



**environment & tourism**

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Department:  
Environmental Affairs and Tourism  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

**3<sup>rd</sup> People and Parks Conference**  
*“Conservation for the People with the People”*

**Mafikeng**  
**North-West Province**

**Proceedings Report**

**31 August – 2 September 2008**

**Convened by**

***Directorate: Protected Areas Planning and Development***

This report documents the Third National People and Parks workshop, which took place on 31 August – 2 September 2008 in Mafikeng. This report is not a final synthesised report, but tries to capture the workshop outputs in a non-interpreted way.

THIS DOCUMENTATION IS MEANT TO BE A REFERENCE DOCUMENT for all participants and is intended to provide details of what transpired. Almost all results of the working groups are documented including the resolution and the declarations emanating from the 3<sup>rd</sup> People and Parks Conference.

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## **LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS**

<b>CASP:</b>	Comprehensive Agriculture Support Program
<b>CBNRM:</b>	Community Based Natural Resource Management
<b>CEO:</b>	Chief Executive Officer
<b>CLARA:</b>	Communal Land Rights Act
<b>CLCC:</b>	Chief Land Claims Commissioner
<b>CPA:</b>	Community Parks Authority
<b>CPPP:</b>	Community Public-Private Partnerships
<b>DBSA:</b>	Development Bank South Africa
<b>DDG:</b>	Deputy Director General
<b>DEAT:</b>	Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism
<b>DLA:</b>	Department of Land Affairs
<b>DTI:</b>	Department of Trade and Industry
<b>DoA:</b>	Department of Agriculture.
<b>DPLG:</b>	Department of Provincial and Local Government
<b>DWAF:</b>	Department of Water Affairs and Forestry
<b>EPWP:</b>	Expanded Public Works Programme
<b>IDP:</b>	Integrated Development Programme
<b>LCC:</b>	Land Claims Commission
<b>LED:</b>	Local Economic Development
<b>LEDP:</b>	Local Economic Development Programme
<b>LFA:</b>	Logical Framework Approach
<b>LRAD</b>	<b>Land Redistribution</b> for Agricultural Development
<b>MEC:</b>	Member of Executive Committee

<b>MoA:</b>	Memorandum of Agreement
<b>MoU:</b>	Memorandum of Understanding
<b>MTPA:</b>	Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency
<b>N/A:</b>	Not Applicable
<b>NBSAP:</b>	National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
<b>NDA:</b>	National Development Agency
<b>NEMA:</b>	National Environment Management Act, 1998
<b>NLCC:</b>	National Land Claims Commission
<b>NEM:BA:</b>	National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act, 2004
<b>NEM:PAA</b>	National Environment Management: Protected Areas Act, 2003
<b>NGO:</b>	Non-Governmental Organisation
<b>NPAES:</b>	National Protected Areas Expansion Strategy
<b>NW:</b>	North West
<b>PA:</b>	Protected Areas
<b>P&amp;P:</b>	People and Parks
<b>RLCC:</b>	Regional Land Claims Commissioner
<b>SALGA:</b>	South African Local Government Association
<b>SETA:</b>	Sector for Education and Training Authority
<b>SDI:</b>	Spatial Development Initiative
<b>SEDA:</b>	Small Enterprise Development Agency
<b>SMME's:</b>	Small, Micro and Medium Enterprises
<b>SRPP:</b>	Social Responsibility Policy and Programmes
<b>SRU:</b>	Sustainable Resource Use

**TFCA:** Trans-frontier Conservation Areas

**WfW:** Working for Water

## 1. DEPUTY MINISTER'S SPEECH

### **KEY NOTE ADDRESS DELIVERED BY THE HONOURABLE DEPUTY MINISTER: ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND TOURISM, MS REJOICE MABUDAFHASI**

#### ***“Conservation for the people with the people”***

Program Director, Honourable Premier of North West Province, Mme Edna Molewa, Honourable MECs, Honourable Members of Parliament and Provincial Legislature, Your worships, Executive Mayors and Mayors, Councillors, Deputy Director-General of Biodiversity, Mr. Fundisile Mketeni, CEOs of Public Entities, Participants, guests, ladies and gentlemen, Youth

#### **A. Introduction and background**

Ironically, we have just hosted a very successful Women and Environment Conference as part of our celebrations for August as the women's month. This conference which we are hosting today has one thing in common with the women's conference: both conferences are meant to address issues affecting vulnerable people in poor and rural areas of our country.

Given this context, it is a painful reality that the process of establishing parks and protected areas before the advent of democracy in South Africa was characterized by the alienation of the majority people from their land and property.

Conservation strategies failed to consider their interests and disrupted existing indigenous management systems. Therefore, the theme for this conference, “conservation for the people with people”, represents a fundamental shift from the past. Our government is committed to the socio-economic empowerment of local people who have a close relationship with natural resources.

We are holding this conference at a critical time for South Africa as a party to the Convention on Biological Diversity which adopted that “all its parties should promote full and effective participation by 2008, of indigenous and local communities, in full respect of their rights in the management of existing and new protected areas”.

You may recall that both the World Summit on Sustainable Development in 2002 and the World Parks Congress in 2003 which were hosted by South Africa also resolved that local people should

be at the forefront of biodiversity conservation as they depend on natural resources for their livelihoods.

Our first and second People and Parks conferences which were held in 2004 and 2006 served to consolidate our commitment to these international resolutions and were instrumental in sensitizing our stakeholders on the importance of creating an enabling environment for communities to actively participate and be fully involved in all aspects of biodiversity conservation and protected area management. This conference gives us an important opportunity to reflect on progress we have made in ensuring that local people achieve full participation and active involvement in the conservation of biodiversity. Moreover, we need to reflect on our success in ensuring that local people derive tangible benefits from our parks.

I am confident that there is commendable progress on our people and parks program. I am also acutely aware that there are number of challenges that we are yet to overcome to achieve the required levels of transformation in our protected areas.

It is therefore important that we also use this conference as an opportunity to find solutions to outstanding challenges and chart the way forward. For this reason, I will pay special attention to progress and challenges regarding biodiversity conservation and expansion of the conservation estate, biodiversity and poverty eradication, and the use of indigenous knowledge in biodiversity conservation.

## **B. Progress on biodiversity conservation and establishment of protected areas**

Globally, the number of protected areas has been increasing substantially over the years. Biodiversity conservation is now one of the most significant land-use options throughout the world and 12% of the earth's land surface is covered by protected areas.

South Africa is considered to be one of the most biologically diverse country in the world. This biological diversity is found in areas which we have been jealously protecting since the dawn of democracy in 1994. These areas include biomes such as deserts, fynbos, succulent Karoo, Nama Karoo, grasslands, savannas, forests and wetlands.



Although our country accounts for only 2% of the world surface area, we are proud to be home to nearly 10% of the world's plants and 7% of the world's reptiles, birds and mammals. In terms of the number of endemic species of mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians, South Africa is ranked as the fifth richest country in Africa and the 24<sup>th</sup> richest in the world.

There is no doubt that our efforts to protect biodiversity have been successful owing to our well-developed system of protected areas managed by a range of competent institutions at national, provincial and local levels. In addition, we have already committed ourselves to expanding our conservation estate to cover 10% of the land surface area and 20% of the marine areas by 2010. Despite our success in biodiversity conservation and expansion of the conservation estate, we are still faced with serious challenges such as the threat to our globally recognized biodiversity hotspots, endemic and endangered species, river ecosystems, wetlands and estuaries.

Our success in achieving sustainable protection of these hotspots, species and ecosystems will largely depend on the extent to which we involve local people whose livelihoods depend on these resources. Most of these species and ecosystems that are threatened with extinction are found outside protected areas, usually in communal lands which are subjected to a variety of uses by local people. To sustain our efforts in the protection of threatened, endangered and endemic species, we need to encourage and give support to community-owned parks and game reserves. Provincial governments and their public entities have a greater role to play in supporting community-based parks and game reserves as they are the immediate neighbours of local communities.

On this note, I wish to acknowledge the support that some of the non-governmental organizations and provincial agencies have been giving to community-based parks and game reserves. For example, WWF and Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife offered 11 Black Rhinos to Somkhanda Game Reserve which belongs to the Gumbi community in KwaZulu Natal. This is part and parcel of the range expansion program aimed at promoting the conservation of the Black Rhino as one of the rare species in South Africa. Without this assistance, the Gumbi community would not have been able to acquire this species for their game reserve due to financial and logistical constraints.

### **C. Conservation of biodiversity, land degradation, climate change and poverty eradication**

The conservation of biodiversity is not only important in terms of protecting vulnerable species and ecosystems but it is also a cornerstone for the achievement of key Millennium Development Goals such as halving poverty and significantly reducing the incidence of hunger by 2015.

The challenge to fight poverty and reduce hunger is a daunting one considering that nearly 800 million people in rural areas throughout the world suffer from chronic under-nutrition. Of the people that are severely affected by poverty, 170 million are infants and pre-school children in developing countries.

The loss of biodiversity threatens food security for rural and poor people who rely heavily on the direct consumption of wild foods, medicines and fuels for survival. Rural and poor people also rely on ecosystem services for clean air and water supply which cannot be sustained if biodiversity is lost at massive scales.

For the majority of poor people living in our rural areas, the interlinkage between food security and biodiversity becomes a vicious cycle. Food insecurity threatens biodiversity as it often leads to over-exploitation of wild plants and animals. When income earning opportunities from other service sectors are limited, the reliance on natural resources for subsistence and commercial purposes escalates. Measures to secure livelihoods by promoting intensive agricultural methods with high chemical input has led to serious levels of pollutions resulting in the loss of freshwater and coastal biodiversity. Poverty reductions strategies that encouraged the conversion of entire landscapes to monocultures have resulted in loss of biodiversity due to loss of habitat.

The threat to both biodiversity and food security is further worsened by land degradation and desertification. Land degradation and desertification affect many of our rural ecosystems resulting in the destruction of suitable habitat for indigenous species and loss of soil productivity to support rural programs for food security.

Another common enemy between biodiversity and food security is climate change. Global warming is increasingly making it impossible for some species in fragile and vulnerable ecosystems to

survive extreme weather events. On the other hand, events such as extreme floods and droughts destroy crops and livestock thereby entrenching rural communities into unprecedented levels of poverty.

When poor people are confronted with these multitudes of problems, we have no option but to change and continuously adapt our strategies for biodiversity conservation. As much as possible and in line with the Biodiversity Act, we are required to develop and implement programs aimed at ensuring that local people derive tangible benefits from and have access to natural resources in and outside our protected areas.

In terms of reports that I have received on the implementation of the people and parks program, and some that I have visited it is clear that most of our conservation agencies have been implementing relevant programs to empower communities living adjacent to their protected areas. Generally agencies have done a good job in terms of developing policies for resource use, capacity building programs for their stakeholders, creating platforms for engagement with stakeholders and developing co-management models in protected areas that are affected by land claims.

Excellent programs that are aimed at giving communities access to natural resources are already being implemented by agencies such as the North West Parks and Tourism Board and Ezemvelo KwaZulu Natal Wildlife, to name but a few.

Both these institutions should be commended for allowing communities to, amongst others, harvest grass in their parks which they use for thatching, making brooms and other crafts.

Communities are allowed to visit their ancestral grave sites and other sites of spiritual importance which are located in protected areas. We also have good examples where communities are supported to derive economic benefits from business opportunities in protected areas. For example, two lodges in Madikwe Game Reserve in North West are owned by communities.

I am aware that communities in some areas are already anxious and impatient as policy decisions and associated conceptual processes have not resulted in meaningful change on the ground.

Whilst some of the constraints cited by agencies are understandable, conservation efforts would be severely compromised if we continue to be indecisive in assisting our communities to secure their livelihoods and participate in our programs.

#### **D. The use of indigenous knowledge in biodiversity conservation**

Every human society has its own unique culture that is closely related to the environment and natural resources within its proximity. Culture and biodiversity conservation are tightly interwoven because as the environment changes along with the availability of resources, the culture of the affected people may also change.

Through cultural practices, local people acquired valuable knowledge and skills for the conservation of biodiversity and sustainable utilization of natural resources. Yet the conservation practices of the past had often cast doubt upon traditional systems of biodiversity conservation and labelled them as unscientific and unreliable.

However, our government recognizes that the knowledge and cultural practices of local communities are very important in biodiversity conservation. There is also an acknowledgement that the goal of biodiversity conservation must also be integrated with the promotion and preservation of cultural diversity and indigenous knowledge systems.

We all know that medicinal plants and animals are increasingly becoming threatened due to over-exploitation for commercial and subsistence purposes. The World Health Organisation estimates that over 80% of the human population depends on traditional medicines for their primary health care.

It is therefore important that we partner with traditional healers in our efforts to protect species which are of medicinal value to communities.

Through its social responsibility program, our department has been supporting traditional healers and their communities to establish gardens for the propagation of medicinal plants. This program is

working very well as traditional healers are able to harvest plants in their own gardens, thus reducing pressure on medicinal species that are in the wild.

I am also reliably informed that some provincial conservation agencies have on-going partnerships with traditional healers which are aimed at curbing poaching of medicinal plants.

This is implemented through various projects which involve women and the youth in the establishment of nurseries for medicinal plants using both contemporary and traditional approaches to conservation.

Coupled to our social responsibility initiatives on the rehabilitation of degraded areas such as river systems, wetlands and estuaries, these efforts give impetus to Community-based Natural Resources Management programs offered by our department and its stakeholders.

A major constraint in promoting the use of indigenous knowledge in biodiversity conservation is that traditional healers and their communities may be hesitant to share their knowledge due to fears of bio-piracy and out-right theft of their intellectual property.

We therefore have to ensure that we use approaches that provide adequate recognition and compensation to knowledge holders and communities that rely upon natural resources to meet basic needs.

### **E. Outstanding Challenges and the Way Forward**

There are two major challenges which require urgent interventions in order to sustain our programs for biodiversity conservation and secure a bright future for our protected areas, namely, unsustainable land-use practices and settlement of land claims in protected areas.

We have to promote land-use options which are eco-friendly and in line with sustainable development principles. Our agrarian and land reform programs should shift towards eco-agriculture which can enhance food productivity whilst contributing to environmental protection and biodiversity conservation.

This could be achieved through the promotion of organic farming methods with less use of chemicals that pollute our rivers and wetlands from which we source drinking water. This farming method relies on organic fertilizers from compost which is part of our agricultural heritage acquired through centuries of adaptation to changing environmental conditions.

Amongst other strategies, our communities also utilized rotational farming and interspersed different plants to enrich the soil and deter pests from food crops. We need to go back to basics before we degrade our land to a point of no return.

The issue of settlement of land claims in protected areas remains a thorny matter because of delays in the whole process as a result of a myriad of reasons including prolonged negotiations on willing-buyer willing-seller matters, disputes amongst community leaders and counter claims by different communities.

We, however, have confidence that our determination to reach our 3<sup>rd</sup> goals will be achieved. We have made tremendous progress and been hard at work to redress the injustices of the past. Enormous strides have been made in improving the lives of our people, creating jobs and empowering them to lead their own lives. We acknowledge areas where we could have done more and are aware of our shortcomings. However, we are determined to improve.

## **F. Conclusion**

In conclusion, I urge this conference to find ways of harmonizing relations amongst stakeholders and provide our department with clear resolutions on how we could accelerate the implementation of co-management arrangements and other programs to benefit communities living adjacent to protected areas. As government, we will ensure that your resolutions are implemented as speedily as possible.

I wish you constructive and fruitful deliberations, and look forward to your recommendations at the end of the conference.

## **2. Mafikeng Conference Declaration**

### **CONFERENCE DECLARATION MAFIKENG 1-2 September 2008**

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The 3<sup>rd</sup> People and Park Conference convened in Mafikeng, North West Province, takes cognisance of the need to consolidate the gains made thus far and realizing that opportunities abound to strengthen the overall capacity of DEAT and all its partners to forge ahead into the future.

#### **Noting:**

1. Continued minimum participation by CEO's and Local Government.
2. Lack of co-ordination and alignment of programmes, both at provincial and community level on People and Parks issues.
3. The continuing dissatisfaction of the Land Claim processes and subsequent post settlement support.
4. The concerns about the lack of significant information sharing, awareness and communication strategies at the local level.
5. The concern that women are not included in the quest to reclaim land that they should have directly inherited from their forefathers.
6. The provincial leadership capacity deficiency mentioned?
7. The disparity of commitment and capacity amongst provinces.
8. Lack of accountability from some Parks and Government structures.

#### **Acknowledge:**

1. The continued support for People and Parks programme by the Deputy Minister.
2. Participation by the Premier, District Mayor and Executive Mayor.

3. Participation and valuable contribution made by the CEOs Mr Charles Ndabeni, Dr David Mabunda and Mr Andrew Zaloumis.
4. Valuable contribution made by the community task team since Beaufort West.
5. The commitment that some provinces have demonstrated through the number of success stories presented.
6. We also appreciate the commitment shown by communities despite the concerns raised.
7. That despite the fact that DEAT and the Agencies are not responsible for land claims, they are, however committed to development of the required post settlement support plans as per the Memorandum of Agreement.

