

Herbanisation

*Enhancing conservation, economic
and cultural inclusiveness*

Leif Petersen
and
Neville van Schalkwyk



Sustainable
Livelihoods
Foundation

This presentation



- Background
- Herbanisation – gardens and dialogue
- Making all Voices Count
- **Digital Stories**
 - Benji
 - Neville
 - Joseph
 - Leif
- Neville van Schalkwyk
- **Guidelines launch** for inclusive greening

Background



Unique biodiversity



Poverty



Indigenous culture



Legality and Criminality



Background



- SLF investigates the urban informal (cash) economy
- Wild-gathered natural resources trade = R180 million per year / 1,100 tonnes of material traded in Cape Town
- Herbanisation (2012/16) - a living experiment to evaluate alternative wild medicine supply with the BossieDoktor community
- Note: *we are not politically aligned with any revolutionary / counter-revolutionary groups!*

Herbanisation – open access medicinal plant street gardens



- Funded by TMF + Rufford Small Grants
- 4,500 plants 30 spp. (25 indigenous)
- Propagated, planted and maintained by Bossie Doktor and local community members
- Three urban streetgarden sites (*Seawinds, Retreat, Military Heights, + support to Muizenberg Park rehab*)



Herbanisation – dialogue and learning



Workshops, interviews, and debate to learn different “ways of knowing” nature + 12 educational groups – SA + International Universities (USA, Germany)



Translating Complex Realities through Technology: Lessons about government responsiveness in South Africa



MAKING ALL VOICES COUNT

A GRAND CHALLENGE FOR DEVELOPMENT

Developments in technology and innovation mean that government and citizens can interact like never before.

Globally, citizens have fast-increasing access to tools that enable them to monitor government performance and express their views on government performance in real time.

Making All Voices Count is about seizing this moment to promote transparency, fight corruption, empower citizens, and harness the power of new technologies to make government more effective and accountable.



MAVC – Bossie Doktor “digital stories”



- April 2016
- Eight *Bossie Doktors*
- One week process
- Accessible cameras / IT tools / support
- Personal storytelling for 3-4 minute perspectives
- Project seeks one-on-one feedback on your impressions

Four personal, powerful stories of perspective, insight, and reflection...

Benji

– The Road for Rasta

Neville van Schalkwyk

– Mom

Joseph Johnson

– We and Them

Leif Petersen

– Gaps Between Stones



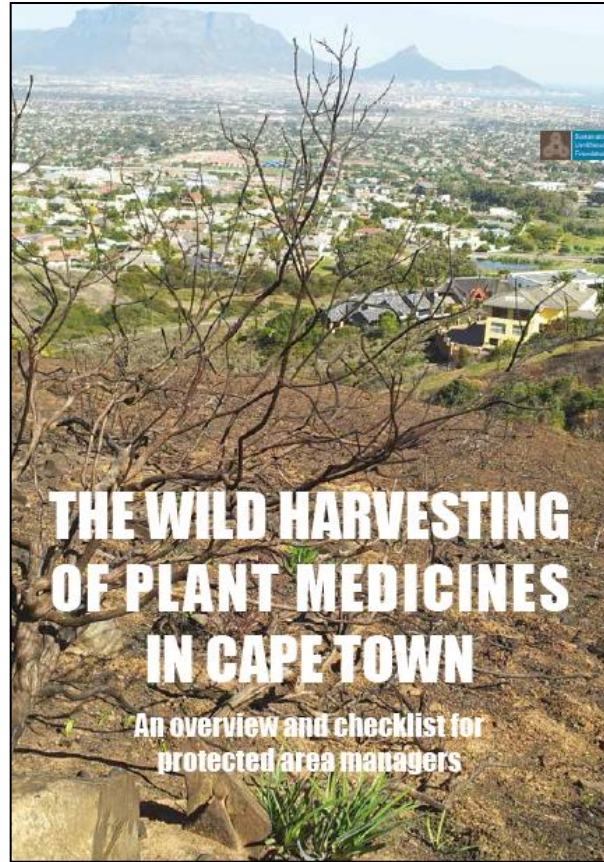
- *BossieDoktors - who we are*
- *Why we are BossieDoktors*
- *The importance of herbs and how they relate to the indigenous people of the Western Cape*
- *The need for collaboration*
- *Herbanisation – how does the community benefit*
- *The guidelines...*



