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# WORKSHOP ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 30X30 PROTECTED AREAS TARGET

6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2023

# WORKSHOP SUMMARY REPORT

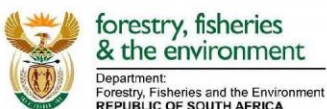
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# WORKSHOP ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF 30x30

## WORKSHOP SUMMARY REPORT

### Implementation of 30% by 2030 Technical Planning Workshop

*Identifying specific options, resourcing needs and action steps for expansion of effective protection in terrestrial and marine realms to deliver South Africa's contribution to 30% by 2030*

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<b>Dates:</b>	2,5-day workshop: Tuesday, 6 <sup>th</sup> June at 12:00pm to Thursday, 8 June 2023 at 15:30pm
<b>Venue:</b>	Silverleaf Room, Birchwood Hotel & OR Tambo Conference Centre, Boksburg, Gauteng
<b>Participants:</b>	133 representatives from: DFFE Oceans & Coasts, Biodiversity & Conservation, Forestry, Working Group 1, Management Authorities, Provinces, Entities, Traditional Leaders, Conservation NGOs and Implementing partners.
<b>Chairperson:</b>	Flora Mokgohloa
<b>Facilitator:</b>	Justin Kiley, Create Consulting
<b>Technical Consultants:</b>	Mark Botha & Rosanne Stanway
<b>Donors:</b>	Made possible with funding support from the DFFE, WILDTRUST, Oceans 5, Campaign for Nature, The Nature Conservancy, The Sustainable Finance Coalition

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This report sets out to capture a summary of the technical planning workshop that was held in Gauteng over 2,5-days on the 6<sup>th</sup> to the 8<sup>th</sup> June 2023 which brought together multiple sectors to begin the process of identifying the challenges, opportunities, priorities, resourcing needs and action steps for the expansion of effective protection in the terrestrial and marine realms to deliver on South Africa's contribution to the Kunming-Montreal GBF Target 3 30% by 2030.

### WORKSHOP BACKGROUND

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South Africa, as a Party to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), supports Target 3 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (30X30 target) and is committed to expanding and enhancing its conservation areas to the maximum possible within its national capabilities and circumstances. In South Africa, the global biodiversity framework will be implemented within the four goals of the White Paper on Conservation and Sustainable Use of South Africa's Biodiversity (Conservation, Sustainable Use, Fair and equitable sharing of benefits and Transformation) to fulfil the vision of the White Paper. South Africa's Natural Capital Accounts (2020) show that protection currently sits at 9.2% of the terrestrial environment and 5.4% of the marine environment (Updated data shows 9.89% terrestrial in 2023). South Africa's approved National Protected Areas Expansion Strategy (NPAES) provides a provincially informed systematic approach on the expansion of the conservation estate with an annual increase target of 0.5%. At this rate, South Africa will only reach 28% by 2036 for its terrestrial systems, and 10% by 2036 for its marine realm. Current annual progress is closer to 0.1%. For South Africa to contribute meaningfully to 30x30, the actions set out in Target 3 to expand and enhance our conservation estate need to be initiated immediately and with increased ambition and expedited pace, supported by commensurate resources from multiple funding routes.



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## WORKSHOP PURPOSE

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Despite the challenges faced in the current conservation estate there are opportunities to contribute significantly to the achievement of 30x30. The purpose of this workshop was therefore to provide a starting point for exploring this possibility and moving away from the debate of whether 30x30 is the appropriate target to halt biodiversity loss but to focus on how it can be effectively implemented to reduce biodiversity loss and put biodiversity in a path to recovery by 2030.

The intention of the workshop was to create a space for representatives from the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) Oceans & Coast, Biodiversity & Conservation and Forestry divisions; NGOs convened through an NGO Collaborative and the IUCN National Committee; Working Group 1; Management Authorities; Provinces; Entities; and CONTRALESA to collaborate on a strategy that will enable South Africa to best contribute to the implementation of this ambitious target.

## WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES

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The objectives of the workshop were:

1. Reach consensus among key stakeholders of the 30x30 process on key mechanisms for achieving Target 3.
2. Identify the challenges to achieving protection across various categories.
3. Identify the opportunities for new protection across various categories.
4. Identify and prioritize focus areas for action in the short term (1-3 years) and medium term (3-5 years) across various categories.
5. To develop an Action Plan for achievement of 30X30.
6. To identify finance needs and gaps for expansion, and pathways to explore these.