**The conference therefore declares to commit to:**

- The strengthening of the people and park program to make the key stakeholders more inclusive.
- The DEAT and Agencies will facilitate the process of coordinating structures across the board as follows:
  - A representative national coordinating committee of communities. Similar committees must be created in all provinces.
  - Representative structures of all the relevant Provincial Departments into a forum that will shape the government approach and implementation framework by Agencies.
  - The strengthening of the National People and Park Steering Committee by ensuring authorized representation of the key stakeholders as defined above.
- Provincial departments of environmental affairs are encouraged to undertake planning meetings within their respective provinces and develop a provincial people and park plan for the financial year 2009/10 based on the national program.
- Develop a monitoring and evaluation framework to ensure that the program is performing as it should.



**We have therefore undertaken to re-commit** to the Action Plan and to specifically respond to the following key issues:

1. Institutional Arrangements (incl leadership)
  - The National Community Coordinating Committee for the People and Parks programme will be replicated at the provincial level and provided with all necessary support.
  - The CEO's forum will be revived and will cover all the People and Parks programme issues.
  
2. Resource commitment
  - Where socio-ecology units do not exist, such or similar structures will be established and resourced.
  - Provide necessary support to the community coordinating committees to make sure that they are not just established but representative and capacitated.
  
3. Capacity building
  - A National Capacity Building programme will be established to deal specifically with:
    - i. Conducting skills audit for all park management, provincial coordinating committees and park forums
    - ii. Training of park managers, community forums as well as provincial coordinating committees.
    - iii. Creating more awareness and communication about the People and Parks programme and its objectives, and
    - iv. Strengthening of Agency efficiency to deal effectively People and Parks programme.

***Conference Declared***

### **3. INTRODUCTION**

The 2008 3<sup>rd</sup> People and Parks workshop held in Mafikeng, North-West Province, was organised by the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism. It was attended by representatives from government, Tribal Authorities, communities, NGOs and other interest groups. The aim of the workshop was to reflect on progress resulting from the outcomes of the 2<sup>nd</sup> People and Parks conference held in Beaufort West in 2006

The Mafikeng conference therefore aimed at improving the Action Plan to address current issues that have emerged since the inception of the People and Parks Programme and to identify interventions to improve the implementation approaches towards achieving the objectives of the programme.

Specifically, the objective of the workshop was:

- a. To take stock of progress made to date;
- b. To share experiences (successes and challenges);
- c. To present and further review strategies and frameworks developed since 2006;
- d. Consolidate, enhance and strengthen the Action Plan.

### **4. BACKGROUND**

From the 31<sup>st</sup> August to the 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 2008, over 400 representatives of National, provincial and local government departments, participants from national and provincial conservation agencies, NGO's, CBO's together with affected communities and stakeholders, met in Mafikeng at the 3<sup>rd</sup> People and Parks Conference.

## **4.1 Day 1**

### **4.1.1 Community Meeting**

The community representatives convened at the Mafikeng Civic Centre on the first day of the conference. This meeting was facilitated by Ngcali Nomtshongwana and Ntja Mapheele. The outcomes of this meeting resulted in the development of a Community Statement to be presented at the conference during Day 2 (Annex 1). The community expressed some concerns with the progress between the Beaufort West conference and this, and also requested certain changes in the implementation approaches of the programme.

### **4.1.2 Gala Dinner**

The gala dinner was held at the Mafikeng Civic centre and was hosted by the **Deputy Minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism, Ms Rejoice Mabudafhasi**.

**Her Worship, the Executive Mayor, Councilor Mosa Sejosingoe** delivered the welcome address

**Mr Fundisile Mketeni, the DEAT DDG: Biodiversity and Conservation**, thereafter thanked the province for hosting the conference and complimented them on their hospitality and the high standard of organization. He furthermore emphasised the commitment of the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism towards the course of the People and Parks Programme.

## **4.2 Day 2**

### **Session 1**

#### **4.2.1 Formal Speakers and Presentations**

Day 2 commenced with a welcome speech by **Mr T Gwabeni, District Mayor: Ngaka Modiri Molema District Municipality**. He welcomed the delegates, including the Deputy Minister Ms Mabudafhasi and Premier of NW to Mafikeng.

This was followed by the official opening address by the **Ms Edna Molewa, the Honorable Premier of the North-West Province**, who delivered an eloquent and inspiring speech and wished the delegation well with the promise of support by the North-West province to take the process forward under the leadership of the Deputy Minister (Annex 3).

**The Deputy Minister, Ms Rejoice Mabudafhasi** then delivered **The Keynote Address**.

The Deputy Minister urged the conference to find ways of **harmonizing relations** amongst stakeholders and providing the department with clear resolutions on how to accelerate the implementation of co-management arrangements and other programmes to benefit communities living adjacent to protected areas.

## **Session 2**

The high level presentations were followed by the presentation of the **Objectives of the 3<sup>rd</sup> People and Parks Conference, 2008** by **Mr Fundisile Mketeni, DEAT DDG** (Annex 3).

**Mr Mketeni, DEAT DDG** then presented the landmark **Memorandum of Agreement to Address Land Claims Against Protected Areas** between the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism and the Department of Land Affairs.

Following this presentation, **Mr Thami Mdlalose - Director: Legal Support (CLCC)** delivered a presentation on the **National Co-Management Agreement** (Annex 3)

His presentation firstly described the background to the development of this agreement which followed on the signing of the MoA between DEAT and the DLA. He then explained the legislative framework governing the agreement and then presented the **Co-Management Models** which were identified i.e. Full Co-Management, Part Co-Management/Part Lease & Full Lease.

This presentation was continued by the **Regional Land Claims Commissioner, North-West Province, Ms Thumi Sebola** who delivered a combined presentation on:

- Land Reform and Post Settlement Support in the Context of Conservation and Protected Areas;

- Land Claims Status Report on Protected Areas and
- Settlement and Implementation Support Strategy.

**Ms J Mathonsi, Chairperson of the People and Parks Community Committee**, followed these presentations with the delivery of the Community Statement (Annex 2). Her presentation led into a robust discussion of the challenges communities were facing. A noticeable outcome from this item was the demand from the communities for government respond to their most significant problems such as the need for capacity building, information sharing and structured support.

### **Session 3**

The third session was devoted to the presentation of each of the eleven People and Parks agencies as well as the DEAT Marine and Coastal Protected Areas, on progress made and challenges experienced in the implementation People and Parks Action Plan (Annex 5).

During this session **Mr Kobedi Pilane** and **Mr Motshegare Rakoko** from **Bakgatla Ba Kgafela CPA** were presented with the Title Deeds to their restituted land by MEC Jan Serfontein.

The decision was then taken that Government officials would need to convene in order to respond to these demands. The delegates who remained in plenary then proceeded to discuss the various concerns and critical matters.

## **4.3 Day 3**

### **Session 4**

Day 3 commenced with the assembly of the various **commissions** to discuss the focus areas identified as the priority issues which needed to be addressed. The focus areas identified were:

- a. Access & Benefit Sharing
- b. Co-Management & Capacity Building
- c. Strengthening Governance
- d. Understanding the MoA

e. National Protected Areas Expansion Strategy

**Session 5**

The rapporteurs of the commissions presented **feedback** from the commissions to plenary (Annex 4). Questions and comments from the delegation followed each presentation.

The feedback session was followed by the presentation of the **Government Response** by Mr Fundisile Mketeni, DDG. Mr Mketeni and Mr Charles Ndabeni together with two Community Representatives formed a panel to field questions and comments from the floor. Mr Ndabeni concluded this item by emphasising the need for cooperation and patience with regards to the Land Claims process. He further pledged the commitment of the DEAT towards resolving the issues emerging.

**The Director: Protected Areas Planning and Development, Ms Skumsa Mancotywa** then conducted the **Vote of Thanks** and presented gifts to all members of the steering committee and acknowledged other invited guests and speakers for their valuable contribution to the conference (Annex 3).

The DDG then presented the **Conference Declaration**. No amendments were made to the declaration.

**Cllr Gregory Mathini from the Mafikeng Municipal Mayoral Office** closed the conference.

## **5. KEY INTERVENTION AREAS**

### **5.1 Background**

Based on reports and feedback from all the Provinces and relevant Parks agencies, the progress on the outcomes of the 2006, Beaufort West conference was assessed and analysed. The analysis also considered the headway made with national programme and processes which were pledged at this meeting.

Based on the findings of this analysis, the following key intervention areas were proposed for group discussions, focusing of specific issues which needed to be interrogated. Each group had a facilitator, a scribe and a rapporteur assigned to it. The feedback from these working groups is described in details in Annex 4.

- a. Access & Benefit Sharing
- b. Co-Management & Capacity Building
- c. Strengthening Governance
- d. Understanding the MoA
- e. National Protected Areas Expansion Strategy

### **5.2 Emerging Issues**

#### **a. Access and Benefit Sharing**

The commission indicated that the following matters challenged the ability to reach conclusive access and benefit sharing ideals:

- Important for Claimants to have their title deeds
- Capacity building (understanding of possibilities and understanding the business potential of the PA)
- Inclusive management system
- Budget ( identify the funders)

- Categorization of beneficiaries (primary –land owners; secondary – Adjacent community; Government – management costs)

The group further indicated that the key implementation challenges they were facing included not being able to meet with the Concessionaires (long term agreements), lack of policy frameworks and an understanding of government operations, community consultation, lack of communication (especially with regard to financial reporting and budget).

The biggest challenges towards achieving success are the issues of:

- Who determines percentages for benefits and
- Equitable sharing

#### **b. Co-Management & Capacity Building**

The main issues which emerged from this commission were:

- Rights of land claimants versus those of the wider community (How do we address issues of benefit sharing)
- Key role of traditional leadership in co management
- Lack of Guidelines on how to implement co-management (structures, roles and responsibilities)
- Understanding who drives co management process? (pre settlement & post settlement)
- Lack of representation at strategic level
- Understanding the exact meaning of co-management (What to do if there are no real benefits)
- Not learning from case studies
- Clarifying if Co-management is for specific groups(land claimants) and or wider groups
- The fact is that co-management should entail shared decision making and not consultation



The implementation challenges faced by both the communities and the Parks agencies is the understanding the complications of engagement as well as the slow process towards achieving anything. There seems to be constant delays in establishment of co-management agreements because of lack of the contents of the agreement and therefore a delay in the finalization of settlement agreements.

### **c. Strengthening Governance**

This commission began by looking at the types of structures prevalent in each of the regions and the challenges that are faced. The cross-cutting issues that emerged were:

- Budget constraints,
- Structures are there, however people do not understand their functions regarding the People and Parks programme therefore there is no progress
- No budget, human capacity and the province cannot integrate the functions of the programme as they are already committed to other issues.
- Lack of communication with communities due to lack of institutional capacity
- Interaction between national and provincial conservation agencies.
- The RLCC and the province do not seem to share the same vision.

The commission concluded that the challenge to implementation is that there is no focused structure and no integration of functions.

### **d. Understanding the MoA**

Participants in this commission firstly attempted to understand the scope of the MoA itself and then interrogated the feasibility of the agreement and its implementation challenges. Some of the issues that emerged were:

- It has not been distributed so it is not known or understood.
- The Title should be more explanatory.
- There must be clear timeframes on S 42D.

- It does not really explain how the new owner will be affected.
- Beneficiation and how benefication can be guaranteed.
- How do the implementing agents jointly manage expectations (from the sides of authorities and benefactors)
- Issues of finances outstanding which holds back implementation of co-management.

#### **e. National Protected Areas Expansion Strategy**

This commission appeared to struggle to find proper implementation solutions due to the complex issues involved with the expansion strategy. It emerged quite strongly that the key issue is capacity and that it is the local officials who need to be capacitated, otherwise documents and guidelines are not effective. The other major factors hindering the implementation of the strategy are those of financing and that of communication. Some of the questions and comments which came to the fore are:

- Would not expanding parks reduce the land available for “living”?
- Why go with conservation
- Parks provide benefits for whom?
- It is a problem of personal interest being put above national or community interests.
- People are growing in number and land occupation becomes a big issue
- Communities get a run-around between government departments
- The main issue that the department faces is selling conservation value.
- The expansion strategy says here we have this richness of natural heritage, which has been preserved for generations, how do we communicate this valuable legacy?
- Some communities are not aware of tourism benefits. They need proper awareness in order to decide whether to expand.
- Communities can comment on all proposed developments – but unfortunately this is often theoretical.

- What clout does the department have? Looking at the Xolobeni issue at the Wild coast. Some communities want conservation, others mining. It seems there is a lack of understanding of legal responsibilities.
- Which legislation supercedes other legislation?
- The traditional leaders want concise report-backs and clear ideas not long documents. This could lead to the way to bring people on board better.
- There is a need to quantify the socio-economic value of conservation.
- Departments seem to be competing for land. DEAT is sometimes asked to withdraw from declarations. Maybe the approach from government is too heavy. Land owners should be approached as key stakeholders and not in a minor way.
- The interference of politicians and technocrats in these matters is a problem for which there seems to be no solution.
- Seemingly the land claim commission does not properly respect the traditional leaders, and this can lead to a gap in information flowing through traditional channels as described above.

It is clear from these comments that the NPAES will have to confront a number of implementation challenges if the strategy is to succeed.

## **6. OBSERVATIONS & ANALYSIS**

- a.** The huge participation by communities is indicative of their commitment and support of the program.
- b.** Land tenure, capacity building and benefit sharing issues are now more prevalent than other issue.
- c.** There is an urgent need to investigate the lease and community levy options as these may provide quick and tangible benefits to communities.
- d.** The aims of co-management are still not well understood by both communities and managers.

- e. There is still inconsistency in terms of implementing the elements of PAs Act of 2003 amongst the different agencies and parks.
- f. Some managers still perceive People and Parks program as an isolated activity and sometimes a burden rather than a new way of managing parks.
- g. There seems to be lack of capacity within some agencies to effectively implement the program at provincial level.
- h. Limited resources within parks maybe the result of lack of initiatives by management.
- i. There is a strong focus on Thematic Areas and NOT on the main drivers (e.g. funding, capacity building etc) of the People and Parks Program.
- j. Lack of long-term financing mechanism, aggressive communication strategy, a capacity building program and documenting of best practices remain critical for the success of the program.
- k. Provincial agencies and DEAT do not seem to have a plan for implementing the new MOA and post-settlement support thereof.
- l. Although officials maybe committed to implementing the program, the absence of senior officials from provinces at the conference is demonstrative of lack of support at that level.
- m. While the national steering committee is meant to provide co-ordination of the program, it does not necessarily provide the capacity required by the provinces.
- n. Lack of provincial steering committees does not only disempower the communities and park managers, but deprive the agencies from benefiting immensely from other government structures such as municipality.
- o. Lack of provincial community co-ordinating committees poses a major threat to future participation and meaning contribution of communities in the program.
- p. There is still mistrust and poor communication between communities and park management.
- q. Poor communication and mistrust between park managers and communities maybe as a result of provinces not disseminating conference outcomes to park managers.
- r. Absence of co-management agreement as well as participatory management plans poses a major threat to the program's objectives.
- s. The delay in settling the remaining land claims in protected areas is causing a lot of uncertainty among both park managers and claimants.

- t. There is generally a lack of understanding and the implication of new co-management framework, proposed benefit sharing models, MOA signed by the Minister of DEAT and DLA, National Protected Areas Expansion Strategy among both government and communities.

## 7. PEOPLE AND PARKS NATIONAL ACTION PROGRAMME

### 7.1 Description

#### From “Action Plan” to “Action Programme”: People and Parks National Action Programme

##### A. The Vision

The vision of People and Parks National Action Programme is **“to manage all Protected Areas in the Country for the People and with the People”**.

##### B. The Background

The World Parks Congress emphasised the need to consider communities as stakeholders in parks: “Benefits Beyond Boundaries”. The 7th Meeting of the Conference of Parties (COP7) in 2004 on the Convention on Biological Diversity adopted a Programme of Work on Protected Areas. The Programme of Work consisted of four (4) elements, the second element focusing on governance, participation, equity and benefit-sharing for communities. The emphasis is on full and effective participation by communities, in full respect of their rights and recognition of their responsibilities.

The NEMA: Protected Areas Act, 2003 (Act no.57 of 2003), enables the management of a national park to enter into an agreement with a local community for co-management of the area in cases where land has been successfully claimed by that community. Such co-management agreements aim to harmonise natural and cultural heritage resources through:

- Management arrangements

- Apportionment of income generated or benefit-sharing
- Use of biological resources
- Access to an area and occupation where necessary
- Development of economic opportunities
- Development of local management capacity and knowledge exchange
- Financial and other support
- Expansion Strategy for protected areas with community participation
- Capacity building through skills development has been identified as critical for the success of the programme.

Emerging from the Swadini Conference in 2004, it was clear that the People and Parks initiative can no longer just be about conservation of Parks in the country but also about benefits for communities. The slogan adopted by government, communities and other stakeholders defined the vision for a programme, i.e. *“Conservation for the people with the people”*. Indeed it emphasised that DEAT and all its partnering agencies should increase their focus on including local communities in the management of reserves and parks particularly and even more importantly to increase the level of direct benefits flowing to the local communities. The Department and its partners developed a very clear Action Plan within which key thematic areas were identified as follows.

