

Environment Quarterly

Zebhodulumo ngekota yonyaka • Temvelo ngekota yemnyaka • Mupo nga Kotara

President Zuma opens Environment House

Towards low-carbon transformation - get ready

SA's ocean economy to contribute to GDP



environmental affairs

Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



2015 environment CALENDAR



JANUARY

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2 February:
22 March:
23 March:
26 March:
7 April:
22 April:
9 May:
22 May:
5 June:
8 June:

World Wetlands Day
World Water Day
World Meteorological Day
Earth Hour
World Habitat Day
Earth Day
World Migratory Bird Day
International Biodiversity Day
World Environment Day
World Oceans' Day

17 June:
24 June:
17 July:
18 July:
1 September:
16 September:
22 September:
7 October:
21 November:

World Day to Combat Desertification
Day of the Sea Farer
World Population Day
Nelson Mandela Day
National Harbour Day
World Ozone Day
World Rhino Day
World Habitat Day
World Fisheries Day

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Dear Valued Stakeholder

Our final edition of Environment Quarterly for 2014, finds us at the conclusion of a landmark year for the Department of Environmental Affairs, and South Africa. The year 2014 marked our country's 20th year of democracy. The department embarked on a countrywide campaign across all media platforms, educating citizens and celebrating the achievements made in the past two decades. Much has been achieved by the department, its entities and our partners in the private sector, to create green jobs, protect our natural heritage, transform the sector and promote the equitable distribution of benefits derived from our environment.

Following the macro-reorganisation of the state earlier in the year, the department's administration welcomed its political leadership, Minister Edna Molewa and Deputy Minister Barbara Thomson. The new institutional arrangements have the Ministry dedicated to the environmental portfolio, where it was previously overseeing both water and environmental is-

ssues. This enhanced focus on the environment can only serve to build on our achievements and elevate the impact of strategic interventions, such as those in the fight against rhino poaching. In this edition we bring you news of the department's participation in World Rhino Day for the second year, which included leading marches with Non Governmental Organisations, under the theme "Not on our Watch".

National Development Plan 2030: Environmental sustainability objectives

Looking to the future, the beginning of 2015 will find us with 15 years left in which to meet the objectives of the National Development Plan (NDP): Vision 2030. Building environmental sustainability and resilience are matters of national priority reflected in the NDP, which was introduced in 2012. By 2030, government envisions a South Africa in which our communities are sustainable; the ecosystem is protected; natural resources are effectively utilised; and a nation with effective means of mitigating and adapting to the impacts of climate change. South Africa continues to play a leading role in climate talks, since hosting COP17 in 2011. The department participated in this year's COP20/CMP10 in Lima, Peru where it championed the South African and broader African agenda. This edition includes a report on our preparations for the conference.

Closely linked with climate change issues, the NDP 2013 emphasises managing a just transition to a low carbon economy. This is to be achieved without harming jobs or competitiveness. In line with government's paradigm shift from a service delivery, to a capabilities model, governance systems and capacity in the environmental sector should also have been enhanced by 2030.

In this edition, we profile one of the major government initiatives which respond to the key objectives of the NDP 2030. Operation Phakisa, a government initiative aimed at implementing priority programmes better, faster and more effectively was inspired by the Malaysian government's "Big, Fast Results" methodology. Phakisa (meaning "hurry up" in Sesotho) aims

to address issues highlighted in the NDP 2030, such as poverty and unemployment. The first implementation of Operation Phakisa is being led by the Department of Environmental Affairs, and will focus on unlocking the economic potential of our oceans. South Africa's oceans are estimated to have the potential to contribute R177 billion to Gross Domestic Product by 2033, compared to their R54 billion contribution in 2010.

The NDP 2030 also indicates that all new buildings are to meet the energy efficiency criteria set out in South African National Standard 204, by 2030. The department is leading the way in this regard. Following two years of hard work since the sod turning in July 2012, the employees at the Department of Environmental Affairs head office moved into the new, energy efficient green building between June and August of this year. It is the first government building of its kind and the first such building in the City of Tshwane to be awarded a Six Star Green rating by the Green Building Council of South Africa. This edition includes a report on the official unveiling of the building, named Environment House, by President Jacob Zuma. All of this and more is contained in our final edition of the year.