Sharing knowledge for enhanced sustainability and inclusivity

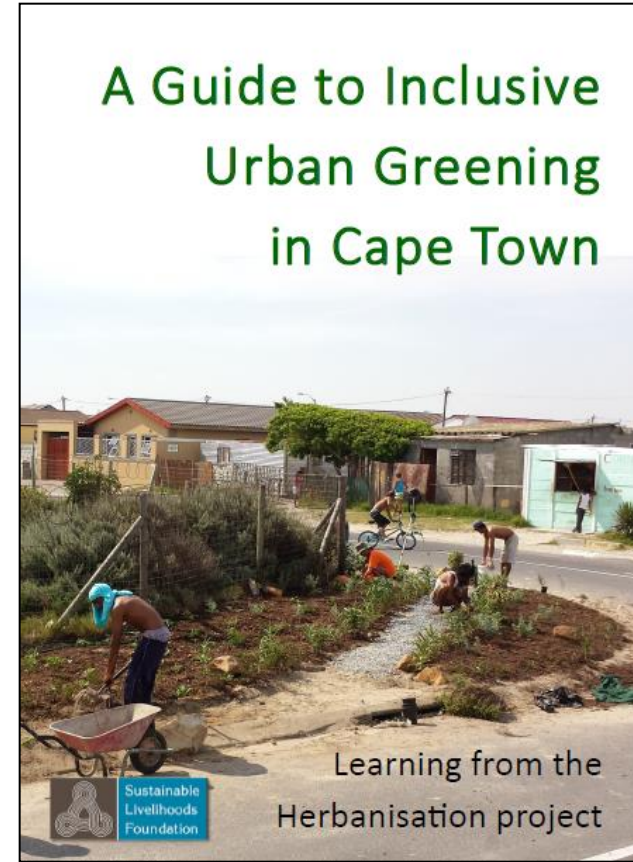


The Informal Economy of Wild Harvested Traditional Medicine in Cape Town



THE WILD HARVESTING OF PLANT MEDICINES IN CAPE TOWN

An overview and checklist for protected area managers



A Guide to Inclusive Urban Greening in Cape Town

Learning from the Herbanisation project



A guide to inclusive greening

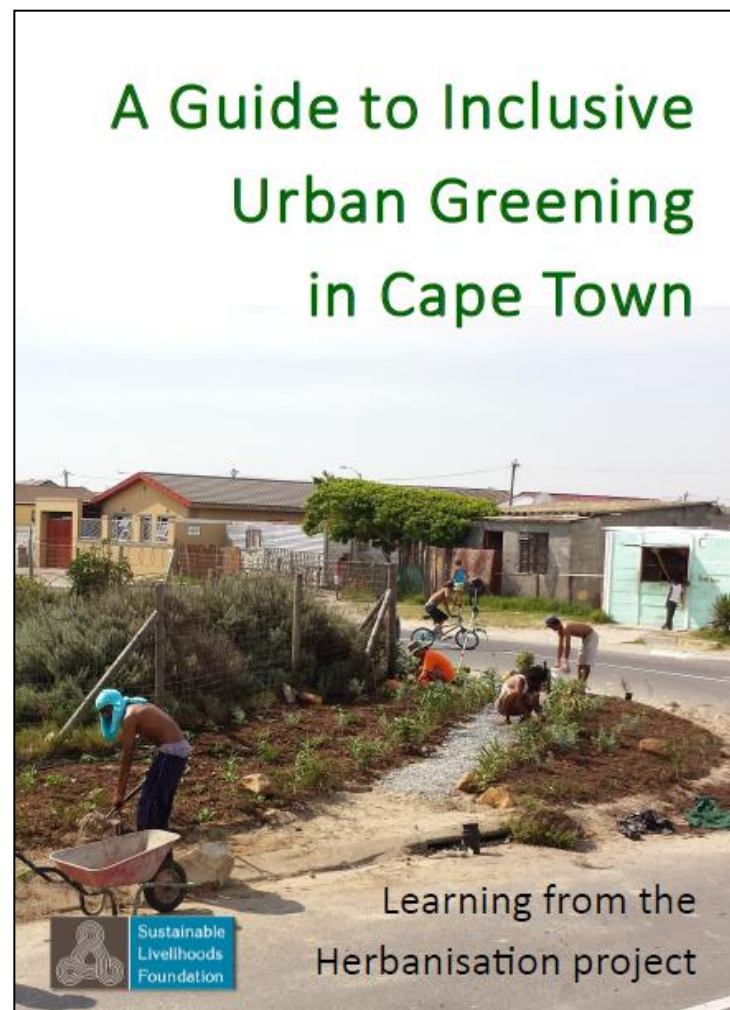


Reflecting stakeholders, these **practical** guidelines allow conservation / parks / land managers to work towards **enhancing inclusiveness** in conservation

While developed for Cape Town, there is **applicability throughout the fynbos biome and beyond urban areas**

Document outlines;

- Problem situation,
- Pilot background,
- Working with stakeholders,
- Key lessons,
- Planting guide,
- Readings.



A guide to inclusive greening

Key lessons for urban greening

- *Work with local champions*
- *Respect flows and existing patterns*
- *Nurture relationships*
- *Community centred design and relevance*
- *Maintenance*

We hope these guidelines practically bridge gaps in perspectives between stakeholders

Successional Planting Scheme

PIONEER PLANTS

Pioneer plants are used to establish gardens. These help secure the soil while providing shade for soil organisms and creating a wind-break for more sensitive plants. Ample compost and mulch are key to building good soil.