- Promoting Access and Benefit Sharing in Protected Areas
- Establishment of Co-management agreements;
- Promoting Community Public Private Partnerships;
- Land Reform and Conservation
- Strengthening and Expansion of the Protected Areas Network
- Implementing the Protected Areas Act.

Beaufort West 2006 provided a review of progress made with the thematic areas and analysed the challenges and opportunities that various agencies have been faced with in implementing the action plan. It was apparent that agencies were struggling to implement the Action Plan. Lack of tools, guidelines and financial resources were highlighted as major constraints.

Although there are pockets in the country where there has been success, in overall, Mafikeng 2008 demonstrated that communities still feel disenfranchised by government. Lack of capacity and financial resources was re-emphasised. Mafikeng presented even more challenges for the implementation of the Action Plan by introducing the new National Protected Areas Expansion Strategy, Co-management framework and the MOA with all the Post-settlement support plans to the conference. DEAT and its partners are expected to implement all of these functions with very limited capacity available. Clearly, the business, processes and institutional arrangements associated with the management of parks and reserve in the country can no longer be as usual.

## **7.2 Analysis of the National Action Programme for People and Parks**

There are still several gaps and deficiencies that constitute the substantial obstacles that the people and parks need to overcome. On the background of the reports received from the agencies and deliberations at the past conferences, these can be defined as:

- Lack of tangible on-the ground projects to demonstrate real commitment by government;
- Inadequate financial and other resources for People and Parks Programme;
- Poor delivery of information and knowledge about the People and Parks Programme and its objectives;
- Inadequate recognition for and mobilisation of local stakeholders and their indigenous knowledge for management and planning;
- Poor awareness at park level of natural resource potential;
- Lack of intervention strategy at local level in the absence of consistent co-management plans in order to prioritise local needs;
- Mobilisation of women in development and management of Protected Areas;
- Poor co-ordination and integration between agencies/parks and other organs of state in the provincial and local spheres of government;
- Lack of adequate capacity and competence within agencies and among community representative structures;

The Chief Directorate: Transfrontier Conservation and Protected Areas (DEAT) as well as provinces solely depend on annual fiscal budgets to respond to all the challenges associated with People and Parks. Most of them have constantly complained about lack of prioritization of this function in their provinces. Although the SRPP unit of DEAT provides grant funding, it is project specific and is often distorted as it does not really respond adequately to the objectives and vision of the programme. As such, projects that are currently funded through this source do not even prioritize the areas currently affected by land restitution which affects the majority of parks in the country. Few projects that are funded are almost if not all focussing on infrastructural development within parks which do not necessarily address issues of access and empowerment of communities.

The MOA signed by the Ministers of DEAT and DLA calls for optimum participation and beneficiation of claimants and broader communities in and around the Protected Areas. For this and other obvious reasons mentioned, People and Parks therefore need a more programmatic approach to deal with the current challenges. Indeed, like other national programmes and provincial programmes, the framework within which it will operate will require financing sources other than DEAT, such as National Skills Fund.

### **7.3 The Strategy**

The current thematic areas provide the key pillars for a national Action Programme for People and Parks in the country. The strategy is to build on them and address current gaps or deficiencies in the framework for People and Parks, each with distinct but complementary areas of action. It is therefore proposed that the programme should adapt a four-pronged approach:

- Effective and adequate financing for the new Action Programme
- Building capacity for the integrated and coordinated thrust in park management
- Strengthening governance and building strong community structures and local institutions for effective park management and projects that contribute to substantial eradication of rural poverty;
- Creating awareness and effective mobilisation of stakeholders.



- Exchange of information for best practice

These five areas of priority each encompass several activities, as set out below.

### **7.3.1 Effective and Adequate Financing for the Programme**

There are a number of programmes located in different government departments that receive direct grant funding to deal with the daunting environment, social and poverty alleviation challenges in the country. DEAT has its own SRPP unit that spends hundreds of million annually on poverty relief projects. Protected Areas across the country are faced with similar conservation based community development challenges.

As proposed in the Beaufort West report, due to inadequate fiscal budget available to the national and provincial agencies, a new funding mechanism, such as that of Working for Water, LandCare etc, is necessary for the people and parks program. The current funding from SRPP available to the People and Parks Programme is project specific and sometimes distorted as it does not really respond adequately to the objectives and vision of the programme. Priority areas of the program such as implementation of the MOA, post settlement support projects and co-management activities are often sidelined in favour of other infrastructural development projects within parks which do not necessarily address issues of access and empowerment of communities.

For the purposes of adequately and effectively finance the Action Programme, funding from overseas development partners and institutions such as DBSA and National Skills Fund may also be required. These could be approached to develop financial mechanisms to include a focus on technical and financial support relevant to the People and Parks Programme. The focus of such a mechanism could include training, on the ground project planning and financing for post settlement support, administration and development of co-management agreements and guidelines.

This funding should address the need for:

- Skills development program for park managers and communities;
- Creating incentives (projects) for communities and other stakeholders targeted for the Protected Areas Expansion Strategy.

- Supporting the implementation of the MoA and post settlement support.
- Promoting and creating the program and its objectives;
- Creating case studies for best practices.

### **7.3.2 Building capacity for an integrated and coordinated thrust in park management**

A capacity development program for park managers is urgently required.

There are deficiencies in the capacity of all stakeholders needed to implement the People and Parks program. This is felt mostly at the local and park level, which is also the level where the whole implementation matters.

The conservation of PA in South Africa remains a concurrent national-provincial competency. This means that some conservation functions are exercised at national level and others at provincial level, with national government theoretically being responsible for areas of national significance and the provinces for areas of lesser importance.

The capacity of the conservation authorities in the various provinces however differ substantially. Some of the conservation agencies are under-resourced, with low levels of human resource capacity and financial resources at their disposal to effectively respond to People and Parks needs. The challenges related to the implementation of P&P can therefore be easily attributed to deficiencies in the capacity mentioned above. They also relate to issues of policy, socio-economic, institutional and capacity issues with lack of clarity to roles and responsibilities for addressing the problems in the core. Capacity Development of park management is therefore urgently required in order to play an active and informed role in PA management and development planning.

As a general principle capacity development will be based on assigned roles and responsibilities, not creating new 'project' specific structures and activities. It is assumed that the staff at provincial agency level, from Park Managers to ranger, will be involved in access and benefit sharing and management activities (e.g. surveys, dialogue with the users, and development of the Management Plans etc.) and therefore require capacity development within these fields.

**DEAT should therefore:**

Develop a capacity development project for P&P provincial departments as well as the conservation agencies. The immediate objective will be achieved through efforts, which can be grouped under four main outputs:

- Operational models and toolkit for P&P, such as co-management agreement guidelines;
- Park management staff trained according to needs identified;
- Awareness about goals and opportunities of P&P raised;
- Mechanisms to facilitate access and benefit sharing and co-management in P&P developed and strengthened

A general principle should be that capacity development will be made as practical as possible i.e. hands-on-training albeit under supervision of the 'trainers' and/or facilitators for managers to:

- Provide support for the establishment and operation of provincial co-ordinating bodies and assist them define their roles;
- Monitor and evaluate the progress with and performance of these institutions.
- That institutional capacity must be development for the people and park program nationally and in within provinces;

**7.3.3 Strengthening governance and building strong community structures**

A national plan to strengthen the capacity of local and provincial community structures is urgently needed. This plan must be developed by the communities themselves and implemented by their properly elected leadership.

The current community structures responsible for co-management or to address aspects related to park management are currently weak or non-existent. They need capacity to deal with leadership and natural resources management issues (e.g. conflict management, business management, resource use etc.).

In Mafikeng, the communities acknowledged the failure by the representative committee to convene and drive a people and parks issues affecting local communities. They attributed all this to lack of support by the provincial agencies. The immediate objective is therefore to ensure that:

- Representative committees both national and provincial are efficient and effective for the implementation of P&P improved;
- They receive the necessary support from the Provinces;
- See detail under the community statement (Annex 1)

#### **7.3.4 Creating Awareness and Stakeholder Mobilisation**

Some communities, other government departments, municipalities and surprisingly park managers often have little understanding of the concepts of People and Parks. The education of all these stakeholders is essential to the success of People and Parks and therefore can no longer be underestimated. During the past conferences it was clear that there was lack of transparency and poor communication between community representatives and park managers. With low levels of trust that seem to exist at that level, constant communication will not just help improve relationships but sustain support for other park projects.

#### **To ensure this, DEAT and Agencies should:**

- Develop communication strategies that demystifies the People and Parks Programme principles and plans and makes them more accessible;
- Prepare an information piece for decision-makers that will convey the essence of the People and Parks Program with maximum impact.
- Like in iSimangaliso Wetland Park, all parks to be encouraged to publish a quarterly newsletter for wide communication about the implementation of the program as well as supporting marketing materials (based on what the audience want or need to know).
- Ensure that the People and Parks Programme is branded effectively to create more awareness about its objectives;

- With full co-operation of the park managers engaged affected communities in Parks planning processes;
- Ensure that communication with communities is done in such a way that they can be understood.

### **7.3.5 Exchange of information for best practice**

A national information exchange programme incorporating working models and guidelines for implementation of P&P is urgently needed.

Some parks have initiated people and parks programs from which others can adapt best-practice guidelines for use. Although there is already exchange of information within agencies, this exchange can be considerably enhanced across other provinces.

DEAT in consultation with the provinces and agencies to:

- Identify and profile best practices across the country and in line with the thematic areas;
- Document these into a easy read publication and circulate accordingly;

Using these investigative best practices selected to address key issues and challenges and supported by the CBNRM principles, lessons learnt will feed into new and/or revised guidelines, policy development, identification of research and training needs and identification and development of linkages. At the same time they will serve as a practical training ground for agencies staff in all provinces.

## ANNEX 1

### COMMUNITY STATEMENT

#### COMMUNITY STATEMENT MAFIKENG 31 August 2008

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We the representatives of the communities attending the third people and parks conference held at Mafikeng in the North West gathered to take stock of progress by the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism, the Provincial Departments in charge of the Parks, respective Parks Boards and the individual Parks across the country.

#### **We have noted the following:**

- Lack proper coordination of the people and parks programme by all the parties concerned.
- The absence of dedicated leadership of the programme as demonstrated by the failure to rollout a national programme of people and parks.
- The failure of provincial departments to commit to meaning engagement with communities in a concerted effort to build long term partnerships.
- The apparent failure of the national and provincial departments to engage the parks management with community representatives in an effort to harmonise relationships at this critical level of people and parks programme.
- The failure of the National Community Task Team to drive a meaningful program that channels the issues and energies of communities nationally

#### **Our meeting noted further:**

- The negative outcomes this state of affairs continues to exact on the cause of communities within the people and park discourse insofar as:
- Communities are still dealing with the same challenges they faced in the last two conferences, with little tangible progress.

- The coordination of the activities of the communities remain at the lowest level, since both the communities and the National Communities Task Team that was elected at the Beaufort West depends entirely on DEAT for its activities.
- Provincial departments have neither the commitment nor the interest in working with communities, with many conveniently sighting lacks of budgetary provisions for their inaction.
- DEAT itself lack urgency when dealing with communities, an example is the fact that most of the representatives elected at Beaufort West were only issued with letters a year after the Beaufort West Conference and many failed to receive invitation of meeting held at Tshwane.
- The situation of the Park as reflected by the attitude of Parks Management to the communities has not improved much over the years for many parks resulting in the concerns that discussions between communities and DEAT do not filter to the parks.
- Community representatives do not always receive a fair treatment from provincial departments and face personal inconvenience of varying degrees as they seek to highlight and address challenges of their communities.
- There is no visible coordination amongst the key role players in the people and parks programme, notably DEAT, Provincial Departments, Parks Management and Municipalities. This situation has serious implications for the quality and pace of the people and parks progress.
- There is no meaningful monitoring of the progress nationally and within provinces resulting in uneven developments nationally.
- Communities have no reliable source of information and the absence of continuous feedback from national processes is hampering a common understanding of the legislation and policy positions.
- The lack of information and absence of a coordinated capacity building programs are two conditions that cement the inferior position occupied by communities within the People and Parks discourse making them entirely dependant on government for taking up issues amongst themselves.

**We have therefore resolved** to present the following demands from our communities to this the third conference on people and parks, as we do here:

1. That institutional capacity must be developed for the people and park program nationally and in within provinces, this will be achieve when;
  - A national plan for people and parks developed by the communities for the communities themselves and implemented by their properly elected leadership.
  - A budget must be developed and funds made available within the respective government structures to rollout the people and park program and plan.
  
2. Government must demonstrate commitment and seriousness towards the people and park programme by providing structured support on ongoing bases. We demand the following:
  - The hosting of properly constituted and representative provincial communities meetings to chart a way forward as well as elect a provincial leadership and develop a provincial plan of action.
  - To convene a national community's representative meeting where a national leadership will be elected, a plan and a budget be adopted and implemented.
  - These activities musts take place within three months of this conference having taken place.
  
3. Coordination and capacity to drive the people and parks programme in provinces and nationally:
  - The employment of full time People and Parks Coordinators in all provinces and nationally whose main responsibility will be to provide direct support to the elected leadership of the communities and communities themselves.
  - The creation of formal structures amongst stakeholders where parties will assume an equal status and play their roles without fear or favour.
  - A program of visitation to all communities with land within Parks and those with land claims for purpose of providing information and capacity building programmes directly.



4. We demand a framework to engage Parks Management on the many challenges facing communities and a plan of action decided and agreed upon at this conference.
  
5. The provision of support for elected members of the leadership of communities.
  - Community representatives are taking a lot of personal strain in serving their people without any recognition.
  - An honorarium must be paid to the leadership for attending meetings and business of the committee as it is the case with many boards created by government departments.

These demands constitute the communities' conditions for continuous participating in the people and park programmes of DEAT. The representatives present at this conference came to the conclusion that unless Government demonstrates commitment to this program there will be no point in communities and their leaders taking part in further activities.

\_\_\_ **END** \_\_\_

**ANNEXURE 2**  
**GOVERNMENT RESPONSE**  
**TO COMMUNITY STATEMENT**

**GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO COMMUNITY STATEMENT**  
**2<sup>ND</sup> September, 2008**  
**MAFIKENG**

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We, the delegates of the 3<sup>rd</sup> People and Parks Conference convened in Mafikeng in the North West Province.

**Noting:**

1. Continued minimum participation by Local Government.
2. Lack of co-ordination and alignment of programmes, both at provincial and community level on People and Parks issues.
3. The continuing dissatisfaction of the Land Claim processes and subsequent post settlement support.
4. The concerns about the lack of significant information sharing, awareness and communication strategies at the local level.
5. The concern that women are not included in the quest to reclaim land that they should have directly inherited from their forefathers.
6. The provincial leadership capacity deficiency mentioned.
7. The disparity of commitment and capacity amongst provinces which indicates that some concerns may be provincially specific
8. Some of the provinces have, due to lack of capacity, not responded to the Action Plan adequately.
9. That whilst DEAT and provincial agencies remain custodians of Parks, most of the land claims issues raised are not necessarily DEAT and Agency responsibilities, but rather the Department of Land Affairs and the commission.

**Acknowledge:**

- The improved participation of the senior members of provinces and agencies in this forum.
- The commitment that some provinces have demonstrated through the number of success stories presented.
- We also appreciate the commitment shown by communities despite the concerns raised.
- That despite the fact that DEAT and the Agencies are not responsible for LandCare; they are, however committed to development of the required post settlement support plans as per the Memorandum of Agreement.

**We have therefore undertaken to:**

Re-commit to the Action Plan and to specifically respond to the following key issues:

1. Institutional Arrangements (incl leadership)
  - The National Community Coordinating Committee for the People and Parks programme will be replicated at the provincial level and provided with all necessary support.
  - The CEO's forum will be revived and will cover all the People and Parks programme issues.
2. Resource commitment
  - Where socio-ecology units do not exist, they will be established and resourced.
  - Provide necessary support to the community coordinating committees to make sure that they are not just established but representative and capacitated.
3. Capacity building
  - a. A National Capacity Building programme will be established to deal specifically with:
    - Conducting skills audit for all park management, provincial coordinating committees and park forums
    - Training of park managers, community forums as well as provincial coordinating committees.
    - Creating more awareness and communication about the People and Parks programme and its objectives to
    - Strengthening of Agency efficiency to deal effectively People and Parks programme.

\_\_\_\_**END**\_\_\_\_

**ANNEXURE 3**

## FORMAL SPEECHES & PRESENTATIONS

### 1. OPENING ADDRESS SPEECH DELIVERED BY THE PREMIER OF THE NORTH-WEST PROVINCE, MME BOMO MOLEWA

Programme Director; Honourable Deputy Minister, Mme Rejoice Mabudafhasi; MECs and MPLs here Present; The District Mayor of Ngaka Modiri Molema District Municipality, The Executive Mayor of Mafikeng Local Municipality, MMCs and Councillors here Present; Officials from National, Provincial and Local Governments and Government Agencies; Community and Civil Society Representatives; Distinguished Guests; Ladies and Gentlemen.