I would like to extend a special word of thanks to the EQ Editorial and Design team, as well as the DEA Head of Communications Mr Albi Modise, for helming the publication while I was on maternity leave and writing year end examinations. The good wishes and words of encouragement received from our readers and contributors during that time were much appreciated.

The EQ team thanks all of the DEA staff, contributors and readers for your continued support and interest in the publication. We wish you a safe and happy festive season, and look forward to yet another fruitful year of caring for our environment together.

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environmental affairs

Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



CITY OF CAPE TOWN
ISIXEKO SASEKAPA
STAD KAAPSTAD

Cover feature:

President Jacob Zuma opens Environment House

By Madimetja Mogotlane



Above: The Environmental Affairs Minister, Ms Edna Molewa and President Jacob Zuma officially opening Environment House.

South Africa's President, Mr Jacob Zuma officially opened the Department of Environmental Affairs' (DEA) new green building, Environment House on 17 October 2014.

Speaking at the launch, the President congratulated the (DEA) for the 6 Green Star rating it received. "With the opening of this building today, we are showing a bold commitment to lower emissions as well as our commitment to the Green Economy. South Africa has relatively high emissions for a developing country, and we should make the most of every opportunity to change this trajectory, hence we have since developed the National Climate Change Response Policy," said the President.

Some of the areas that the building was awarded the 6 Green Star rating for include efficient energy consumption and use of environmentally friendly materials. They also include unique and precedent-setting energy consumption mechanism, environmentally friendly transportation modes, efficient and state of the art water saving devices, on-site grey-water treatment works, emissions

reduction systems and solar energy innovation systems.

The President also urged citizens to go green in order to save the country from unexpected drought and less rainfall.

"The world is experiencing incidents of rising global warming. Ordinary South Africans have been remarking that we are getting less rain and in fact almost no rain in Gauteng in particular thus far. We are now faced with the reality of longer spells of dry heat; drought or intense rain. The Department of Environmental Affairs is literally walking the green talk. It should encourage all other sectors and every South African to go green as much as possible. We should do so to save our planet and to save our country," advised President Zuma.

The Chief Executive Officer of the Green Building Council of South Africa, Mr Brian Wilkinson praised the DEA for its green initiative and for promoting Green Economy. "This landmark new Green Building represents a major commitment by the government to green building and sustainable development. We welcome the green leadership shown," said Mr Wilkinson.

Mr Wilkinson also encouraged the department to continue utilising the natural characteristics it features for future endorsements. "The DEA's head office will make green building history as the first South African government building to be awarded the 6 Green Star rating, and only the second building overall in the country. It is a rare to find a government department given a 6-Star rating. As the biggest owner of property in the country and one of the biggest occupiers of office buildings, the government is a key stakeholder. It can play a crucial role in, not only driving the development of green buildings within its own portfolio, but incentivising the private sector by occupying office buildings that are green rated," said Mr Wilkinson.

Before the formal proceedings, the President was taken on a walk-about of the department to see some of the green features, which included the roof. The roof is covered with solar photovoltaic panels to supply almost 20% of the building's energy needs. Water efficiency measures are expected to result in the consumption of 30% less water are also included in the roof's design. They include a rainwater harvesting system, water-wise indigenous plants and efficient irrigation systems.



Above: President Jacob Zuma and Environmental Affairs Director-General, Ms Nosipho Ngcaba.



Above: The roof is covered with solar photovoltaic panels to supply almost 20% of the building's energy needs.

“With the opening of this building today, we are showing a bold commitment to lower emissions as well as our commitment to the Green Economy.”



Above: The building has a rainwater harvesting system, water-wise indigenous plants and efficient irrigation systems.



About the contributor: Madimetja Mogotlane

Madimetja Mogotlane is a Senior Communications Officer, Internal Communications and Events in the Chief Directorate: Communications at the Department of Environmental Affairs. Mr Mogotlane is a former intern in Media Liaison at the Department and has journalistic experience.