## WORKSHOP DETAILS

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The workshop was held from the 6<sup>th</sup> to the 8<sup>th</sup> of June 2023 in the Silverleaf Room at the Birchwood Hotel and O.R. Tambo Conference Centre in Boksburg, Gauteng and was enabled with funding support received from DFFE, Campaign for Nature, WILDTRUST, Oceans 5, The Nature Conservancy, and the Sustainable Finance Coalition.

In preparation for the workshop two informal working groups were established made up of a collaboration between DFFE and NGO representatives: 1) a Logistics and Organising Working Group which focused on the organising of the event, and 2) a Content Reference Working Group which focused on the fine-tuning of the concept note, the development of the 2,5-day programme, and the pre-work required in advance of the workshop.

The workshop was facilitated by Justin Kiley from Create Consulting, with support from Danielle Stephenson, who brought their expertise in creating a space for best thinking and collaborative conversations. Justin was responsible for holding the flow of the workshop over the 2,5 days.

Technical expertise was provided by independent consultants Mark Botha and Rosanne Stanway, contracted through the WILDTRUST, who steered the content output for the workshop including the preparatory work as well as the Terms of Reference to guide the thematic mechanisms during the breakaway sessions. A Framework for Discussion document was developed by Mark Botha and shared prior to the workshop to set the context and provide useful references and resource links for understanding the current state of protection in South Africa.

## WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS

A total of 258 representatives were invited from various organisations including DFFE, NGOs, CONTRALESA, academia, youth and civil society. Of this a total of 133 participants attended the workshop over the 2,5-days.

The below table shows the number of attendees per organisation type per day. \*\*

Organisation	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3
Academia	3	3	1
Civil Society	4	2	3
CONTRALESA	6	5	4
Government	73	62	45
NGOs	40	22	22
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>75</b>

\*\* Based on those who registered daily with the DFFE online registration system

\*\*\* Please refer to the workshop document link for the full list of invitees and participants

## WORKSHOP STRUCTURE

### DAY ONE: Tuesday, 6<sup>th</sup> June 2023, 12:00 pm – 17:00 pm

The first day of the workshop was dedicated to defining the workshop objectives and the intended outcomes, laying a foundation for the following two days. It started with contextualising of the background on protected area expansion and the link to the White Paper, as well as the planning processes that are currently underway across various sectors. The vision for the workshop was set through a plenary panel of representatives from a cross sector of organisations by highlighting South Africa's current progress, what we have already done well and how we can do more of it. The participants were guided by the facilitator to create a platform for effective collaboration which encouraged a best thinking approach.

PROGRAMME: DAY ONE: TUESDAY, 6 <sup>th</sup> JUNE 2023		
12:00 LUNCH		
13:00	Facilitator Welcome and Introductions	Facilitator: Justin Kiley
13:15	Opening Remarks	Flora Mokgohloa
13:45	Introduction & Purpose of Meeting	Stanley Tshitwamulomoni
14:15	Create Platform for effective Collaboration & Discussion:	Facilitator: Justin Kiley
14:45	Plenary Panel: What we have done well and how do we do more of it?	Mark Gerrard (Moderator) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Karl Naude (DFFE)</li> <li>Steve Kirkman (DFFE)</li> <li>Greg Martindale (Conservation Outcomes)</li> <li>Jenifer Zungu (SANBI)</li> <li>Yonela Sipeka (ERS)</li> </ul>
15:15	TEA	
15:30	SANParks' 2040 Vision, and GEF8 Learnings	SANParks: Kristal Maze
15:50	What other planning processes must we be cognisant of?	DFFE O&C: Steve Kirkman
16:00	What other planning processes must we be cognisant of?	SANBI: Jeff Manuel
16:10	Scene setting, Co-lead Introductions & Breakaway Session Objectives	Consultant: Mark Botha
16:55	Day One Review, Wrap-up & Close	Facilitator: Justin Kiley
17:00	Day One CLOSE	
18:00	DINNER	

On Day One, Technical consultant, Mark Botha, prepared the participants for the breakaway sessions that would commence the following day, by clarifying certain concepts and definitions and introducing the thematic mechanisms and co-leads for each group. Each group was assigned two youth representatives – someone to assist with scribing for the plenary feedback presentation, and someone to assist with taking minutes of the discussion that took place during the breakaway sessions.

