



IUCN
WORLD PARKS
CONGRESS
SYDNEY 2014

*Parks, people, planet:
inspiring solutions*

Living Outside the Fence:

Opportunities for neighbouring communities to supply products and services to the Sabi Sand Game Reserve, South Africa

Authors:

Andrew Rylance

andrewrylance@gmail.com

Dr. Anna Spenceley

annaspenceley@gmail.com

Funded by: the Travel Foundation

(www.thetravelfoundation.org.uk)

Supported by Sabi Sand Game Reserve

Management and Operators

(www.sabisand.co.za)

Paper Overview

- Aim to understand opportunities for stimulating **local enterprise development** within the **tourism supply chain** in the Sabi Sand Game Reserve, neighbouring the Kruger National Park.
- **Quantifies the value** of current procurement spend by lodges on local products and services and estimates their **potential future expenditure**.
- Provides insights into relationships between private lodges, game reserves and local communities in South Africa.



Communities living next to the game reserve fence line



Local Thatcher

Sabi Sand Private Game Reserve (SSGR)



Source: GTZ (2010:3)

- Realised that incorporating communities into SSGR supply chains is critical to addressing socio-economic wildlife pressures.
- Micro level case study with macro level lessons.



Why the initiative works?

- Strong tourism demand exists because **responsible private sector operators** offer a quality product
- **Demand driven** initiative with solid market research
- Initiative builds relationships between lodges and communities based on **solid business principles**
- Draws of **experience transfer** between private sector and community businesses



Why is tourism important for PAs?

- Sharing the **economic benefits of wildlife** areas with communities neighbouring protected areas is essential for long-term buy-in to conservation.
- Critical to develop a **legitimate wildlife economy** to compete with the illegal animal product market.
- In areas of high poverty levels if benefits of legitimate business activities outweigh those from illegal activities, **poaching levels reduce**.