Minister calls for more decisive action against climate change

By Zibuse Ndlovu



Bold steps: Environmental Affairs Minister, Edna Molewa at the official opening of the National Climate Change Dialogue in Midrand.

It is bold steps that are needed, and will be needed for a long time to come, if we are to adequately address the very real threat of climate change, says Environmental Affairs Minister, Ms Edna Molewa. She was speaking at the opening of the National Climate Change Dialogue held in Midrand, Gauteng on 10 November 2014.

Minister Molewa said Climate Change is a phenomenon that unless addressed, threatened to severely undermine the development gains made by South Africa in the past twenty years. "Its effects threaten food and water security and the overall ability of communities to thrive, not just in South Africa and on the continent, but way beyond our borders."

The Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has confirmed that despite a growing number of climate change mitigation policies, global annual greenhouse gas emissions continue to grow rapidly.

"The total emissions were the highest in human history from 2000 to 2010. This tells us that despite, despite (emphasis) our actions, they haven't been enough. We will continue to experience the impacts of global warming," warned Minister Molewa.

Presenting key milestones of South Africa's journey and responses towards a lower carbon and climate-resilient

economy, Minister Molewa said South Africa had a National Climate Change Response Policy which charts the course for actions that are both developmental and transformational. She said the country was working hard to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

"Extensive work has been done, jointly with business and industry, to analyse the emission reduction potential in key economic sectors, and to understand the social and economic opportunities and impacts of reducing emissions," Minister Molewa said.

South Africa has also adopted the National Green Economy Strategy which provides the strategic directive to grow



About the contributor: Zibuse Ndlovu

Zibuse Ndlovu is the Assistant Director: Editorial Services at the Department of Environmental Affairs, within the Communications Chief Directorate.



Above: Carbon Sinks Mitigation: Climate Change Director, Mr Barney Kgope planting a river bush willow tree. The Department of Environmental Affairs planted two hundred river bush willow trees near Allandale Road, in Midrand to offset carbon emissions generated at the National Climate Change Response Dialogue.



Food security: According to the Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the impacts of climate change will significantly affect food security, water availability, human health and ultimately economic growth in Africa.

economic activity in the green industry sector, so as to attract investment, create jobs and improve competitiveness. The strategy also provides direction for transitioning existing economic sectors towards cleaner, low-carbon industries with sustained socio-economic benefits and low environmental impact.

Minister Molewa said South Africa was greening its cities, with a wide range of actions, including reducing energy load

in buildings, creating a recycling economy, and restoring wetlands that protect precious water resources. South Africa is among the countries that will participate in the 2015 agreement negotiations in Paris.

"It is Africa that has borne the brunt of climate change. It is African men, women and children who are feeling its effects most. We are preparing ourselves to ensure that Paris 2015 delivers an outcome

that lives up to the ground breaking Durban Platform outcome of COP 17," said Minister Molewa.

The Deputy Director-General for Climate Change and Air Quality, Ms Judy Beaumont said the climate change dialogue was about discussing progress, challenges, and opportunities. "The dialogue is about strengthening the vision and common purpose. The critical thing about climate change is that we cannot work in silos, so it is about making those linkages," said Ms Beaumont.

The Vice Chancellor of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), Jean Pascal Van Ypersele said climate change threatened economic growth and human security. "The more we disrupt our climate, the more we risk severe, persuasive and irreversible impacts," he said.

The four-day national dialogue, hosted in collaboration with the Inter-Governmental Committee on Climate Change (IGCCC), attracted 850 delegates, including representation from all spheres of government, business, labour, and civil society, as well as scientists, practitioners and journalists from southern Africa.

Towards low-carbon

The following are excerpts of the speech delivered by Minister of Environmental Affairs Edna Molewa, on 09 December in Lima, Peru, during the 20th session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC COP20), and the 10th session of the Conference of parties serving as the meeting of the parties to the Kyoto Protocol.