The breakaway groups covered the four major conservation thematic mechanisms as follows:

**Group A: Terrestrial Protected Areas (including Stewardship Nature Reserves & PEs)**

Co-lead: Karl Naude (DFFE), Greg Martindale (Conservation Outcomes), Jeffery Manuel (SANBI)  
Secretariat: Mark Gerrard (Conservation Strategy Fund)  
Rapporteur: Greg Martindale (Conservation Outcomes)  
Scribe: Xolisile Miya (Y4MPAs)  
Minutes: Innocent Ludere (DFFE Intern)

**Group B: Marine Protected Areas, Estuaries and OECMs**

Co-leads: Steve Kirkman (DFFE), Lara van Niekerk (CSIR), Jean Harris (WILDTRUST)  
Secretariat: Jean Harris (WILDTRUST)  
Technical Team: Stephen Holness (TECH CONSULTANT), Nina Faure-Beaulieu (WILDTRUST)  
Rapporteur: Lara Van Niekerk (CSIR)  
Scribe: Samantha Hofmeyr (Y4MPAs)  
Minutes: Attendaho Maige (DFFE Intern)

**Group C: Strategic Water Source Areas / Catchment Areas / Forest Reserves & State Forest Exit Land**

Co-leads: Stanley Tshitwamulomoni (DFFE), Jenifer Zungu (SANBI); Louise Stafford (TNC)  
Secretariat: Mark Botha (TECHNICAL CONSULTANT)  
Rapporteur: Nduduzo Sheshane (WT Youth), Wiseman Tseisa (DFFE Intern), Mark Botha  
Scribe: Nduduzo Sheshane (WT Youth)  
Minutes: Wiseman Tseisa (DFFE Intern)

**Group D: Category 2 Non- PA Stewardship Sites (including OECMs, some conservation areas, sustainable use tools)**

Co-leads: Pamela Kershaw (DFFE), Natasha Wilson (SANBI), Melissa Whitecross (BLSA), Peter Shisani (CSA), Candice Stevens (WFA)  
Secretariat: Rosanne Stanway (TECHNICAL CONSULTANT)  
Rapporteur: Melissa Whitecross (BLSA) / Matsobane Malebatja (Y4MPAs)  
Scribe: Matsobane Malebatja (Y4MPAs)  
Minutes: Dina Khulumalo (DFFE Intern)

\*\*\* Please refer to the workshop document link for the [Day 1 Plenary and Panel Presentations](#)

## DAY TWO: Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> June 2023, 08:00 am - 17:00 pm

With the foundation laid, the second day of the workshop was dedicated to identifying the challenges to achieving expansion, and the opportunities for expansion that would take us closer to the 30x30 target. The day was divided into two breakaway and plenary feedback sessions. The first breakaway session focused on identifying the challenges that block the expansion of protected areas, and the solutions to address and unblock these challenges. The second breakaway session explored the opportunities that exist for new protected areas and other conservation measures, as well as to build further solutions to identified obstacles. The four thematic groups identified candidate areas that could be utilised to increase the expansion of protected areas through alignment of existing processes and agendas, as well as potential easy wins and short-term goals. Each thematic group had approximately two hours to discuss and deliberate the topics before presenting feedback to the main plenary.

PROGRAMME: DAY TWO: WEDNESDAY, 7 <sup>th</sup> JUNE 2023		
08:00	Open, Welcome & Day One Recap	Sibusiso Bukhosini (Isimangaliso CEO)
08:45	Breakaway Session 1: <u>Challenges &amp; Blockages to achieving Expansion</u>	Protected Area Category Leads
10:15	TEA (30 MIN)	
10:45	Breakaway Session 1- Plenary Presentations:	Protected Area Category Rapporteurs: Group A: Greg Martindale Group B: Lara van Niekerk Group C: Nduduzo Sheshane & Wiseman Tseisa Group D: Melissa Whitecross
12:15	LUNCH (60 MINS)	
13:15	Breakaway Session 2: <u>Opportunities for new Protected Areas</u>	
15:15	TEA (15 MINS)	
15:30	Breakaway Session 2- Plenary Presentations:	Protected Area Category Rapporteurs: Group A: Greg Martindale Group B: Lara van Niekerk Group C: Mark Botha Group D: Melissa Whitecross
16:30	Day Two Closing Remarks	Deshni Pillay (SANBI)
16:45	Day Two Review, Wrap-up & Close	Facilitator: Justin Kiley
17:00	Day Two CLOSE	

\*\*\* Please refer to the workshop document link for the [Day 2 Plenary and Thematic Mechanism Breakaway Session Feedback Presentations](#)



### DAY THREE: Thursday, 8<sup>th</sup> June 2023, 08:30 am -15:30 pm

On the third day of the workshop, the focus shifted to prioritising the key activities required to achieve the expansion opportunities identified and how best to access resources for these. During the final breakaway session, participants summarised the challenges and solutions, the key approaches and opportunities as well as prioritised the focus areas that are implementable in the short term. The groups then identified the lead and supporting organisations per priority and assessed the resources required to achieve expansion through the lens of the conservation finance and resourcing framework. In addition, each group noted the estimated % contribution to protection that the priorities could enable. Each thematic group discussed and deliberated for three hours before presenting their feedback to the main plenary. The information presented by the thematic groups were collated to create a high-level synthesis output which highlighted the actions needed to move forward beyond the workshop and was presented by Dr Tsepang Makholela.

