rural development and improve the quality of life of people in the surrounding villages and township Adatia (2011).

- The motivation also lies in understanding the extent to which CBT can successfully stimulate LED and can economically empower and alleviate poverty for communities residing along the Inanda Heritage Route which comprises of settlements of historical, political and cultural values, and these include:
 - i. The Gandhi's Phoenix Settlement
 - ii. The Shembe Settlement of Ekuphakameni
 - iii. Ohlange Institute
 - iv. Inanda Seminary
 - v. Shembe Settlement of Ebuhleni
 - vi. Inanda Dam

- The broad question to be asked is to what extent has Community Based Tourism provided Local Economic Development?
- What are the institutional structures which help in the management of the tourist facilities and what is their relationship with the local communities?
- What are the major tourist attractions along the Inanda Heritage Route?
- What role does the community play in running, maintaining and operating the tourist attractions?
- To what extent has tourist expenditure impacted on poverty reduction along the Inanda Heritage Route?

Conclusion

- Community Based Tourism has had a significant impact in upgrading infrastructure and improving household access to basic services in Inanda Township.
- There has been infrastructure upgrade along the Inanda Heritage Route which includes the building of tourist accommodations in forms Bed and Breakfast facilities, the refurbishing of tourist back packers sites and also the building of a new town center nearby (Bridge City).
- Likewise the proportion of households with access in basic services such as (electricity, sanitation and refuse removal is over 70% in Inanda.





KNOW YOUR CITY INANDA ROUTE

The Inanda Heritage Route offers unique cultural and heritage experience to Durban's most important historical sites. The key attractions covered along the Route include:

STOP 1 - PHOENIX SETTLEMENT
Phoenix Settlement is where Mahatma Gandhi resided. It is here that Gandhi started his notation of Satyagraha and non-violent resistance.

STOP 2 - SHEMBE SETTLEMENT OF EKUPHAKAMENI
'Ekuphakameni' is the original site of the Shembe Church (formally known as the Nazareth) founded by prophet Isaiah Shembe.

STOP 3 - OHLANGE INSTITUTE
The Ohlange Institute founded by the Rev Dr. John Dube and first opened its doors in 1901. Dube was an educationalist, editor and also one of the founders of the ANC and its first president. He also founded Natal's first African newspaper Ilanga LaseNatal in 1903 and

THE INANDA SEMINARY FOR GIRLS

The Inanda Seminary for Girls was the first school for African girls in the Natal province. It was founded in 1869 by American missionaries and is the oldest girls' college boarding school in Southern Africa. The school was founded by American missionaries and is the oldest girls' college boarding school in Southern Africa.

Mary Kelly Edwards

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