From left to right: Catherine Constantinides, Executive Director of Miss Earth South Africa, Ilze Saunders, Miss Earth South Africa 2014, Edna Molewa, Minister of Environmental Affairs and Judy Beaumont, Deputy Director-General of Air Quality & Climate Change.

Ladies and gentlemen, We have two clear tasks here in Lima. Firstly, acknowledging the urgent need to address the global climate crisis now, we need to build on and enhance pre-2020 implementation, as already agreed in Durban, Doha and Warsaw. As clearly shown by the science in the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) 5th Assessment Report, this includes building the political will and commitment to collectively raise the current totally inadequate pre-2020 levels of ambition.

Secondly, the future legal arrangement to combat the climate crisis from 2020 onwards must be finalised in the 2015 Paris COP to enable it to come into force by that time. Therefore, in Lima, we must build a political understanding of and the technical foundation for a future legal agreement that is inclusive, effective, fair and ambitious. This work includes both the development of draft elements of the legal Paris agreement, as well as, agreeing on the information that Parties must provide with their post-2020 intend-

ed nationally determined contributions (INDCs), since we have already agreed that these contributions should be communicated before the 2015 Paris COP. Pre-2020 Implementation and Ambition Agendas

Mr. President we must acknowledge that strengthened pre-2020 multi-lateral rules, governance and institutional arrangements that enhance the ambition and implementation of the Convention will provide a sound foundation for ne-

transformation - get ready

negotiating the further strengthening of the post-2020 system to combat climate change and its adverse effects.

In this regard, we are heartened that the Subsidiary Bodies have already made much progress on strengthening the arrangements for implementing adaptation, mitigation, technology development and transfer and enhancing transparency. We call on all Parties to constructively engage in finalising the governance arrangements for the Warsaw Loss and Damage Mechanism and the Response Measure Forum before the end of the week. However, the lack of progress in the enhancing implementation of capacity building is extremely disappointing.

The good progress in the the 2013 to 2015 review of the adequacy of and progress towards the 2 degree celsius global goal will provide momentum to the levels of ambition required from the 2015 Paris agreement. We welcome the finalisation of the rules and arrangements to enhance implementation of the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol and call on all Annex I Parties to the 2nd Commitment Period to review and increase the level of ambition of their Kyoto commitments and call on those Annex I Parties who have not joined the 2nd Commitment Period of Kyoto to also increase the levels of ambition of their pre-2020 commitments. South Africa has completed its constitutional processes to ratify the Doha amendment and will deposit our instrument of acceptance next quarter. We encourage all Parties to do likewise.

We welcome the recent pledges that were made for the initial capitalisation of the Green Climate Fund and the recent replenishment of the Global Environment Facility as these commitments bode well for the building of trust in the UNFCCC process. However, we note with concern that the Adaptation Fund still remains inadequately financed. We encourage those parties that have made pledges but have not yet fulfilled these pledges to the Adaptation Fund to do so urgently. This will give some comfort that the

pledges that were made recently under the GCF will come to fruition.

Post-2020 negotiations

The world is watching the Lima outcomes on the post-2020 arrangements very closely. The IPCC reported science clearly indicates that the clock is ticking. We have already used almost two thirds of the available global carbon budget. The message is clear, we need to invest heavily in renewable energy and other low carbon development options, and we need to invest now. The science tells us that any temperature increase of above 2 degree Celsius will be catastrophic for Africa. Mr. President, this conference cannot afford to abandon Africa and her peoples.

In our view the elements of the 2015 Paris agreement must be structured carefully around the provisions and principles of the Convention to create enough space for equitable Enhanced Action in the context of sustainable development. We all know our common responsibilities under the Convention, and we are cognisant of the changing capabilities as development in many of our countries progress. Similarly, we must also be aware of the developing countries priority to address the triple challenge of unemployment, poverty and inequality. The Durban Platform for Enhanced Action (ADP) negotiation outcome must enhance the implementation of the Convention in a manner that provides mutual reassurances to all.

South Africa believes that an agreement that provides assurance for all can only be delivered through a multilateral rule based, inclusive, fair, effective and ambitious post-2020 legal agreement, where the agreed rule-set informs the obligations of all Parties.