In closing DDG Flora Mokgohloa invited Kgosi Nyalala Pilane, Deputy-president of CONTRALESA, to say a few words. He welcomed the chance for CONTRALESA to be involved in the workshop, indicating that conservation is the ultimate priority for rural communities, and that in working together the 30x30 target was well within reach.

DDG Flora Mokgohloa closed the workshop by thanking those that had made the workshop possible and reiterating the countries commitment to achieving expansion towards the 30x30 target. She acknowledged that we have the foundation in place as well as enough data and science. In addition, we have identified the low-hanging fruit – and now just need to deliver on these. She emphasized that in order to achieve this we will need all hands on deck and will need to ensure that we be more inclusive of spiritual and cultural groups, gender and the youth.

PROGRAMME: DAY THREE: THURSDAY, 8 <sup>th</sup> JUNE 2023		
08:30	Open, welcome & Day Two Recap	Adv Radia Razack (DFFE)
08:15	Revised Format for Breakaway Session 3	Jean Harris (WILDTRUST)
08:55	Conservation Finance and Resourcing Framework	Candice Stevens (SFA)
09:00	<b>Breakaway Session 3:</b> <b>1. Prioritise key activities required to achieve expansion.</b> <b>2. Identify the Resources Required to Achieve Expansion using the Conservation Finance and Resourcing Framework</b>	Protected Area Category Leads
10:30	TEA (15 MIN)	
10:45	Breakaway Session 3: CONTINUED	Protected Area Category Leads
12:15	LUNCH (60 MIN)	
13:15	Breakaway Session 3 - Plenary Presentations:	Protected Area Category Rapporteurs: Group A: Greg Martindale Group B: Lara van Niekerk Group C: Nduduzo Sheshane & Wiseman Tseisa Group D: Matsobane Malebatja
14:15	Plenary Presentation: <b>High-level View/Synthesis of Workshop Findings and Next Steps &amp; Way Forward for this process</b>	Tsepang Makholela
15:00	Closing Remarks	Kgosi Nyalala Pilane (CONTRALESA, Deputy-President)
15:15	Thank you & Closure	Flora Mokgohloa
15:30	Day Three & Workshop CLOSE	

\*\*\* Please refer to the workshop document link for the [Day 3 Plenary and Thematic Mechanism Breakaway Session Feedback Presentations](#)

## HIGH-LEVEL WORKSHOP OUTPUT

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Dr Tsepang Makholela presented a synthesised view of the workshop output, highlighting the immediate, short-term and medium to long-term actions needed to move forward beyond the workshop. These actions included the following:

### IMMEDIATE TECHNICAL ACTIONS:

- Compile a workshop synthesis of the next steps per Thematic Area: (August 2023)
- Map the priority action areas currently in process: (July 2023)
- Compile a list of outstanding declarations: (June 2023)
- Convene ongoing workshops to better understand and define OECMs (July/August 2023)

### SHORT-TERM ACTIONS:

- Reach out to the MECs through the Intergovernmental Structures to determine the status of the outstanding declarations (July 2023).
- Engage with Traditional Leaders to: (start July 2023)
  - Unlock Community Protected Environments and OECMS
  - Determine the cultural protection sites.
- Carry out a costing exercise per mechanism (October 2023)
- Explore and create opportunities for youth involvement, including enabling specific studies and a space for awareness raising.
- Define and identify projects for ambitious national targets and associated M&E.
- Host a follow-up workshop in September/October 2023 to determine the status of actions.