Perhaps the words expressed by William Wordsworth in his poem titled "The world is too much with us" serve to express the importance of nature conservation. In it he condemns the apparent lack of love and appreciation for Mother Nature. His exact words are: "*The world is too much with us; late and soon,*

*Getting and spending, we lay waste our powers:*

*Little we see in Nature that is ours;*

*We have given our hearts away, a sordid boon!*

*This Sea that bares her bosom to the moon;*

*The winds that will be howling at all hours,*

*And are up-gathered now like sleeping flowers;*

*For this, for everything, we are out of tune;*

*It moves us not".*

This Conference takes place just as we begin our Heritage Month. It is therefore a timely reminder that our heritage goes beyond custom and culture and reaches out to embrace our wealth of flora and fauna.

Just as the 2006 Conference took stock of resolutions taken at the Swadini Conference, so shall this one interrogate progress since Beaufort West.

This must be commended, as quality assurance is critical in the continuing effort to build a better life for all our people. Proceeding unchecked we might commit mistakes that can lead to the destruction of flora and the decimation of fauna. That, in turn, could lead to the destabilization of

ecotourism, upsetting, in the process, provincial as well as national economic growth targets. That, in its own turn, would mean fewer job and business opportunities, and greater levels of poverty.

This is why we need to regularly monitor and evaluate our progress and develop new ways of dealing with challenges.

The foregoing seeks to suggest the seriousness of what you are here for. This is more than simply another conference. It is in a very real sense a matter of life and death.

It is a profoundly human thing as nature defines who we are, even as some of us think we are distant from it – the truth is that everything we are and we do is ultimately traceable to nature. One of the most pre-eminent South African writers, Laurens van der Post, captures the dynamic link between nature and human beings quite impressively in his book “The Heart of the Hunter”, in which he says

*“...when one has lived as close to nature for as long as we had done, one is not tempted to commit the metropolitan error of assuming that the sun rises and the sun sets, the day burns out and the night falls, in a world outside oneself. These are great and reciprocal events, which occur also in ourselves”.*

When, therefore, you reflect on the meaning of land claims to the communities concerned; you deal with land reform in the context of conservation and protected areas; you consider models of access and benefit-sharing; you analyse matters pertaining to our marine heritage; it is important to note the interdependence between us, as human beings and nature.

You will in the progression of this conference deal with a number of very important issues such as environmental management, climate change, economic development, a history of dispossession, land reclamation, the sustainability of nature and the sustenance of people.

Given this therefore this conference is of national importance, because mismanagement of these issues can result in far reaching socio-economic repercussions.

There are quite a number of examples some of them familiar to you of noble intentions of transformation with some errors in implementation that lead to socio-economic and political instability.

It is for this reason I hope that this conference is called People and Parks. I think the name emanates from the understanding of the impact this discourse has on the lives of our people.

The name of the Conference talks to the involvement of people on matters which have implications for them. The reason behind some of the challenges we face in the management of our natural resources is a history where people were deprived of an opportunity to be active participants in debates and decisions to do with their own natural heritage.

This Conference then is also a corrective and healing process which builds on our government's commitment to participatory democracy.

Our approach as government as so practically demonstrated by Deputy Minister Mabudafhasi in her championing and leadership of the whole process is to make our people lead on issues relating to them. The Conference's slogan of "Conservation for the People with the People" also proves the commitment of our government to the prescription of the Freedom Charter that says "the people shall govern". This is because government sees its success in managing the country's natural heritage as dependent on the successful involvement of the people.

The consolidated report of the Beaufort West chapter of the Conference points to some remarkable progress in the implementation of decisions taken. Amongst the more notable is the training of learners and other stakeholders in environmental matters.

It does however isolate some areas which require additional work, among them policy alignment; funding and finance; broader capacity building; community access to parks' resources; community conflict management; and improved application of indigenous and traditional knowledge.

It is our hope an expectation, as indeed it is yours, that this Conference will resolve all outstanding issues so that there may, in the spirit of Business Unusual, an acceleration of our programmes as we conclude the mandate of the current government before next year's elections.

We wish you well and assure you of our continued support as you take this process forward under the inspired and inspiring leadership of my sister, Deputy Minister Mabudafhasi.

Your work, we hope, will protect our natural heritage to a point where it shall continue to be unique and special to us all in the manner captured by the Italian writer, Francesca Marciano in her book, Rules of the Wild, when she says: "*In a way everything here always happens for the first time. How the birds fly, the clouds move, the sun rises. Each time it's like watching a miracle happen. You will never get used to it. It will always be new*".

With those words as my concluding words, it is my pleasure to declare this Conference officially opened.

## **2. OBJECTIVES OF THE 3<sup>RD</sup> PEOPLE AND PARKS CONFERENCE PRESENTED BY THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL, DEAT – MR FUNDISILE MKETENI**

The DDG's announcement of the objectives of the conference was preceded by a review of the evolution of the People and Parks Programme since 2002.

### **Beaufort West Conference Undertakings**

- Signing of the MoA between DEAT and DoA
- Development of Co-management guidelines
- Development of Access & Benefit sharing models
- Accelerating the process of settling Land Claims

- Active participation of communities in Park Business
- Nominated community representatives to be part of the P&P steering committee.

### **Mafikeng Objectives**

- To take stock of progress made to date
- To share experiences (successes and challenges)
- To present and further review strategies and frameworks that has been developed since 2006.
- Consolidate, enhance and strengthen the Action Plan

### **3. MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT TO ADDRESS LAND CLAIMS AGAINST PROTECTED AREAS PRESENTED BY THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL, DEAT – MR FUNDISILE MKETENI**

#### **Role of MOA**

Provide a framework to facilitate:

- A co-operative national approach to the resolution of land claims in Protected Areas;
- A definition of the roles of the Departments involved;
- The continued environmental protection for Protected Areas under land claims; and
- The optimum participation and beneficiation of claimants and broader communities in and around the Protected Areas.

#### **Fundamental principles**

- To work within the framework of the Cabinet memorandum
- Protected Areas to be managed in perpetuity as protected conservation areas
- Ownership of land in PA's by claimants without physical occupation, and with other restrictions in title
- Defined co-management of Protected Areas involving claimants must take place in terms of applicable legislation
- Regulated Access Rights to the said Protected Area within which the Land is situated
- Existing Management Authority shall continue to manage the Land situated within the Protected Area after restitution until the DEAT Minister reviews it
- Beneficiation of the Claimants shall be structured in such a way to be tangible, realistic and optimal

#### **Additional Aspects Covered**

- Roles, Responsibilities and obligations of DLA and DEAT
- Dispute resolution process

- Restitution Process and an Operational protocol

#### **4. NATIONAL CO-MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT PRESENTED BY THAMI MDLALOSE, DIRECTOR – LEGAL SUPPORT (CLCC)**

##### **Background**

- A Memorandum of Agreement between the DEAT & DLA was signed in May 2007 (“MoA”).
- Principles and Protocol in MoA were implemented in the settlement of the Isimangaliso (formerly St Lucia) land claims. A co-management agreement was to be entered into within 3 months of the signing of the Settlement Agreement.
- The DEAT & DLA were briefed on challenges in the conclusion of co-management agreement for Isimangaliso, Blyde River Canyon National Parks. The Ministers formed a Task Team to advice on Co-Management Models.
- The Task Team is comprised of DEAT, DLA, SANParks, and Isimangaliso Wetland Park

##### **Process**

- The Inter-Ministerial Task Team joined forces with the People & Parks Task Team on Co-Management, and various meetings were held to discuss a co-management framework
- It was agreed that co-management models had to be developed to maximise beneficiation for the Claimants (and the local community)
- Earlier drafts of the co-management models were presented in quarterly People & Parks meeting, and inputs and comments have been incorporated
- The following organisations were represented in the joint task team: DEAT, DLA / CLCC, Isimangaliso Wetland Park, SANParks, Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife, MTPA, Eastern Cape Parks

##### **Issues**

- No or little beneficiation for the Claimants who are restored land in a Protected Area
- High expectation from Claimants that co-management is the same as joint- management
- No surplus / profit from Management Authorities to share with Claimants
- Poor understanding of legislative context within which Protected Areas operate

##### **Legislative Framework**

- S42 of the Protected Areas Act makes provision for a co-management agreement, *inter alia*, between Management Authorities and owners of the land
- Provision is made for an agreement on the following:
- Delegation of powers by the management authority to the other party to the agreement (other than in a WHC);
- Apportionment of any income generated from the management of the protected area or any other form of benefit sharing between the parties;
- Use of biological resources in the protected area;



- Access to the protected area;
- Occupation of the protected area;
- Development of economic opportunities within and adjacent to the protected area;
- Development of local management capacity and knowledge exchange;
- Financial and other support to ensure effective administration and implementation of the co-management agreement.

### **Co – Management Models**

- Three co-management models were identified. Each model comprises a package of benefits as well as the structures and procedures for co-management.
- Depending of the type of co-management adopted, the benefit package, the structures for co-management and the procedures to be followed will be different.
- The models should be viewed as a continuum, rather than discreet models, with circumstances of each protected area to be taken into account when defining the co-management model chosen.

#### **The models are as follows:**

- A. Full co-management:** where the compensation for no physical occupation takes the form of socio-economic beneficiation and participation in co-management. This should be applied in areas where beneficiation is viable and possible.
- B. Lease:** where the State leases the land from the land claimants. This should be applied where few (if any) socio-economic opportunities exist and would result in inadequate compensation for loss of beneficial occupation.
- C. Part co-management / Part Lease:** where a combination of co-management and lease are applied. This would be applied on the basis of the socio-economic opportunities.

#### **A. Lease / Part Lease Model**

- Treasury approval is required for the Lease or Part Lease Model.
- A “community levy” could be levied on all visitors and be channeled into a Community Trust Fund to finance future community development projects. This could be used as a basis to determine the lease fee.
- Further work is needed on the determination of a formula for the lease fee.

### **Terminology**

**In the table below, the following words and phrases have the following meaning:**

- **Revenue sharing** means percentage of revenue that will be paid out by the Management Authority to the Claimants. This can comprise revenue from gates, game sales and concession fees.

- **Rental income** means income derived by claimants from the State. This income could comprise a fixed rental or a fixed rental plus an amount based on revenue earned.
- **Capacity Building** includes skills development and empowerment in tourism and conservation related jobs and entrepreneurs.
- **Development rights** mean the identification of a development site on the restituted land in the Protected Area. This identification of the sites takes place within the framework of the Protected Area Managers' planning processes, including the Integrated Management Plans and Local Area Plans.
- **Mandatory partner status** means Claimants are considered as the beneficiaries of any tourism and conservation related work or economic opportunity on the restituted land, including the establishment of equity partnerships with the private sector in tourism concessions.
- **Equity partnerships:** This refers to private sector tourism investment in the Park. This partnership provides the land claimants with equity shareholding in the business, jobs and skills development opportunities, and the procurement of goods and services.
- **Natural resource use:** Claimants have access to sustainable biological resources where limits are determined through the Protected Area planning process, such as the Local Area Plan for that area. Assistance could be provided for creation of community "medicinal nurseries" on communal land to allow communities access to such resources.
- **Tourism LED:** Includes tourism activity concession opportunities, craft.
- **Conservation LED:** Includes land care, maintenance and infrastructure opportunities for contractors and work seekers.
- **Consultation primarily through Land owners association:** Formed in terms of the MOA to provide a forum for consultation and nominate Board (if applicable) representatives to the Minister. This could include Acknowledgement of the history of communities when naming facilities, camps and renaming parks and world heritage sites.
- **Representation on liaison structures at protected area level:** Each Protected Area will determine how best this representation must occur.
- **Delegation of Function:** The Management Authority may delegate certain functions. This delegation is a contractual delegation which means that the Management Authority never loses its statutory liability and responsibility to manage the Protected Area. Delegations are not permitted in terms of the World Heritage Convention Act.

### **Models: Beneficiation**

<b>Beneficiation</b>	<b>Full Co-Management</b>	<b>Part Co-Man / Part Lease</b>	<b>Full Lease</b>
Revenue Sharing	% of Gross (paid by MA)	% of Net	By Agreement
Rental Income	None	Combination (paid by Treasury MA)	Rental paid by National Treasury
Capacity Building	Applicable (E.g. 90%)	Application (e.g. 60%)	Applicable (e.g. 30%)
Mandatory Partner Status	Applicable	Applicable	Applicable
Development Rights (through IMP)	Applicable	Applicable	Applicable
Equity Partnership in developments	Applicable	Applicable	By Agreement
Access Rights	Applicable	Applicable	Applicable
Tourism LED	Applicable	Applicable	By Agreement
Conservation LED	Applicable	Applicable	By Agreement
Natural Resource use	Applicable	Applicable	Applicable

### **Models: Governance**

<b>Beneficiation</b>	<b>Full Co-Management</b>	<b>Part Co-Man / Part Lease</b>	<b>Full Lease</b>
Consultation (association)	Applicable	Applicable	Applicable
Representation (Board / Strategic Management)	Applicable	Applicable	By Agreement
Delegation of Functions (other than in a WHC)	Applicable	Applicable	Not Applicable
Post Settlement support by government	Applicable	Applicable	Applicable

### **Closing Remarks**

- The table above demonstrates which type of benefit that applies to the three broad categories of co-management. The purpose, economic circumstances, characteristics and type of Protected Area will affect which activities are ultimately selected for co-management.
- Co-management will increase the cost of managing Protected Areas regardless of whether co-management or lease agreements are applied.
- In terms of the MoA, beneficiation of the Claimants should be structured in such a way that it is tangible, realistic and optimal though not compromising the financial sustainability of the said Protected Area.

**5. COMMISSION ON RESTITUTION OF LAND RIGHTS PRESENTED BY REGIONAL LAND CLAIMS COMMISSIONER, MS TUMI SEBOLA, NORTH-WEST PROVINCE**

### **5.1.1 Background**

- Established in 1995 in terms of Chapter 4 of the Act to provide:
- Equitable redress to victims of dispossessions: in particular the landless and rural poor
- Contribute towards equitable redistribution of land in South Africa
- Promote reconciliation through the restitution process
- Facilitate development initiative by bringing together relevant stakeholders including all spheres of government

### **5.1.2 Restitution of Land Rights Act**

- Restitution of Land Rights Act, Act no 22 of 1994 as amended
- First piece of legislation promulgated by the new South African government to address in equality of land ownership
- Aim of the Act:
- To provide for the restitution of land rights to persons or communities dispossessed of land rights after 19 June 1913 as a result of past racial discriminatory laws or practices
- Claims lodged before the 31 December 1998

### **5.1.3 Purpose of Restitution**

- Provide equitable redress to victims of racial land dispossession
- Provide access to right in land, including land ownership and sustainable development.
- Forster national reconciliation and stability
- Improve household welfare, underpinning economic growth, contributing to poverty alleviation and improved quality of life

## **5.2 SETTLEMENT RESTITUTION CLAIMS AS OF 1995 - 31 July 2008**

### **5.2.1 Protection of Environment**

- Section 24 of the Constitution: Environmental protection
- Right to healthy environment, free of harm
- Protected environment for the benefit of future generation through:
- Prevention of pollution and ecological degradation
- Promotion of conservation
- Secure ecologically sustainable development
- Use of natural resources, economic and social development

### **5.2.2 Principles of the MOU**

- Commitment to work with in the framework of the MOU in settling claims in protected Areas
- Collaborate to establish a common approach to land claims
- Co-operation and consistent approach to restitution in all phases
- Ensure Continuity for generations to come
- Ownership without physical occupation and other restrictions does not compromise conservation and management of protected areas
- Co-management of protected Areas must be sustainable, effective and compatible with conservation and development mandate
- Integrated management plan of protected Areas
- Tangible beneficiation plan for claimants
- Settlement to be compatible with applicable legislations and policies including biodiversity conservation and protected Areas
- Settlement to uphold principles of economic viability, financial sustainability and holistic management approach of protected Areas
- Tangible and realistic beneficiation plan for claimants

### **5.3 Roles and Responsibilities of DLA/Commission**

- Resolution of land claims to be in line with legislations:
- engaging DEAT and all relevant management Authority in finalization of claims in protected Areas
- Facilitate negotiations for packaging of claims in line with agreed positions
- Facilitate transfer of land to duly established legal entity
- Ensure representation of land owner association in management structures and adhere to principles of co-operative governance
- Monitor implementation of settlement agreements

### **5.4 Roles and Responsibilities DEAT**

- Ensure Implementation of settlement agreements is in line with legislation:
- Manage, maintain and develop of Protected Area during negotiations
- Adhere to the principles of Co-operative governance
- Maintain a representative network of Protected Areas on State and community land
- Ensure and promote participation of local communities in Co- management

## **6. Challenges**

- Property descriptions on unregistered rights
- Use of Independent professional Evaluators (transformation of the profession)
- Community disputes, boundary disputes, land use disputes and the use of Chieftaincy in disputes.

- Disputes between Chieftaincy and democratically elected community structures
- Conflict of interest in land use
- Protected claimant verification process (unavailability of documents such as ID's, birth certificates, affidavits, family trees etc.)