Information which must underpin the intended Nationally Determined Contributions

South Africa is puzzled by a call for the development of INDCs that are wholly mitigation-centric. The IPCC 5th Assessment Report is clear on the scientific linkages between the level

of mitigation ambition and required levels of adaption and its related costs. Clearly a "mitigation-only" approach is insufficient and does not work for many developing countries. Our people will not applaud us for agreeing to ignore science, our responsibilities and respective capabilities.

South Africa can assure you Mr. President that we are committed to do our fair share to build a low carbon and climate resilient society and economy. Our National Climate Policy clearly lays out South Africa's fair contribution to the global effort through our intention to peak our national emissions by 2025, plateau for approximately a decade, and decline in absolute terms thereafter to 2050.

This climate resilient, low carbon sustainable development path is achieved through a fundamental shift in our energy mix away from a predominant reliance on coal to Renewable Energy sources. Other elements include the implementation of a carbon tax; providing clean production and consumption incentives, including our national Green Fund; mainstreamed adaptation into our development plans and significant public sector adaptation investment.

I would like to note Mr President, that the extent of success of national contributions and efforts by developing countries, such as I have outlined for South Africa, is dependent on the extent of strengthened, enhanced and successful implementation of the Convention, achieved through the multilateral rule-based, inclusive, fair, ambitious and effective Paris legal agreement.

The climate change challenge is a global crisis and requires a globally enabled and supported cooperative solution.

Finally, I want to assure you of South Africa's solidarity, cooperation and support during this session. We stand ready to work with you in whatever capacity you may call upon us.

I thank you.

SA urged to blow the whistle on rhino poaching

Madimetja Mogotlane and Gaopalelwe Moroane



Above: The Deputy Minister of Environmental Affairs, Ms Barbara Thomson has urged communities to become the eyes and ears of the police and report rhino and wildlife crime.

The Deputy Minister of Environmental Affairs, Ms Barbara Thomson, has urged communities to help police to fight rhino poaching. Ms Thomson led the World Rhino Day event hosted by the Department of Environmental Affairs and South African National Parks, in cooperation with the Bushbuckridge Municipality at the Thulamahashe Stadium in Mpumalanga on 22 September 2014.

Deputy Minister told the community that by blowing the whistle on rhino poaching and wildlife crime, they are not only contributing towards saving the species for future generations to enjoy and benefit from it. "I appeal to all of you today, to become the eyes and ears of the police, to report rhino and wildlife crime and to state clearly: Not on our watch."

"Our wildlife is being decimated to feed the greed of others. Our rhino are being killed and dehorned to satisfy heartless criminals. It is time for all of us to stand up and shout: Not on our watch," she urged.

The Deputy Minister's address came after hundreds of community members joined government officials in a fun run to raise awareness through the streets of Bushbuckridge. The fun run was followed by a peaceful march to hand over the memorandum of concerns of rhino killings under the slogan Not on Our Watch to the Mhala Police station. The memorandum was accepted by the Station Commissioner Colonel John Ngwenya.

Speaking during the march, the Executive Mayor of Bushbuckridge Municipality Councillor Renias Khumalo said he was

aggrieved by syndicates that recruit his community members to poach rhinos.

"We thank the sterling job of our police as three of the rangers were arrested this past week in Kruger National Park after it was found that they were also involved in poaching. We should also remember that rhinos do not only belong to Kruger National Park, but to the community as well. So if we continue killing them, then we are also killing our wealth," the Mayor advised.

World Rhino Day was launched by the World Wildlife Fund-South Africa in 2010 to celebrate the five different species of Rhino.



About the contributor: Gaopalelwe Moroane

Gaopalelwe is a Senior Communications Officer under the sub-directorate: Editorial Services in the Department of Environmental Affairs. Prior to working as intern in Environmental Department's media liaison team; she worked for short periods with the Pretoria News, Grahamstown's local paper, Grocott's Mail as well as writing reviews for the National Arts Festival publication, Cue Newspaper.