First layer plants (wind resistant pioneer shrubs):



SECOND AND THIRD YEAR PLANTS

These plants are to be added to gardens in the second and third year after pioneers are established. With such a scheme, additional maintenance and watering should not be required after the third year, except for occasional trimming of plants. Thereafter, more sensitive indigenous and naturalised plants may be added.

Second layer plants (shrubs and feature plants for interplanting):



Aloe ferox (bitter aloe) 4m

Buddleja salviifolia (sagewood) 2-4m

scans
7m

poratus
3m

A conservation economy opportunity?



Whilst not a silver bullet, Herbanisation has demonstrated potential for meeting conservation, economic and cultural objectives.

Imagine;

EPWP investment

Indigenous plant nurseries (Govt / B-Doktor)

(Conservation funding!)

Planting teams rehabilitating degraded habitats / buffer zones

(Habitat rehabilitation!)

Informal economy wild harvest opportunities

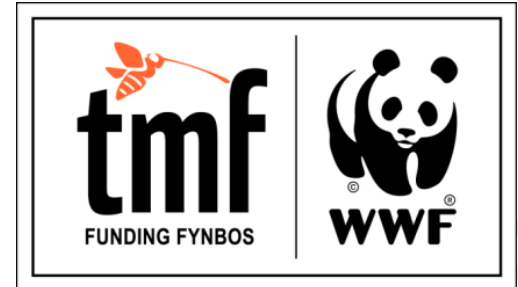
(Inclusive conservation economy!)

Direct poverty relief to SA's poorest households!

Thankyou!



** MAVC – we would welcome one-on-one feedback on the role of technology for inclusion during the FF!*



A GRAND CHALLENGE FOR DEVELOPMENT