## **7. Settlement and Implementation Strategy**

- Government has set itself a ten year period for implementation of settled claims, thus after settlement of claims by 2008, a ten year period of implementation of settled claims kicks in
- Sustainability does not start at the implementation process; it starts right at the beginning of the process when communities are assisted to plan their future as new land owners.
- Sustainable land development requires full participation of communities and partners in the process
- Sustainability often includes Social, Economic and ecological perspective
- Development is meant to meet the needs of current generation while giving future generation the same opportunity to meet their needs.
- In some cases the dominant conception of development is growth in economic output

### **7.1 Context of SIS**

- Given its prominence in the constitution, Apex priorities and ANC resolutions, Land and Agrarian reform remains a national priority.
- Post settlement support has been identified as critical for the success and sustainability of our land reform programme
- Land reform is every body's business; the State, Parastatals, Private sector, etc.
- The approach of the strategy is in sync with the Area Based Planning and PLAS
- The Reviews of SLAG, LRAD, CASP, Restitution all point to the need for Settlement and Implementation Support to all land reform beneficiaries. (failed projects)
- The Strategy places Land and agrarian reform at the center of local government ensuring that all projects are embedded in the IDPs
- Responds to the Land summit resolutions for a new practical and integrated developmental approach to land reform, given the profile of our target group. (pro-poor)

### **7.2 SIS KEY PILLARS**

- ❖ Institutional : Functional alignment and spatial integration arrangements
- ❖ Social Issues : Capacity development
- ❖ Environmental issues : Sustainable human settlement and integrated natural resources
- ❖ Economic issues : Livelihood , enterprise development, finance, market access and provision of technical and business support:

## **8. VOTE OF THANKS BY THE DIRECTOR, PROTECTED AREAS PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT, DEAT – MS SKUMSA MANCOTYWA**

On behalf of the National People and Parks Steering Committee, I would like to acknowledge the valuable contribution of the following community representatives in the implementation of People and Parks Action Plan in the period between Beaufort West and Mafikeng. They have really tried to ensure that we remain true to the spirit of ensuring 'Conservation for the people with the people'. The road has not been easy and we will continue to look up to you for further guidance. As a small token of our appreciation, we would like to present them with gifts from the Tlatlana Community Project (from Lekoko Community)

Community Representative

Ms J Mathonsi - Limpopo

Mr. M Molokwane - Limpopo

Mr. P Mhlaba - KZN

Mr E. Mfeka – KZN

Mr M. Mogotsi - NW

Mr.M Keabetswe – NW

Mr. C.Statse – Eastern Cape

Mr J Matabane – E Cape

Mr S. Dhlakude - Mpumalanga

Mr J Mathebe - Mpumalanga

Mr T Direko – WC

Gauteng reps have stopped attending meetings, and we hope that the Gauteng communities will elect new reps

Unfortunately the Free State and NC representatives could not attend due to budgetary challenges, but the FS province has now undertaken to address this matter from now onwards. I believe that Mr Lefa Mashiloane and Mr Sekati Ramosoou have been nominated by the Free State communities present here and we look forward to working with them.

We also appreciate the participation of the following CEO's at this meeting:

CEO NWT & PB/ MTPA Mr Charles Ndabeni

CEO IWPA Mr. Andrew Zoulumis



## CEO SANPARKS Dr David Mabunda

We also acknowledge the role played by the members of the National People & Parks Steering Committee, in particular Ms Lovejoy Mokutu, who unfortunately could not attend this meeting and appreciate the fruits of the hard work in relation to co-ordination of preparations for this landmark conference.

A special word of thanks goes to NW province, especially the CEO of NWT&PB, Mr Ndabeni and Ms Bridget Sefanyetso, who has worked tirelessly to make this conference a success.

## ANNEXURE 4 FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION SUMMARIES

### ACCESS AND BENEFIT SHARING

Facilitators: Marinda Marais, Muleso Kharika, Reuben Ngwenya, Machuene Ramonyai, Prince Fakude, Beulah Ramasehla

#### Benefits

Revenue sharing (Game sales /donations & Gate takings), Resource use, Management skill, Job opportunities, Funding opportunities, Concessions, Capacity building, SMMEs (direct & indirect), Community levy, Grants / compensations, Develop grants

ISSUES	IMPLIMENTATION CHALLENGES	PROPOSED SOLUTIONS
<b>Important for Claimants to have their title deeds</b>	Not being able to meet with the Concessionaires (long term agreements)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legislation / contract</li> <li>• Incorporating them in Joint Management Plan</li> <li>• Meeting be set up with the Concessionaires</li> </ul>
<b>Capacity building (understanding of possibilities and understanding the business potential of the PA)</b>	Lack of policy framework / understanding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of policy framework; capacity building and implementation</li> <li>• Leadership</li> </ul>
<b>Inclusive management system</b>	Government – Community consultation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Institutionalize community park forums</li> </ul>
<b>Budget ( identify the funders)</b>	Lack of communication ( financial reporting); Budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Budget to speak to joint implementation plan</li> <li>• Transparency</li> </ul>
<b>Categorization of beneficiaries (primary –land owners; secondary – Adjacent community; Government – management costs)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Who determines percentages for benefits</li> <li>• Equitable sharing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parks Agencies / Communities (each situation is unique)</li> <li>• Benchmarking</li> <li>• Negotiated / size of property / value of area</li> </ul>
OTHER AREAS OF DISCUSSION		
	Research / feasibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Put a team of experts together including community to research / or consolidate resource availability / needs</li> </ul>
	Lack of action plan for pre and post settlement ( lack of commitment, coordination & management : intergovernmental relations)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implementation of a coordinated action plan to address pre- &amp; post-settlement</li> <li>• Ensure communication to broader community via Municipality</li> </ul>
	Us and Them	Capacity building & development; integrated management plan / good communication (understanding of roles)
	Conflict management and resolutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dispute resolution – Intra- community and conflict of government agencies</li> </ul>

## CO-MANAGEMENT AND CAPACITY BUILDING

Facilitators: Sibusiso Bukhosini & Mirjam de Koning

KEY ISSUES	IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES	PROPOSED ACTIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Rights of land claimants versus those of the wider community (How do we address issues of benefit sharing?)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Extend framework for other cases and wider community</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Confirm with LCC and legal experts the implied issue of ownership</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Key role of traditional leadership in co management</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Co management agreements are not signed for implementation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ If settlement agreement signed than co-management agreement negotiated by September 2008. Signing of agreement by October 2008</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Guidelines needed on how to implement co management (structures, roles and responsibilities)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Delay in finalization of settlement agreements</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ In general the co-management agreement must be signed 3 months after signing of settlement agreement (if not explanation why)</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Who drives co management process? (pre settlement &amp; post settlement)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Delay in establishment of co-management agreement because lack of agreement of contents of agreement.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Parties must explain why deadlines are not met</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Representative at strategic level</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Co-management framework presented only addresses benefits for land claimants.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Clearly define roles and responsibilities</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ What do we exactly mean by co management ( What to do if there are no real benefits)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Lack of commitment to adhere to timeframes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Clearly define communication strategy &amp; plan (both for communities and government). Improve on better communication between strategic and operational level</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Learn from case studies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ When can we implement? When S42d and settlement agreement is signed or upon transfer of title deed.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Capacity building needed on various levels so we can engage at the same level.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Co management for specific group(land claimants) and or wider group</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Put deadline on signing of agreements (action plan with time frames)</li> </ul>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Co management should entail share decision making and not consultation</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Settle land claims ASAP so we can speed up on co-management</li></ul>	
OTHER ISSUES DISCUSSED		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Capacity building needed so we engage on same level</li></ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Is co management only valid for proclaimed nature reserves?</li></ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Transfer of skills so that the communities understand the management of nature reserves</li></ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Develop action plan fro capacity building</li></ul>		

## **STRENGTHENING GOVERNANCE**

Facilitors: Sizo Sibiyi & Bridget Sefanyetso

National Government:

- Financial Resources
- Staff
- Training
- Donors
- Budget reform

Provincial Government

- Resources
- Skills
- Associating with other government entities

**Do we have structures to advance the People and Parks programme in the province?**

- Gauteng: does not have structures because of budget constraints, Resolution: integrated the functions of the People and Parks programme into their personnel workplans.
- North West: Structures are there, however people do not understand their functions regarding the programme. Suggestion: We need to ensure that officials understand the objectives of the programme
- Northern Cape: No budget, human capacity, the province cannot integrate the functions of the programme as they have more than enough duties. Suggestion: We need one coordinating structure that involves SANParks and the province to deal with issues of People and Parks.
- SANParks: there are park forum, including people and conservation officials: Challenges: Capacity and communication. Politics of SANParks and province are also at play
- KZN: RLCC and the province do not share the same vision.
- North West: the province holds meetings with RLCC and communities to discuss issues of co-management.
- Eastern Cape: Structures are there however there is no progress. Lack of communication with communities due to human capacity

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- No focused structure
- Integration of functions

Governance is not different from institutional arrangement. We must to look at the coordination, alignment and the smooth running of the People and Parks programme. Gap identified: Information and awareness campaign are urgently needed

What consultative structures are needed to advance and strengthen the programme of People and Parks?

- The communities' point of view is that government structures are not functioning well. We need a focused structure at the provincial level.
- All stakeholders i.e. Ward Councillors, Dikgosi and community reps etc

KEY ISSUES	PROPOSED ACTIONS
<b>What support is needed to ensure that the programme and activities are prioritized within executing agencies</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Capacity and financial resources</li> <li>▪ Free State: Need for conservation agency</li> <li>▪ Community : commitment from provincial structure personnel</li> </ul>
<b>Is the current steering committee active?</b>	<p>Communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ National Steering Committee is not effective. Communication on issues discussed at national meeting with communities is needed</li> <li>▪ Never invited to meetings but have been appointed as provincial representatives</li> </ul> <p>Government: Resolution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Monitoring tools are needed</li> <li>▪ Is it possible for communities to report directly at national government and be part of the steering committee meetings?</li> <li>▪</li> </ul>
<b>How best can the communities representatives participate in the current government steering committees:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Communities are under utilized, involvement in the three spheres of government</li> <li>▪ Involvement in decision making</li> <li>▪ CPA's must also be organized</li> <li>▪ CPA's must also involve Traditional Council or the Dikgosi. A traditional personnel is needed in the CPA</li> <li>▪ We need to start facilitating this above matter</li> <li>▪</li> </ul>
<b>How can PA's link more effectively to municipal LED plans</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Participate in IDP's District Growth and Development Strategy</li> <li>▪ Participation of LED and Tourism Portfolio Committees</li> <li>▪ Municipality and Councillors must sit and talk</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Municipality must also be part of the CPA</li></ul>
OTHER ISSUES DISCUSSED	
Environmental Legislation, policies and documents developed must be made user friendly, specific to the communities	
We need a study to get or understand the Community issues so as to inform the frameworks and way forward	
Need for a dedicated personnel from national, provincial and the communities	
We need a person who is in charge of the programme	

**UNDERSTANDING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE  
MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT**

Facilitators: Thumi Sebola and Peter Ntshoe

<b>KEY ISSUES</b>	<b>IMPLEMENTABLE CHALLENGES</b>	<b>SOLUTIONS</b>
1. Background	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gives continuity</li> <li>• Distribution of MoA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Briefing</li> <li>• Distribution to the Claimants</li> </ul>
2. Ownership and occupation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Title</li> <li>• There must be clear timeframes on the Sec 42D</li> </ul>	State Land Disposal Committee
3. Amendment of the agreement(MoA)	How will the new owner be affected?	The MoA is just a guideline and the Settlement Agreement is the key.
4. Claimants <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attachment</li> <li>• Benefit</li> </ul>	Sec 42D to deal with the attachment issue since MoA covers the benefits	S42 deals.
5. Biodiversity value is high but less economic value	Other areas does not have economical value e.g. Wilderness	Options workshop to disseminate information.
6. Contractual parks using co-management in terms of contractual parks (the land that communities own within the buffer zone in making it economically viable)	Finding alternatives	Assisting communities within the buffer zone in making their land economically viable. Holistic approach needed.
7. MoA deals with land claims focus is on land claims.	People and Parks deals with broader issues not just land claims.	MoA needs to be broadened to cover other issues as well.
8. Guarantees for future generations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Beneficiation and how do we guarantee benefication.</li> <li>• How do we jointly manage expectations (from sides of authorities and benefactors?)</li> </ul>	Explain guarantees to communities.
9. Why have MoA while government is discussing issues of not issuing titles to claimants?	DEAT is still committed to the MoA, although there are political discussions in place, to find new ways of settling land claims within the ambit of the law.	
10. Co-Management, MoA: Brings about the concept of the co-management.	Issues of finance outstanding and holds back implementation of co-management.	Treasury needs to find solutions to this.



## NATIONAL PROTECTED AREAS EXPANSION STRATEGY

Facilitators: Kallie Naude, Skumsa Mancotywa, Kule Chitepo, Alan Boyd

### QUICK OVERVIEW OF THE STRATEGY

#### How did we get to the strategy?

- Previously we had many different pieces of legislation.
- But the National Environmental Act was amended to include all protected areas:
- 4 types: special nature reserves, national parks, provincial nature reserves, protected environments.
- But there are also world heritage sites, forest areas, and marine protected areas
- But are these in the right place conserving the right stuff?
- An evaluation was done of habitat and species and other criteria.
- A target was set of 10% (8%) by 2010, with 20% on the marine side.
- But if we want to conserve all different biomes we need to add 2.7 million hectares to the PA system.
- Different options:
  - i. Buy out land or proclaim MPAs
  - ii. Get it through contract or by stewardship

### SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION (NB: the columns do not correspond to each other)

KEY ISSUES	IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES	PROPOSED ACTIONS
How it would impact on communities	A key issue is capacity. Local officials need to be capacitated. Otherwise documents and guidelines are not effective. This needs to be addressed in a plan, including workshops for local officials.	It is important that people at Local Government Level are also properly informed, and that they know about the NPAES
What about financing this?	It is a pity we do not have officials from local government. They can more easily communicate with communities. The challenge is to bring them on board. They know the entry points and also are familiar with other local issues.	We need to do this via Provinces who should then go to Local Authorities.
What about communal land	Flow diagram of Government.	Communities are not isolate

<p>and private land? What benefits will there be for communities</p>	<p>There are two separate channels: National Government to communities, and Provincial government to local government. Who will tell Provincial and local government about the outcomes of this conference? This needs correction.</p>	<p>entities. Communities can take matters upward through their representatives. A lot of problems can be solved at this local level. Government is a big thing.</p>
<p>Would not expanding parks reduce the land available for "living". There are competing</p>	<p>If I was a landowner I would like to be convinced why I should go with conservation</p>	<p>We can implement nationally and through national organizations, and through provinces</p>
<p>Parks provide benefits for whom?</p>	<p>It is a problem of personal interest being put above national or community interests.</p>	<p>We should do stakeholder mapping and analysis to determine where the power lies, and identify such people as key advocates and use them as an entry point to get local buy-in.</p>
<p>People are growing in number and land occupation becomes a big issue</p>	<p>Communities: Mining is destroying our roads but no one is accepting responsibility. We do not have any channels to bring serious local issues to get attention. Communities get a run-around between government departments</p>	<p>What needs to be done for the priority areas is get knowledge of the economic value of these areas, so this can be communicated. This evaluation should be funded as a priority. The issue is selling conservation value. We also need to be able to show the associated ecological benefits.</p>
<p>As we are developing this strategy how will we cost it?</p>	<p>The expansion strategy says here we have this richness of natural heritage, which has been preserved for generations, how do we communicate this valuable legacy?</p>	<p>One suggested solution is stakeholder workshops to make people aware so they can stand up for themselves. Then politicians won't go above community interests. Communities also have a responsibility to be heard.</p>
<p>From time immemorial Africans have been using the land in a sustainable way. So be careful how ideas are presented.</p>	<p>We need a sustainable financial strategy</p>	<p>A solution includes validating the professional integrity of those doing studies of the priority areas. Things like Strategic Environmental Assessments are also broader and more objective, and</p>

		politicians should heed them.
Some communities are not aware of tourism benefits. They need proper awareness in order to decide whether to expand.	We need cost figures from provinces?	Communities can comment on all proposed developments – but unfortunately this is often theoretical.
What about an area next to game reserve where there is mining and housing right next to an area identified for conservation	Land use options? Here we would need to look at benefits of other use such as farming (and even mining) We need cost benefit studies.	See a situation where developmental proposals come from communities themselves. But not sure whether we as a country are ready for this. There are nice ideas which government has but these ideas can get hijacked.
How are different government departments managing this situation?	We are looking at the Biosphere concept where there is a core area and buffer areas.	Before this is done we need to look whether the area is actually best suited for conservation?
The biggest option is look at stewardship and to add land through contract.	We would be looking at including areas in natural condition with the consent of the community and benefits to them	We need good information to know what the best use of the land is. In addition the land claim commissioner can help resolve such problems.
Maybe the name of the strategy is misleading – it is not simple	Regarding the issue of different government departments targeting communities with different options for land, DEAT needs a different approach when communicating with different stakeholders (Gov, business, and communities).	Use examples of successes of how conservation can pay
How can the government bring about and/or enforce expansion in such conditions? This is partly a capacity issue	A 3 phase approach. We should not assume communities are homogeneous. The document should comprise the full document, and executive summary as well as a simple fact sheet. Sometimes government must also workshop ideas with community elders	The business people take much people to get to the communities. Government officials should take just as much time and share information with communities. If people who own the land are made aware of all options then they will do the right thing.
What clout does the department have? Looking at the Xolobeni issue at the Wild coast. Some	The way in which government presents things they present documents. The traditional leaders want concise report-backs and	There is a need to quantify the socio-economic value of conservation. This will create a conducive platform to show the