“Our rhino are being killed and dehorned to satisfy heartless criminals.

It is time for all of us to stand up and shout: Not on our watch.”



Minister of Environmental Affairs addresses the masses who participated in the Global March 4 Elephant, Rhino and Lion in Groenkloof Pretoria.



Community members show off their medals after taking part in an 8km fun run.



UNFCCC negotiations: Lima, a key step towards Paris agreement in 2015

By Zibuse Ndlovu



Show of unity: Minister Xie Zhenhua (China), Ambassador José Antônio Carvalho, (Brazil), Environmental Affairs Minister, Mrs Edna Molewa and Ambassador Ardash Swaika a representative from the Ministry of India.



Above: Environmental Affairs Chief Negotiator, Mr Alf Wils, Environmental Affairs Minister, Mrs Edna Molewa, and the Deputy Director-General: Climate Change, Ms Judy Beaumont.

The Lima Climate Change Conference in December 2014 is an important milestone for the successful conclusion of the negotiation of the 2015 agreement. These were the sentiments shared by the Ministers at the 19th BASIC Ministerial Meeting on Climate Change held at Sun City, in North West on 08 – 10 October 2014.

The three day meeting led by the Environmental Affairs Minister, Ms Edna Molewa provided Ministers with an opportunity to discuss important issues relating to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) negotiations.

The BASIC Group of countries is made up of the relevant Ministers' dealing with climate change issues in their respective countries which are Brazil, South Africa, India and China.

Speaking at the media briefing, Minister Edna Molewa said the 2015 agreement in Paris will be the completion of the work that started during COP17 in Durban. "We also really emphasised the need for us to be innovative, and we will also work harder and smarter for us to realise this outcome in 2015. It is in our interest that the agreement is made in 2015," stressed Minister Molewa.

The Ministers used the discussions to look at the key issues that have emerged from the negotiations, including informal

consultations, and matters pertaining to the Ad hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action (ADP) discussion on the new 2015 agreement.

In a joint statement, BASIC Ministers welcomed the announcements made by some developed countries for the initial capitalisation of the Green Climate Fund (GCF). They called on other developed countries to do likewise as soon as possible, but no later than the pledging session for the initial resource mobilisation process of the fund in November 2014.

The Ministers also reiterated their commitment to strengthen the G77 and China. They warmly welcomed South Africa as the chair of the Group of 77 and China in 2015 and pledged their full support.

Ministers further highlighted the need for enhanced ambition. They noted that delivery on existing commitments in the pre-2020 period by developed Parties will contribute to the enhancement of trust and confidence for the successful conclusion of the 2015 agreement.

"We want an agreement that will provide an inclusive, equitable and effective framework within which Parties can put forward their contributions to keep the world on a path to limiting the increase in average global temperatures to below 2 degrees Celsius. In this regard, the agreement should allow Parties to

progressively enhance their contributions, without providing for regression on existing commitments," said Minister Molewa.

Ambassador Ardash Swaika, a representative from the Ministry of India said it was crucial for all the developing countries to balance the requirement of development with the need to controlling the effects of climate change.

Ministers expressed their view that the Lima conference must provide clarity on how developing countries will be supported in the implementation of their contributions under the 2015 agreement, given the serious socio-economic challenges they face and their urgent efforts to eradicate poverty.

Also present was Ambassador José Antônio Carvalho of Brazil, who stressed the need for behavioural change. "We are very much ready to start changing the climate scene, and we are determined to diminish the emission of greenhouse gases that have created this entire climate situation," said Ambassador Carvalho.

The BASIC Ministers have been meeting regularly since the Conference of the Parties (COP) in Copenhagen to exchange views and evolve a coordinated approach on important negotiating issues. Brazil will host the 20th BASIC Ministerial Meeting in the first semester of 2015.

New measures implemented to manage contaminated land

By Matjelele Phaladi



Above: The Environmental Affairs Minister, Mrs Edna Molewa (left) and the Madibeng Local Municipality Mayor, Councillor Poppy Mpho Magongwa (on the Minister's left) hard at work cleaning up the Refentse village during the clean-up campaign in Madibeng Local Municipality that took place in 2013.