### MEDIUM to LONGER TERM ACTIONS:

- Synthesise synergies between the White Paper and the 30x30 target to feed into the implementation process (December 2023)
- M&E system for reporting progress – SANBI & partners
- Submission of South Africa's National Targets to CBD (2024)
- Review and update of NBSAP (2026)



## STEPS GOING FORWARD

In an online debriefing meeting, chaired by DDG Flora Mokgohloa and Dr Tsepang Makholela, held on the 13<sup>th</sup> of June 2023, the following next steps were agreed to:

NEXT STEPS	LEAD	TIMING
<p>1. DFFE will hold further consultations to create a comprehensive list of <b>outstanding declarations</b> within a week and to draft a submission to the minister to submit to the MEC by mid-July – ensuring the inclusion of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- All outstanding declarations across all four thematic area sub-groups</li> <li>- All quick wins for expansion in order for these to be fast tracked</li> </ul>	DFFE	June 2023 Mid-July 2023
<p>2. To draft a simple <b>Workshop Report</b> that captures the high-level details and way forward and banks the success of the workshop for sharing with all participants together with a link to the workshop presentations.</p>	Louise Duys & Shannon Sanilall, WILDTRUST	June 2023
<p>3. To collate a high-level <b>Synthesis Feedback of Workshop Outputs Document</b> that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Separates out the cross-cutting issues common across all Thematic Mechanism sub-groups</li> <li>- Includes the high-level outputs and next steps for each of the Thematic Mechanism sub-groups as defined at the workshop</li> </ul>	Mark Botha	End June 2023
<p>4. To set-up a <b>Cross-Cutting Task Team</b> to hold the issues identified as common across all four thematic mechanism groups and to act as an informal co-ordination group.</p> <p>Proposed Nominated Representatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Peter Shisani, CSA</li> <li>• Lara van Niekerk, CSIR</li> <li>• Mark Gerrard, IUCN Chair</li> <li>• WILDTRUST representative</li> <li>• DFFE representatives</li> <li>• DWS representative</li> <li>• SALGA representative</li> <li>• CONTRALESA representative</li> <li>• National Entities representatives</li> <li>• Representative from each of the thematic mechanism sub-groups</li> <li>• Finance Representative</li> <li>• M&amp;E Representative</li> <li>• Communications Representative</li> <li>• Youth Representative/s</li> </ul>	Edward Netshithothole to engage with DFFE & Entities to identify representatives, and to co-ordinate the engagement.	End June 2023
<p>5. The <b>four Thematic Mechanism groups</b> from the workshop to move forward as Sub-Groups, led by the Co-leads. Each sub-group to set up a follow-up meeting to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Flesh out the actions steps, responsibilities and timelines as defined at the June Workshop</li> <li>- Map out the potential areas and quick wins</li> <li>- For inclusion into the consolidated Workshop Outcomes Document</li> </ul>	Thematic Mechanism Sub-group Co-Leads	End June 2023

<p>6. Create a consolidated <b>Workshop Outcomes Document</b>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- That communicates the key messages from the workshop</li> <li>- That encompasses mapping the potential areas, governance, implementation and quick wins per thematic mechanism sub-group.</li> <li>- Includes the action plan, responsibility and time-lines for each thematic mechanism sub-group</li> </ul>	<p>Mark Botha &amp; Rosanne Stanway</p>	<p>End July / August 2023</p>
<p>7. To arrange for a <b>follow-up workshop</b> with the purpose of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Reviewing the status of the implementation plans developed as an outcome to the June Workshop.</li> <li>- Reviewing the authorising of the outstanding declarations by the MEC</li> </ul>	<p>DFFE</p>	<p>September / October 2023</p>
<p>8. <b>Next meeting</b> to take place after the 15<sup>th</sup> July to review the Thematic Mechanism Sub-group Implementation Plans</p>	<p>Edward Netshithothole to co-ordinate</p>	<p>Week Commencing 17 July 2023</p>

## ANNEXURES

For the workshop supporting documentation, please click the following share-drive link: [30x30 Implementation Workshop Share Drive](#)

This includes:

- **Supporting Documents:**
  - Invitation
  - Final Programme
  - Concept Note
  - Framing Discussion Document
  - Workshop Invitee List
  - Workshop Attendee List
  - Workshop Photographs
- **Day One: 6<sup>th</sup> June 2023:**
  - Plenary Presentations
  - Panel Presentations
- **Day Two: 7<sup>th</sup> June 2023:**
  - Plenary Presentation
  - Breakaway Sessions 1 & 2:
    - All Breakaway Session Feedback Presentations
    - Group Participation Lists
- **Day Three: 8<sup>th</sup> June 2023:**
  - Plenary Presentations
  - Breakaway Session 3:
    - All Breakaway Session Feedback Presentations
    - All Breakaway Session Minutes
- **Post Workshop Documents:**
  - Workshop Report