<p>communities want conservation, others mining. Which legislation supercedes other legislation?</p>	<p>clear ideas not long documents. This could lead to the way to bring people on board better. We need to do it better</p>	<p>ecological value of conservation. We need to be strategic in the way we package our message.</p>
<p>We have a classical case in (Limpopo, Mpumalanga?) where mining is threatening conservation areas. We can present a community with conservation as the best option. Then the next day DME comes in and the next Agriculture. How can we as government stop creating these problems for communities</p>	<p>Perhaps we could engage the House of traditional Leaders?</p>	<p>We should not forget about what the expansion strategy is about. It should be the document which shows where we want to go in the future. This should be an empowering document.</p>
<p>Depts seem to be competing for land. DEAT is sometimes asked to withdraw from declarations. What about the communities and land owners. What do they actually want?</p>	<p>Do not think the expansion is not implementable. It is but we need to develop strategies that allow for problems to be addressed individually.</p>	<p>Maybe the approach from government is too heavy. Land owners should be approached as key stakeholders and not in a minor way.</p>
<p>The interference of politicians and technocrats in these matters is a problem for which he does not have a solution.</p>	<p>If an area is zoned for conservation there must</p>	<p>Other Government Depts have plans. Now we too have a plan on the table.</p>
<p>Seemingly the land claim commission does not properly respect the traditional leaders, and this can lead to a gap in information flowing through traditional channels as described above.</p>	<p>With protected areas we are not only talking national parks. There are also people living in World heritage sites. They can continue traditional practices. Some communities choose conservation because it has an unlimited life span.</p>	<p>We should approach the communities rather with one voice from government's side. Here we also need to look to IDPs for guidance within their 5 year term. We need to ensure matters are properly captured in IDPs.</p>
<p>We have the same problem as at Beaufort West where there was little attendance of provincial and local government. We need to correct this.</p>	<p>It is about benefits</p>	

We need to bring in the traditional custodians of the land – the chiefs		
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## **ANNEX 5 PROVINCIAL AND AGENCY PROGRESS REPORT PRESENTATIONS**

### **SANPARKS PRESENTATION BY DR HECTOR MAGOME**

#### **STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES**

- Purposefully collaborate with all Stakeholders
- Facilitate resettlement and community interests in Park Expansions
- Enhance the sustainable management of Cultural Heritage Assets
- Develop and Promote Cultural Heritage Assets
- Promote Access to Benefits from the National Parks System
- Understand Stakeholders (Communities; Learners and Government) and their needs
- Improve Environmental Education
- Facilitate Socio-economic Development
- Proactively identify and promote purposeful Social Sciences Research
- Grow Constituencies for the National Parks System
- Enhance Broad Based Transformation

#### **PARK FORUMS**

- **17** Parks with established Forums
- **3** Parks in the process of establishing forums
- **1** Park with exemption: (Richtersveld)
- Research investigating the efficacy of Park Forums was conducted in 2007 : **4** parks completed and **4** more to be evaluated in October

#### **STAKEHOLDER PARTICIPATION - DEVELOPMENT OF PARK MANAGEMENT PLANS**

- Process advertised in 3 national and 46 local and regional newspapers
- Local, regional and national Government Departments participated
- 56 Environmental organisations and NGOs participated
- 80 Focus Group, Park Forums and Public Meetings relating to the Management Plan process
- 2512 Stakeholders registered for the process

#### **SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE USE PROJECTS**

- Khomani San Cultural Heritage use
- Rastafari Rooiwortel (*Bulbine latifolia*) Nursery

- Struisbaai Suurvy Plukkers Vereniging (Suurvy harvesting at Agulhas)
- KNP Sustainable Utilisation of Plant and Animal Products
- KNP Grass Harvesting Project
- Mopane Worm Harvesting
- Outeniqua Eco Honey Bee Farming Project - Tsitsikamma

### **CONTRACTOR DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME**

- Build local capacity in the civil engineering and building fields so that the emerging contractors can eventually participate as independent contractors in the Parks' capital and maintenance works
- Provide role models for women empowerment in the community.
- Rationalise relationships between communities and the KNP so that all may benefit from the national asset

### **SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS**

81 Projects established

### **EXPANDED PUBLIC WORKS PROGRAMME**

#### **Objective:**

Provide poverty relief through temporary work to the unemployed to carry out useful activities

- SANParks participates in 5 programmes
- R 804,957 million allocation for 2001-2007 period

#### **Social objectives:**

- R 296,017 paid to minimum wages (38% of total allocation)
- Over 2,2 million person days worked
- 1,300 SMME's used in programmes

#### **Biodiversity objectives:**

- Removal of alien vegetation: R 175 million
- Rehabilitation of degraded land & archaeological sites: R 50,858 million

#### **Programmes**

- People and Parks
- Working for Wetlands
- Working for Water
- Working on Fire
- Working for the Coast

**DWAF Programme**

R 175 million over 6 years

**DEAT Social Responsibility Programme –**

**R 640 million over 6 years**

**INVESTMENTS**

Programme	BUDGET		TOTAL
	2001-2004 R'000	2004-2007 R'000	
People & Parks	257,092	333,100	590,192
Working for the Coast	3,471	23,400	26,871
Wetlands	0	9,796	9,796
Working for Water	86,152	88,946	175,098
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>346,715</b>	<b>428,143</b>	<b>804,957</b>

**OUTPUTS**

Deliverables	Achieved
Person days	2,287,052
Training days	170,107
SMME's used	1,258
Amount paid to SMME's	314,576,058
Amount: Black-owned companies (construction contracts)	218,043,089
Tourist beds (new)	604 beds
Fences (new)	1,138 km
Roads (upgrade & new)	588 km
Entrance Gates	12
Tourist beds (upgrade)	295 beds
Staff units (upgrade & new)	163 units

**SOCIAL DELIVERABLES ACHIEVED**

**ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION**

- Over 130 000 learners in 2007/8
- **Kids in Parks** Programme providing access for PD learners in various National Parks
- **Imbewu & Junior Rangers** Programmes focus on youth



## **MANAGING CULTURAL HERITAGE RESOURCES**

- 90% of all heritage resources have been identified & documented
- Interpretive facilities are being developed to facilitate access for schools & the public e.g. Mapungubwe
- Repatriation & reburial of heritage objects & human remains with community involvement e.g. Mapungubwe
- Report on the state of cultural heritage management in all Parks

**DEAT MARINE AND COASTAL MANAGEMENT PRESENTATION  
BY  
DR ALAN BOYD**

**An Overview of Marine Protected Areas in the Context of the People and Parks Programme:  
Successes and Challenges**

**HISTORY**

- Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) are a relatively recent phenomenon world-wide
- Largely response to widespread over-exploitation of marine resources in the last 50 years.
- South Africa's Marine Protected Areas were mainly declared in the last 30 years, with Tsitsikamma being the oldest in SA and Africa.

**SOUTH AFRICAN PERSPECTIVE**

- Parks or terrestrial reserves often prevented communities from exploiting marine resources along the shoreline
- Then MPAs were declared next to Parks because the resources were in good condition and the existing management agency could maintain control.
- Sometimes these placed natural resources further beyond the reach of communities – when subsistence fishing was being opened up elsewhere.

**DEVELOPMENTS SINCE 2000**

- Since 2000 four new MPAs have been declared, including the large Table Mountain National Park and Pondoland MPAs (declared in 2004).
- These contain a number of restricted (no-fishing) areas and “controlled areas” where fishing is allowed: Zonation.
- Conceptually zonation is good, as it offers both completely protected areas and controlled access areas
- But it needs to be based on consultation with affected communities, as well as in response to biodiversity and fisheries management needs.

**OBJECTIVES OF MPAs**

- Parks and MPAs are both designed to protect the natural environment and creatures that live there
- However MPAs also have the specific objective of protecting and rebuilding fish stocks
- This is so that viable fisheries can be maintained.
- And because many of our fisheries are currently over-exploited, this shows that the need for marine protected areas (including new areas) is strong.

**Currently proclaimed MPAs**

- Langebaan Lagoon
- Sixteen Mile Beach
- Malgas, Jutten and Marcus Islands
- Table Mountain
- Helderberg

- Betty's Bay
- De Hoop
- Goukamma
- Robberg
- Tsitsikamma
- Sardinia Bay
- Bird Island
- Dwesa Cwebe
- Hluleka
- Pondoland
- Trafalgar
- Aliwal Shoal
- St Lucia, Maputoland: ISIMANGALISO

**Proposed:** Stilbaai  
Border Region  
Namaqualand  
Addo expansion

#### **CURRENT OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES**

- The National Protected Area Expansion Strategy (NPAES)
- Addressing current management challenges
- Addressing past imbalances

#### **THE NATIONAL PROTECTED AREA EXPANSION STRATEGY**

- An updated version of this important document has been produced and comments are being received.
- The expansion strategy has finally been drawn closer to the People and Parks programme.
- Community and fisher representatives were invited to review the document last month.
- Two persons from the Task Team developing the Policy for Subsistence and Small-scale Fishers also attended this meeting.

#### **Their comments include:**

- Protected areas are for our children's benefit
- Practises outside protected areas, like destroying vegetation, are fortunately not allowed in PAs
- PAs provide a buffer to events like drought
- Local community members should benefit by retaining access whilst access and by outsiders should be controlled
- Development of small-scale fishing operations is being constrained and fishers should be allowed to catch migrating fish

#### **Current MCM comments on the National Protected Area Expansion Strategy**

- Introduce measures to reduce the impact of access, rather than just closing areas.
- Where new closed areas are necessary for conservation, target areas with less negative impact on livelihoods if possible.

- Accept that there will always be some tension between protected area expansion and access to resources by local communities.
- To manage this we need policies which have a balance.

### **ADDRESSING CURRENT MANAGEMENT CHALLENGES**

In 2007 MoAs were signed for the integrated management of eleven MPAs, between MCM and:

**CapeNature,  
ECParks,  
Ezemvelo KwaZulu-Natal Wildlife and  
ISimangaliso**

- The MoAs include awareness and education, research and monitoring, and compliance, and capacity building.
- An agreement between DEAT and **SANParks** also signed in 2007 provides funding to manage six MPAs adjacent to SANParks reserves.

### **REPORT-BACK ON INITIATIVES ADDRESSING PAST IMBALANCES (IN THE AMBIT OF PEOPLE AND PARKS PROGRAMME)**

- A limited access proposal for local fishers at Tsitsikamma was developed following extensive consultation;
- In the end it was not accepted by the Minister.
- Reasons included the scarcity of line fish nationally, and because of concerns about sustainability.
- An access proposal for Dwesa-Cwebe has been prepared to an advanced stage following extensive discussions.
- It aims to protect and increase local benefits and should be submitted shortly.
- It addresses issues of equity and socio-economics (livelihoods).
- It also stands to benefit from the momentum of the ECParks "Wild Coast" programme.
- Communities who had successful land claims on Parks adjacent to MPAs are looking to different ways to get benefits from this.
- Clearly government must protect both the environment and peoples' interests but it should not be a "spoiler" of business agreements which are properly negotiated.
- Similarly **outside of land claim areas** BEE and B-BEE principles need to be applied in the concessioning of activities.
- Another area of direct relevance is the Subsistence and Small-scale fishing Policy
- This process has unfortunately not yet been concluded therefore its recommendations are not available.
- Nevertheless what happens in MPAs (particularly in controlled zones) should be aligned with this policy.

#### **Need for an integrative MPA policy**

- MCM has received criticism that "community friendly" components of the Protected Areas Act are not being applied to MPAs.
- Future policy (such as the Expansion Strategy) must take due consideration of this.
- There may also be a need for a new MPA policy to ensure that a balanced approach is followed.

**NORTH WEST PARKS & TOURISM BOARD PRESENTATION  
BY  
MS BRIDGET SEFANYETSO**

**REFERENCE TO THE SIX KEY INTERVENTION AREAS**

- Access and Benefit Sharing
- Co-management
- Community Public Private Partnership
- Land reform and conservation
- Strengthening and Expansion of the Protected Areas Network
- Input on Regulations in terms of the Protected Areas Act

**ACCESS AND BENEFIT SHARING**

- Communities are continuously benefiting in the parks through grass harvesting for broom making and roof thatching. Communities are also given access to visit their gravesides that are in all the parks. There is a view of fencing off grave side in the parks.
- Special request for burial of families are also granted, the Welgeval Kgosi from Pilanesberg was buried in the Pilanesberg Game Reserve last year.
- Religious tourism is also key, where on yearly basis the Roman Catholic Church hold a pilgrimage around August in Madikwe Game Reserve for over 2000 people.
- Communities are awarded tenders within the parks. The fence maintenance in the two big reserves Madikwe and Pilanesberg has been awarded to two ladies who are locals.
- Two lodges inside Madikwe Game Reserve, Buffalo Lodge and Thakadu Lodge are owned by communities.
- Communities are economically empowered through business opportunities that arise within the parks. E.g. harvesting firewood and selling to the lodges inside the park, laundry for the 30 lodges in Madikwe Game Reserve.
- Communities are given stalls at Pilanesberg gate to sell crafts.
- A skills audit has been conducted for the community in the Highveld Park. Job opportunities have been created for local communities in all the parks where youth from communities were employed as field rangers.
- Communities are taken through skill development and training when employed o SRPP.
- From 2006 to date 22 000 learners went through the environmental education program at Pilanesberg, Lotlamoreng, Hartebeespoort and Buxton World Heritage Site.
- 3 youths camps were held at Pilanesberg Game Reserve and Borakalalo.
- Six conservation club leaders went through an intensive training on natural resource management at Pilanesberg and Borakalalo
- Communication between the parks and communities has improved since the employment of the Community Development Officers

**CO-MANAGEMENT**

- The settlement agreement for Baphalane Ba Sesobe was signed in 2002.
- The settlement agreement for Barolong Ba Matloa-Machavie is still with Executive Management, the land has been transferred to the CPA.

- The settlement agreement for Barokologadi Ba Ga Maotoe's has been signed but it is still with the Minister of DWAF.
- Welgeval Families agreement in Pilanesberg Game Reserve has been signed, but the settlement agreement is still with the Minister of DWAF.
- RKM Mankwe West CPA agreement in Pilanesberg Game Reserve has been signed. A meeting was held to discuss the draft co-management agreement with NWPTB.
- For all the above there is a draft co-management that still has to be approved by the Board of NWPT
- A draft agreement for discussion with the communities with land in Borakalalo, Bakgatla Ba Mmakau Ba Habedi, Bakwena Ba Mabiletsa, Jonathan Community, Klipvoor Community, Mooke Community. A draft co- management agreement is also with the Board.

### **COMMUNITY PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP**

- The Melorane Buffalo Breeding Project
- Four consultation meetings with the community on the development of the game farm The partnership is between the Community, Government and Private Sector (Resource Africa and Steward Dorrington)
- The Heritage Park black range expansion project
- Meetings have been held with affected communities and ± 50 000 euro dollars has been secured by WWF for this project that to a large extend is going to benefit the affected communities.
- Is lodge development for Barokologadi, Mmasebudule, Baphalane and Supingstad communities?

### **LAND REFORM AND CONSERVATION**

- Communication with claimants
- Two post settlement meetings have been held by NWPTB and Land owners, Barokologadi Ba Ga Maotoe, Baphalane Ba Sesobe and RKM Mankwe CPA(Pilanesberg)discussing among other land use option and co-management
- Claimants capacity building
- An initiative was made to conduct capacity building for claimants.
- Sharing of ideas
- The CDO's will be embarking on exchange visits programme for landowners in other provinces.
- Post settlement Support

### **STRENGTHENING AND EXPANSION OF THE PROTECTED AREAS NETWORK**

- Biodiversity priority areas/Bioregions
- Concept document for the Taung Dam Tourism initiative, the Heritage Park has been drawn.
- Environmental compliance within protected areas
- Plans are ahead to develop an environmental management policy for all protected areas in NWPTB which include water and waist management
- Expand the existing NWPTB parks
- An MOA is due to be signed with affected parties( Madikwe East Land Owners and Bakgatla Community) in perpetuating the expansion of protected area in the NW
- Continued

- Research in monitoring/Baseline survey
- The NW University and Tshwane University have been engaged in research project, where they are conducting a biodiversity audit, assessment and mapping within the Heritage Park corridor starting at the Dwarsberg Mountain.
- Deproclamation/land swooping
- The SEA report for SA Lombard Nature Reserve has been completed and there is geological survey to be conducted to determine the actual location and size of the diamond deposit there. The report also identified that:
  - The area lies in a special flood plain in the country, that serves as a tributary to the Vaal River
  - The area conserves a special grass biome that is under threat.
  - Because of the cultrate deposit it would become pretty expensive to mine the area.
  - In an event where other land use options are explored for consideration relevant studies should be undertaken
  - That the wetland should be conserved and protected for its ecological value within the pedagogical sphere.

