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Renewal of Small Town Economies: The Case of Alice, Eastern Cape Province, South Africa

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LOCAL BUSINESS – DATA PRESENTATION

1. Property ownership of Business

Property occupation	Percentage
Rent	89
Own	11

2. Type of Business

Restaurant or take away food	3
Grocery store	7
Fuel station	2
Manufacturing firm	-
Furniture	3
Salon	1
Liquor store	3
Other (Hardware; clothing; fruit & veg.; farmers co-op; butchery; cosmetic)	11

3. Description of business entity

Sole trader	7
Close Corporation	3
Co-operative	0
Partnership	6
Company	13
Other /(Trust;)	1

4. Form Registration and Category of Business Entity

Manufacturing	0
Franchise	2
Distribution agent	0
Retailing	26
Wholesaling	2

5. Period of Business Operation

-1 year	3
1 - 2 years	5
3 – 5 years	3
6 – 10 years	8
+10 years	11

6. Employment and number of personnel

Number of employees	15/ 13/ 4/ 11/ 11 /9 /4 /7 /5 /14 /3 /8 /14

	/8 /22 /4 /48 /12 /24 /**25** /7 /13 /9 /6 /2 /5 /3 /4 /5/-/-

7. Advantages of operating business in Alice

Customer Loyalty	24
Quality and supply of labour	8
Quality of life the area offers	10
Close to employee' home and Families	6
Reliable transport services	1
Other (good pricing; support of university. students & less crime; niche market-quality leather shoes;)	3

Businesses identified more than one advantage

8. Disadvantages of operating business in Alice

Time/distance from other markets	10
Time/distance from suppliers	11
Transport costs	1
Communication costs	
Small size of local labour	4
Lack of local support	3
Shortage of skilled labour	5
Narrow range of business services	4
Poor service of other local business	2
Slow growth of local markets	10
Lack of suitable housing	5
Other (theft; too many other grocery shops; lack of industries;)	3

Businesses identified more than one disadvantage

9. Products purchased outside Alice but could be produced or manufactured locally

- Furniture X 1
- Blocks, timbers, poles, doors X 1
- Beverage & Cosmetics X 1
- Meat X 1
- Meat for butchery, fruit and vegetable X 1
- Cosmetics X 11
- Chicken farm or meat products X 11
- No idea X 1111111111
- Wholesale X 1
- No factories in Alice X1
- Clothing firms X 1
- Firms for Blanket, shoes, running shoes X 1
- Maize X 1
- Fresh vegetable produce X 11
- Shoes X 1

- Don't know X 11

10. Are there any services or products which you have considered providing or manufacturing locally, but did not proceed with the idea?

Yes	6
No	24

11. List of services, products and reasons for non-delivery or proceeding

- Manufacturing of lounge suites- inability to supply :1
- No response :13
- Trye, exhaust, shocks, repairs- lack of finance ; 1
- Clothing- lack of finance ; 2
- None : 5
- N/A : 6
- Chicken products and vegetable /fruit- finance : 2

12. Perceived business and services that could be successful in Alice

- KFC or Spur : 2
- Other clothing shops : 7
- Firms for producing shoes : 3
- Furniture Manufacturing : 4
- Entertainment : 4
- Butchery : 4
- Accommodation : 2
- Gymnasium : 2
- Vegetable market (fruit) : 3

13. Action needed from Local Government or businesses association to assist in development of Alice businesses

- Completion of RDP houses project in Alice : 2
- Organised Business Chamber : 3
- Renovation of building and streets : 7
- Improve infrastructure and properties : 2
- Training on business related issues : 2
- Information centre : 2
- Review business permits and rent : 3
- Government subsidy to small local business : 3
- Nothing : 2
- Don't know : 5