### **INPUT ON REGULATIONS IN TERMS OF THE PROTECTED AREAS ACT**

Compliance with the new Protected Areas Act

- The Act has been disseminated to all park managers to familiarize themselves and comply

### **GENERAL ACTIVITIES NOT COVERED OR APPLICABLE UNDER KIAs 1-6**

#### **Graduates Programme**

- 100 Graduates have been placed in all the divisions of the Board. This exercise is done in order to expose them to working environment and to give them experience so they are employable

#### **Social Responsibility Programme**

- SRP projects have approved R 12m for Borakalalo National Park fence project
- R 10m Madikwe Game Reserve for the air strip
- R 10m for the conversion of the Derdepoort Hospital,
- R 840 000 Kgaswane Mountain Reserve revamping of hiking trails and huts,
- R 8.4m Molopo for Two bush camps that are completed, staff house renovation. Outstanding is road re-gravelling, ten new chalets and the construction of a new entrance gate.
- R 960 000 Barberspan for construction of two staff houses, renovation of existing staff quarters, kitchen area and construction of recreation facility.
- R 660 000 Wolwesruit for renovation of staff houses, office block convention, construction of 2 ablution blocks and a borehole.

#### **People and Parks Provincial Committee**

- A provincial P&P steering committee established and functional (two meetings).
- Successful Provincial P&P workshop held:
  - Land owners
  - Dikgosi
  - community members

A working document developed for the Provincial P&P action plan

### **Challenges**

- To a large extend funding and human capacities are great challenges that cause delay to implementation of the programme.
- Capacity Building for land owners, communities and park managers in all areas
- Reviewing all park management plans that would include participation of landowners.
- Developing of Natural Resource use policy
- Development of database to keep record of trained and skill developed in communities
- Term of office for the out going NWPTB Board Members stalled the approval of the co-management agreement which then caused further delay for communities to obtain their title deeds.

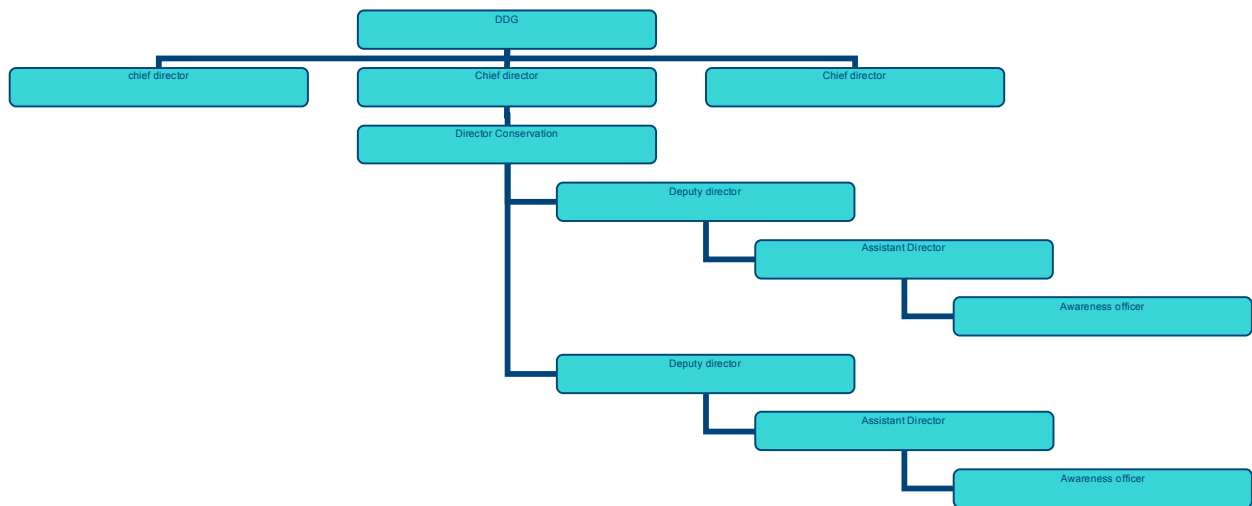


**GAUTENG DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND ENVIRONMENT  
PRESENTATION  
BY  
MR MADIRE MALEPE**

**Outline**

- Organizational Structure
- Access and Benefit sharing
- Co-management
- Community Public Private Partnership
- Land Reform and Conservation
- Strengthening and Expanding the Protected area

**Organizational Structure**



**Access and Benefit sharing**

**Thatch grass harvesting**

- Regulated thatch grass (*Hyparrhenia hirta*) harvesting is allowed in Suikerbosrand nature reserve.
- A group of 31 women are involved in this.
- About 15000 of bundles are removed from the reserve each year.
- This translates into about R70000 in the open market.

**Medicinal plant project**

- A 6 hectare nursery has been established in conjunction with traditional healers.
- Mother stock established by rescuing plants from development sites.
- Training on medicinal plant propagation is provided and medicinal plants for traditional healers home gardens.

### **Entry fees**

- Fees are kept at minimal for entrance into the nature reserve. (Range between R5- R20)
- Fees are not charged to all schools and nearby communities that come into the reserves for
- Educational purposes.

### **Co-management**

- No co- management agreement in place
- The only land claim at Suikerbosrand is not yet finalized

### **Community Public Private Partnership**

- A commercialization strategy for the tourism facilities in the reserve was developed.
- This led to the outsourcing of the Facilities to Protea Hotels
- This translated in employment opportunities for the local communities

### **Land Reform and Conservation**

- One claim has been lodged for a portion of Suikerbosrand
- The claim is still under the verification process.

### **Strengthening and Expanding the Protected area**

- Support is provided to Blue IQ for the establishment of Dinokeng Big 5. 12000 ha has already
- been fenced for the project.
- Marievale Bird Sanctuary and Ramsar site has been increased by 600 ha through a land donation
- reached with Anglo American
- Parcels of conservation worthy land is being identified for possible expansion
- An offset policy is being developed which will help in securing biodiversity hotspots from
- development pressures.
- Negotiations are continuing with the management of Tswaing Crater museum and
- Bronkhorstspuit
- Nature reserve to improve the management of this protected areas.

**THANK YOU!**

**EZEMVELO KZN WILDLIFE PRESENTATION  
BY  
MR SIBUSISO BUKHOSINI**

**Progress highlights on Action plan**

**Access and benefit sharing**

- Implementation of Community Levy Programme (Have spent more than R15 Million Rands)
- Access to natural resources
- Co-management
- Land reform and conservation
- Community Public Private Partnership
- Thendele-Royal Natal- Spioenkop Tourism Cluster
- Protected area expansion

**Problem Statement**

- Biodiversity targets (representivity) are not achieved within our protected areas;
- Priorities are outside of PAs – 80% of NB biodiversity in private / communal ownership
- Current lack to resources to acquire critical land for biodiversity conservation;
- No dedicated mechanism to engage effective landowner partnerships to secure biodiversity;
- Need to look at outside of the existing protected areas options.

**Progress highlights from 2004 to date. (from Swadini and Beaufort West)**

- NEM:PAA implementation
- 18 out of 86 PAs managed by EKZNW with IMPs
- Secured the services of a Co-ordinator PA Planning
- Active community participation in protected area activities.
- Established and fully functional People and Parks provincial Forum with clearly defined terms of reference.
- Deputy Minister's road shows were undertaken in August 2007.
- Annual report and consolidated reports were done and submitted to DEAT in May 2008.
- Accelerating the process of resolving land claims
- Establishment of a land claim committee and a co-management committee wherein EKZNW and RLCC KZN collaborate to deliberate on land claims within protected areas
- Institutional support from other government departments secured e.g. Grazing Plans & Fencing by DoA, WfW, WfWet, WWF, MDTP, Wildlands Conservation Trust, RLCC
- Property rates exemption and tax rebates by Local Municipalities
- Reintroductions of important species e.g. Oribi, Black Rhino by WWF

**BENEFITS**

- Development of an integrated management plan

- Detailed alien plant clearing plans
- Improved resource utilization (sustainable)
- Biodiversity monitoring (protocols, field rangers, etc.)
- Vegetation rehabilitation (e.g. wetlands, indigenous forests)
- Assistance with management (burning, fence maintenance)
- Technical Advice & Support – game reintroductions, regular visits by EKZNW
- Legal costs are covered (contracts, notarial deed endorsement)
- Proclamation costs covered (pp – newspaper adverts, registered letters, etc.)
- Discounts on game (EKZNW policy)
- Training (field rangers)

Wozani! The Zulu Kingdom Calls!!!

**LIMPOPO DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENT AND TOURISM  
PRESENTATION  
BY  
MS SHONI MPHAPHULI**

**FUNDING AND MAINSTREAMING OF THE PROGRAMME**

Securing MTEF Funds

- Secured 200 000.00 for road transport, catering and conference facilities

Integration into strategic planning process

- People and parks programme is one of the key result areas of Protected Areas Directorate.
- Role clarification has been done with the directly affected directorates & Limpopo Tourism & Parks.

Source funds from conservation agencies EU, EPWP, SETA, RLCC grants, Municipalities etc.

- Criteria to be followed when applying for funding is in place

Inclusion of conservation projects into municipal IDP's

- Submitted projects to CED directorate that deals with issues pertaining to conservation in IDP's

Submit application for funding through local municipalities

- Not yet submitted funding proposal but had an official from CED to discuss funding issues with the stakeholder concerned, Ga-Masemola game farming project.
- Access funding from EU for Nwanedi Project, EPWP funding for Moepel Farms Development Project

**INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY BUILDING**

Establishment of provincial People and Parks forum

- Liaised with other provinces with regard to constituencies of the provincial steering committee with regard to the roles and functions thereof
- Environmental advisory body formed
- Park forums established for communal nature reserves
- Management committees in 19 reserves formed
- In a process of establishing provincial steering committee representative of all relevant stakeholders

(Communal reserves, state owned nature reserves, collaborative nature reserves)

Development of institutional capacity building programme (skills audit)

- Skills audit conducted from community representatives (members of provincial forum) of all communal reserves
- 100 community members received training on tender evaluation processes
- First aid training, game ranger training, horticulture training, health and safety and administration training provided to Moepel farms beneficiaries.

**BRANDING AND AWARENESS RAISING**

### Marketing People and Parks programme

- LTP is responsible for Branding
- Limpopo Communal Conservancy (LCC) has been established to deal with branding issues

## **ENHANCE POLICY / LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK**

### Development of provincial co-management agreement with national

- Co- management agreement developed and workshopped to different communities and refined as per communities inputs.
- A co-management in place as a prerequisite for commercialization in nature reserves by Treasury Department
- 13 communities from communal reserves signed co-management agreement with LTP & LEDET on the 6th of December 2007
- It offers a R5 per hectare lease fee and a 50/50 % profit share from tourism developments with communities
- CHALLENGE: One model of co-management agreement adopted for all reserves. It's not site specific. Does not adequately address management issues.

### Alignment of provincial co-management

- In liaison with LTP on processes to be followed on amendment of the document

### Awareness raising on access and benefit sharing regulation

- Provision for a standard lease payment has been made for all communities in communal reserves i.e. R5/h
- Not yet started with regard to resource use guidelines

### Declaring and deproclaiming protected areas

- Guidelines and procedures on how to declare protected areas have been developed and awaiting approval.
- Public participation process conducted.
- Finalizing stakeholders inputs into the document for approval purposes and then start with the declaration.

## **SUPPORT LAND REFORM PROGRAMME**

### Signing service level agreement with RLCC

- A departmental land claims task team has been formed in conjunction with RLCC to address land claims issues.

### Roll out MOU

- Some communities are aware of the entireties of the MOU in protected areas affected by land claims

### Development of post settlement strategy

- Awaiting approval of departmental principle position of land claims in protected areas.

### Aligning provincial strategy with National

- The provincial response strategy of land claims in protected areas has been developed and aligned with MOU

## **DEVELOPMENT OF NATIONAL EXPANSION STRATEGY WITH COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION**

### Development of conservation plan

- Conservation plan currently being developed not yet complete

### Roll out of stewardship programme

- In a process of establishing the programme.
- Liaised with provinces which are already implementing the programme for advice

### Development of community conservation project

- Support community initiatives to establish protected areas. The Ga-masemola community project (communal land) and Stoffberg community project (land restored through restitution).

## **CHALLENGES**

- Budget pressure
- Inadequate staffing
- Role clarification – directorates to capture people and parks responsibilities into their annual performance plan
- Rolling out the MOU

**EASTERN CAPE PARKS BOARD PRESENTATION  
BY  
MR SIKHUMBUZO DLAMINI**

**BACKGROUND**

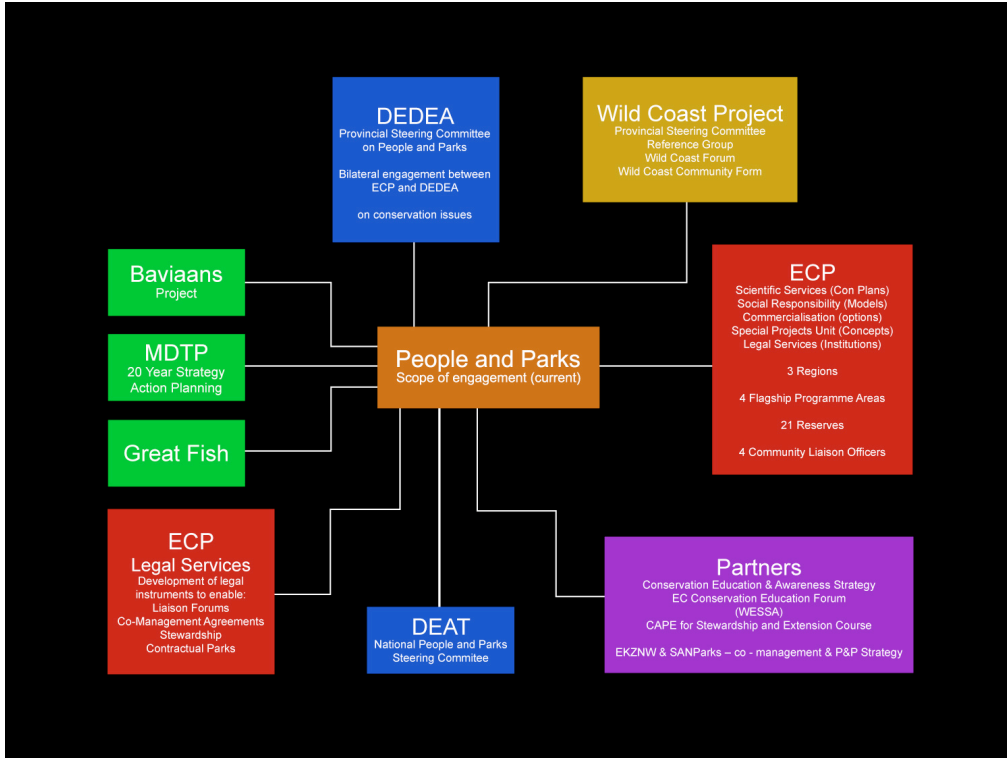
- **Beaufort West Conference - October 2006**
- **EC Stakeholder Workshop – November 2006**
- **EC Two-Year Action-Plan (2007/8 – 2008/9)**

**PROVINCIAL PRIORITY AREAS:**

- Formalize stakeholder consultation: co-management, liaison forums, management plans etc.
- Establish roles & responsibilities advance the Programme
- Ensure the necessary capacity
- Formulate framework for Programme: reporting, funding, review etc.
- Generate awareness around the Programme
- Models for community benefits
- Provincial Community Forum
- Post-settlement Task Group

**SCOPE OF ENGAGEMENT**





## HIGHLIGHTS

- A **People and Parks Section** comprising Manager and 2 CLOs have been appointed
  - 3 additional CLOs beginning September 2008
- **Wild Coast Project** has been specifically established to:
  - Model co-management for the EC
  - Best practice access to natural resources use & benefit sharing
  - CPPPs
  - Skills Development
- A functional **Co-management Committee** with Mkambathi Land Trust
  - 15% revenue sharing with community
  - R40 million CPP Partnership signed August '08!
  - A **Settlement Agreement** review workshop for Dwesa-Cwebe towards co-management
  - **Social Responsibility Project (EPWP)** – tourism, staff & education facilities, infrastructure, alien clearing, etc.
  - Hluleka, Great Fish, Silaka, Mkambathi & Ongeluksnek (Dec 2004 to date)
  - About 100 people - accredited training
  - Over R38 million - spent on various projects

- Over 1000 households - temporary employment
- More than 51 SMMEs have been supported
  
- **Amended recruitment policy** – preference local communities
  
- 8 local community members recruited since March 2008
  
- A preparatory meeting towards a **Provincial Steering Committee**
  
- People & Parks Strategy Review – under way
  
- Drafting of the **Environmental Education Strategy**
  
- **Learners** supported through bursaries & Experiential Learning – neighbouring communities
  
- A **Community Development and Conservation** Course for all reserve staff and community reps

## **EC PROVINCIAL INDABA RESOLUTION**

**20-21 AUGUST 2008**

*“The prevailing high levels of poverty and unemployment in and around our nature*

*Reserves continue to threaten the level of cooperation we seek to achieve...”*

## **CHALLENGES**

- Inadequate financing for PA management
- Capacity, Institutions, Processes vs. State of Need
- Personnel, logistics, communication limitations - vast province
- Supplementing eco-tourism to optimize community benefits
  
- Lack of adequate scientific knowledge: harvested species & potential for sustainable use
  
- Pending / disputed land claims
  
- Managing stakeholder expectations
  
- Challenging infrastructure, particularly access roads

## **FUTURE TARGETS**

### **Consolidate & deepen:**

- EC Capacity
- Strengthen governance existing structures: CMC & LF
- Implement Mkambati & identify further CPPPs
- Upgrade tourism infrastructure: job creation & revenue
- Identify & implement projects: resource use, alternative livelihoods
- Heighten Conservation Awareness
- Increase Protected Area Network through partnerships

**PEOPLE AND PARKS – IMVELO YETHU, LILIFA LEZIZUKULWANA ZETHU!**

**MPUMALANGA TOURISM AND PARKS AUTHORITY PRESENTATION  
BY  
MR REUBEN NGWENYA**

**CHALLENGES**

**Access and Benefit sharing**

- Sustaining program as developed
- Resource distribution
- Payment for ecosystem services

**CPPP**

- Capacity building for all parties essential
- Exploitation
- Unrealistic expectations

**Expansion of Protected Areas**

- Developments & growth
- Human demands

**Restitution and co-Management**

- Joint understanding and implementation of legislation pertaining to the restitution process
- Internal Claimant Dynamics
- Process is too prolonged
- Capacity building of claimants
- Fully including People and Parks as an Institutional and Provincial program

**ACHIEVEMENTS**

**Access and Benefit Sharing**

- Appointed Resource Economist
- Employment
- Procurement
- Access to PAs
- Share on income

**CPPP**

- Number of projects underway
- Re aligning Hunting industry

**Expansion of Protected Areas**

- Mpumalanga Biodiversity Conservation Plan (MBCP)
- Ranking of PA via Biodiversity value
- PA expansion strategy
- Move from 3% to 6% by 2010 and 8% by 2014
- International World Biodiversity Day K2C

- Commitment in elevating Status of Social Ecology
- Budgetary Support for function
- Board MTPA and EXCO Prioritized Land Claims

### **2004 & 2006 PEOPLE and PARKS Resulted in increasing**

- Awareness
- Support
- Co-operation

### **ACTION**

#### **Restitution and Co Management**

- Internal Land Claims Task Team
- Land Admin Meeting
- Development of Land Claims Tool Kit
- Training of 75 MTPA staff
- Good Relationship with MRLCC
- Joint Action plans / joint government position
- Joint Workshops

### **TOOLKIT**

#### **LAND RESTITUTION AND CO-MANAGEMENT IN PROTECTED AREAS**

**First draft: March 2008**

**Compiled by: Mirjam de Koning & Marinda Marais  
Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency (MTPA)  
In collaboration with Mpumalanga Rural Development Programme (MRDP)**

**To improve this draft toolkit, please forward any comments and suggestions to:      Mirjam  
de Koning ([mirjam@mtpa.co.za](mailto:mirjam@mtpa.co.za)) Marinda Marais ([marinda@mtpa.co.za](mailto:marinda@mtpa.co.za))**

**Acknowledgements: MTPA, GTZ-Transform, DEAT, SANParks, KZN Ezemvelo**

#### **Contents toolkit**

- **Chapter 1:** Overview of ideal sequence of interventions in land restitution process in protected areas and the different options involved (legal issues; roles/responsibility different stakeholders)
- **Chapter 2:** Different co-management options involved and tools to assist in choosing the right option (including participatory mapping)
- **Chapter 3:** Different agreements involved in land restitution process in protected areas (examples of agreed government position and settlement agreement)

- **Chapter 4:** Co-management agreement and beneficiation models (including guiding capacity building program)

#### **Contents toolkit**

- **Chapter 5:** Co-management implementation according to integrated management plan for protected area (examples, case studies and tools for implementation)
- Updated and improved electronic version of toolkit expected in December 2008. Inclusion of additional chapter on project implementation and additional case studies and lessons learned
- Any further suggestions, lessons learned and case studies are welcome

#### **Intended users of toolkit**

- Government officials involved in the process
- Land claimants
- Members of the wider community
- Possible private sector investors
- Supporting NGO's and others

#### **For more information:**

- MTPA can provide electronic copies of this interactive and user-friendly toolkit
- MTPA can provide toolkit training upon request
- For more information contact:

Marinda Marais: [marinda@mtpa.co.za](mailto:marinda@mtpa.co.za)  
and/or  
Mirjam de Koning: [mirjam@mtpa.co.za](mailto:mirjam@mtpa.co.za)

#### **CONCLUSION**

**Thank you**

**NORTHERN CAPE DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM, ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION  
PRESENTATION  
BY  
MR ALBERT MABUNDA**

**KEY INTERVENTION AREAS**

- Access and Benefit Sharing
- Co-management
- Community Public Private Partnership
- Land reform and conservation
- Strengthening and Expansion of the Protected Areas Network
- Implementing the NEM: PA Act and its Regulations

**CHALLENGES ON IMPLEMENTATION**

- ☹ Mandate unfunded or no budget secured for mandate
- ☹ Only 36% of posts filled
- ☹ No relevant NGO's in province for support
- ☹ No coordination structures in place between SANPARKS and DTEC

**ACCESS AND BENEFIT SHARING**

KEY ACTIVITIES	KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	PROGRESS	CHALLENGES
Ensure affected communities are aware of ABS regulations	Informed reaction of communities towards user groups	NONE	No funding for stakeholder workshops
Determine benefits for communities from PNR's	Clear set of benefits to target with developments, tenders, concessions, etc.	Standing point on agenda at Advisory Committees	Lack of funding limits real benefits

**CO-MANAGEMENT**

KEY ACTIVITIES	KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	PROGRESS	CHALLENGES

Establish advisory fora for each PNR	Affected communities up to date and involved with management of PNR's	Terms of References have been compiled. First introductory meetings to be held in September and October 2008	NONE
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**COMMUNITY / PUBLIC / PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP**

KEY ACTIVITIES	KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	PROGRESS	CHALLENGES
Compile feasibility study on the commercial viability of three provincial nature reserves	Economically feasible options for implementation	Tender advertised	No prospect for additional human and/or financial resources for implementation
Assess small-scale community upliftment projects for implementation on Protected Areas	Economically viable small-scale community projects for implementation	Draft project descriptions have been compiled	No prospect for additional human and/or financial resources.

**LAND REFORM & CONSERVATION**

KEY ACTIVITIES	KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	PROGRESS	CHALLENGES
Involvement in applicable processes	Ensuring legal process for possibly affected provincial nature reserves are properly followed	Called RLCC to meeting re only claim in province on provincial PA's	Uncertainty with regards model to implement and resulting financial implications

**EXPANSION OF PA NETWORK**

KEY ACTIVITIES	KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	PROGRESS	CHALLENGES
Implement NBF targets for the NPAES	A proper strategy and costing for implementation	Implementation strategy has been compiled and approved	No funding for implementation



Implement Stewardship Programme	Partnerships formed with private and communal landowners and NGO's to formalize conservation of non-state land	Draft agreements for 5 properties have been concluded	Legal support and lack of funding to ensure continuity
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**REGULATIONS UNDER PA ACT**

KEY ACTIVITIES	KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	PROGRESS	CHALLENGES
Revise existing provincial regulations	Inclusive regulations for provincial PA's	Regulations have been revised for promulgation by MEC.	Legal support

**CONCLUSION**

- Presentation made to DEAT
- Continue to source funding from Provincial Treasury/ DEAT
- A need for a coordination structure for P&P in the Province
- Community involvement \$ participation

THANK YOU

**CAPE NATURE PRESENTATION  
BY  
MR MELIKHAYA PANTSU**

**Progress & Response to Western Cape Community Concerns raised in Beaufort West People and Parks Conference**

**Provincial Action Plan and Capacity Building**

- The Business Units People & Parks meetings take place on a quarterly basis
- The Provincial People & Parks Meeting was held on 19th August 2008 in which the Provincial Steering Committee was elected.
- The People and Parks Community Conservation Officer (Mr. Tammie Pontsana) was appointed in August 2008 to drive the people and parks programme in the region
- The 2008/09 People & Parks Provincial Action Plan is currently being executed
- The capacity building/training programme for our Natural Resources User groups that we have identified, which will also be implemented as per the action plan mentioned above.

**Lack of access to management plans of conservation agencies protected areas**

- "Work in progress" – this is public information and all management plans (including drafts) are available at local CapeNature Offices. All our PA Area management plans are being revised and aligned with the legislative framework and guidelines and this will give effect to more community participation, insight and involvement in the finalization of the plans
- Organized groups reps are required & encouraged to be part of the Protected Area Liaison Committees/CBNRM Forum

**Review if plans/resolutions of the conference are being implemented - quarterly**

- 3 meetings with CapeNature officials responsible for the People & Parks issues have taken place at provincial level.
- CBNRM/Reserve Liaison Committee meetings must also scrutinize progress made
- Provincial P&P advisory committee will also review progress accordingly
- Communication Strategy have been developed to ensure local communities are well informed on matters of conservation

**Lack of capacity building for community members to interact on equal footing with officials.....**

NRUGs and CBNRM forums capacity building programme to be rolled out before March 2009 – snake identification, understanding the applicable legislation, meeting skills, conflict management & resolution etc

**Need Structures for spiritual journeys and training for Rastas and Traditional Healers.....**

For erection of structures on protected areas, the applicable progressive laws of this country applies – there are processes to be followed that will determine approval/disapproval

### **Women not adequately included in capacity building**

- Composition of groups that benefit from our capacity building programmes is sometimes not driven by CapeNature in most cases. Groups must themselves nominate more women to participate in these programmes/projects
- CapeNature Siyabulela projects funded through PGWC DEA&DP has tried to address this with 86 females of the 182 beneficiaries
- CapeNature WfW projects has 506 females and 546 males

### **Access to protected areas**

#### **CapeNature provided access to 1153 people in total during the financial year 2007/08.**

- The access for traditional/cultural purposes (444 people) and this number includes the 153 initiates that were in the Hottentots Holland and Jonkershoek Mountains in June 2007 and traditional healers that were in Waterfall Nature Reserve.
- Access was also provided to 395 people for harvesting purposes and lastly,
- it was also provided to 314 people, mainly Rastafarians, for spiritual purposes.

### **Job creation - Direct**

- Siyabulela Project (154)
- Working for Water Projects (1104)
- DEAT SRP (44)

### **Skills Development**

- Field & Tour Guides : 14 youths, all offered employment opportunities
- Basic first Aid:
- Basic Fire Fighting:
- Basic Health & safety:
- Community Conservation:
- Arts & Crafts:
- Carpentry:
- Bricklaying:
- Nature Conservation : three students doing 3<sup>rd</sup> year at CPUT, two doing 2<sup>nd</sup> year

### **Community Livelihoods Projects**

- Algeria Buchu project
- Witfontein Medicinal Plant Garden

### **Our Success Pillars**

- PGWC & responsible MEC (R3m/year until 2011)
- DEAD&P
- WCNCB
- CapeNature CEO & the executive
- Colleagues – implementers
- Communities – they keep us on our toes!!!!

**FREE STATE DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM, ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS  
PRESENTATION  
BY  
MR THABANG SELEMELA**

**1. INTRODUCTION**

**1.1. STATUS FOR MOROKA'S HOEK AND GROOTHOEK LAND CLAIM**

- The Conservation Directorate is the overseer of People and Parks in the Province
- Province manages 7 Resorts 13 Protected Areas
- Only two PA's are affected by Land Claims in the Province

**2. BACKGROUND**

- The area is approximately 1553,7646 ha
- The Park was earmarked for development by the Bophuthatswana government as a conversation
- area in 1982 through a land dispossession process
- The claimants held their right in land in terms of residential, arable and grazing prior to removal
- Removals were done to make a way for the Dam, Nature Reserve, Landing strip and a Hotel

**3. REASONS FOR CLAIM**

- The claimants did not receive compensation for their properties
- The Land claim process is at an advanced stage and is meant to be completed by December 2008

**4. MoA**

- The process of finalising a MoA between the stakeholders and the claimants has been kick started and is meant to be completed in two weeks time
- The MoA will address issues of benefit sharing, co-management etc

**5. RELEVANT STAKEHOLDERS**

- The LCC will spearhead the process of completing an MoA with all the relevant stakeholders as a matter of urgency.

**Below is the list of all stakeholders at Moroka's hoek and Groothoek**

- Land Claims Commission
- Provincial Land Reform Office

- Public Land Support Service
- Agriculture
- Sun International South Africa
- Thaba Nchu Sun Hotel
- The DTEEA
- The DWAF
- N. Georgiou Trust (NGT)
- The DPWRT

## **6. STATUS OF QWAQWA NATIONAL PARK LAND CLAIM**

- QQNP land claims involves a approximately 23 farms
- The LCC has gazetted the QQNP Land Claim about two weeks ago
- The land claim delayed a lot due to verification process

## **7. PROGRESS THUS FAR**

- Since the last conference the DTEEA has held numerous meetings with Communities Living in Parks, necessarily to assist them with the progress of their claims
- An excellent rapport exists between us and the claimants
- There has been an excellent working relations between us and the LCC

## **8. POST SETTLEMENT PREPARATIONS**

- Plans are in place to capacitate communities for post settlement activities
- Workshop will be conducted where various role players will be invited for presentation
- Meeting will be called between Local Government and District Municipality to inform them about the state of this claims

**ISIMANGALISO WETLAND PARK AUTHORITY PRESENTATION  
BY  
MR ANDREW ZALOMIUS**

**Access and benefit sharing**

- Leadership training course for land claimants
- 2 Mobile workshops to Madikwe and Kruger Park
- 9 Mobile workshops within iSimangaliso

**Capacity building of land claims Trusts (2006/7 – 2007/8)**

- R 18.9 million spent
- 273 land care contracts
- 5346 local people employed (60% women)

**Land care SMMEs (2006/7 – 2007/8)**

- R 18.9 million spent
- 273 land care contracts
- 5346 local people employed (60% women)

**Infrastructure SMMEs**

- 17 SMMEs to work on infrastructure at a cost of R19 997 829 million

**Infrastructure and land care training**

- 1231 trained: brush-cutting, first aid, herbicide application, dangerous animals, and infrastructure related skills.
- 24 Small business training

**Capacity building & training**

- 15 hospitality trainees all employed.
- 15 people were trained as assistant chefs, 15 are employed
- 38 NQF 2 (site) tour guides.
- 15 NQF 4 (regional) tour guides.

## **Craft**

- 300 crafters
- Training and product development
- Linkages with high value markets
  - Mr Price Home
  - Other decor outlets

## **Cultural heritage**

- iSimangaliso Authority must present, promote and conserve the cultural heritage of the area
- Local economic development: 5 cultural performance groups
- Very little interpretation or presentation of culture
- Documentation through 'iSimangaliso 101'.
- Access to cultural sites for cultural ceremonies and festivities

## **Community Based Natural Resource Use**

- Sustainable resource use is permitted
- E.g. 3 500 women collect *incema* in April/May; grazing area for Khula
- Swamp forest destruction
- Poverty & Poor soils
- NEED TO PROVIDE ALTERNATIVES

## **CBNRM: alternatives to swamp forest farming**

- Provides for improved soil, access to water, fencing, access to seeds, training and enterprise skills development
- 40 community gardens established
- 900, mainly women
- 400 women completed the certified training course

## **Community Public Private Partnership**

### **Commercial development**

#### **HOW DO LAND CLAIMANTS BENEFIT?**

- Mandatory equity partners, Jobs & Procurement
- TWO ASPECTS TO THE STRATEGY
  - Tourism Facilities
  - Tourism activities

#### **Mandatory Equity partners in tourism facilities**

- Thonga Beach Lodge, Rocktail Bay, Rocktail Bay Beach Camp, and Mabibi Camp.



- Between 20% and 65% shareholding
- Cape Vidal tendered; Bhangazi partners

### **Tourism activities**

- SMME development
  - 48 entrepreneurs in all local economic sectors
  - Long term vision to assist local entrepreneurs to get concessions tourism activities in the Park

### **Equitable Access**

- Free access
- Environmental Education
- Aim for all children to visit Park once in school career
- 120 schools & 3000 learners per year visit
- Host leadership visits
- Land Claimant youth
- Youth have no knowledge or memory of the land
- Outings and trails for youth to connect
- People and Park Events
- Inter-faith meetings
- Special stakeholder events

### **Co-management and Land Reform**

#### **Settlement of land claims and co-management**

- RLCC responsible for land claim settlement
- iSimangaliso: post-settlement & co-management agreements
- 9 of 14 claims settled

#### **Board representation**

- Board appointed by Minister (Env Affairs & Tourism)
- 6-9 members including land claimants, amakhosi, local government

#### **Planning**

##### **IMP**

- Consultation with government &
- land claimants (24 separate workshops)
- Complete 08/09

##### **IDP alignment**

- Attendance at regional and local municipality IDP meetings

**Communication**

- iSimangaliso News & electronic newsflashes
- Regular radio slot: Maputaland radio
- Information brochures & visitor map
- Ongoing stakeholder workshops/meetings