Above: The Welkom Medical waste site. The act also sets out information required in the tools for the management of contaminated land and procedures thereof to neutralise the harmful effect of the chemicals in the contaminated land.

South Africa has implemented Part 8 of the National Environmental Management Waste Act No.59 of 2008 (NEMWA), which came into effect on the 2 May 2014. The implication is that moving forward, management of remediation of contaminated land in the country will be subjected to provisions of Part 8 of the NEMWA and Norms and Standards for the Remediation of Contaminated Land and Soil Quality.

However, Assistant Director: Land Remediation, Ms Xoliswa Bango said Part 8 does not apply to emergency incidents that are being managed in terms of Section 30 of National Environmental Management Act No.107 of 1998 (NEMA), any authorisation or license obtained from relevant authorities prior coming into effect of Part 8 of the NEMWA.

"Before coming into effect of the NEMWA, remediation of contaminated land was primarily regulated in terms of Section 28 of NEMA and Section 19 of the National Water Act, 1998 (NWA).

Section 28 of NEMA relates to the duty of care provision and Section 19 of NWA relates to prevention and remedying the

effects of pollution. After the promulgation of the NEMWA, a waste management license was required for remediation of contaminated land," Ms Bango explained.

Part 8 of the NEMWA provides a clear set of approaches which are being used to identify investigation areas. Furthermore it provides integrated and inclusive approach to the matters of governance and administration of contaminated land in the country. It also sets out information required in the tools for the management of contaminated land and procedures thereof to neutralise the harmful effect of the chemicals in the contaminated land.

It outlines the process that must be applied in management of contaminated land in the country. It also provides detailed information about identification and notification of investigation areas; consequences of identification and notification of investigation areas; consideration of Site Assessment Reports; Orders to remediate contaminated land; transfer of remediation site as well as Contaminated Land Register to ensure that there is effective implementation of

management of contaminated land in the country.

Part 8 of the NEMWA is further aligned to the Norms and Standards for the Remediation of Contaminated Land and Soil Quality that provide uniform approach in the country which defines the significant contamination level that provide a basis for the remediation of contaminated land.

Ms Bango further explained that Part 8 of the NEMWA provides comprehensive framework for the management of contaminated land founded on international best practice. It recognises the fact that there is a need to understand Source-Pathway-Receptor relationship (how the contaminants in the soil move to other environmental media) in the management of contaminated land.

Part 8 of the Act applies retrospectively, meaning that it applies to land contamination that occurred before the promulgation of the NEMWA and also apply to current and future contaminated land. Both national and provincial Departments of Environmental Affairs are the competent authorities.



About the contributor: Matjelele Phaladi

Mr Ernest Matjelele Phaladi is a Control Environmental Officer Grade B. He has a Bsc degree and Honours in Microbiology and a B.com degree in Human Resource Management.

Mr Gcinumzi Qotywa: Touching lives of the destitute

As a product of poverty, Chief Director responsible for Environmental Protection and Infrastructure Programmes, Mr Gcinumzi Qotywa has always wished that whatever his job is, he should play a role in the eradication of poverty for the destitute millions of our citizens. Mr Qotywa has a junior degree in Environmental Sciences and has always aspired to work for the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA). So when he got the opportunity in July 2004, it was a dream come true. He says it is well and good to be drafting policies that govern the activities of the society, but to be at the coal face of implementation of such policies is priceless. **Veronica Mahlaba** spoke to him about being a leader in the DEA.

What, in your opinion, makes a good leader?

A good leader is someone who listens very well and takes into consideration all the possibilities and view points before making a decision. This has to be someone who is passionate about their own development. It is someone who knows they are not perfect and they need to keep up with the developments in their area of work. A good leader is someone who is equally passionate about the development of the people that they work with, with a view that any day any of those could take over from him/her.

What do you find most challenging and on the opposite end, most rewarding, about working for the Department of Environmental Affairs?

The most challenging thing about working for DEA is to have to walk the tight rope or the balancing act between conservation and economic development, given the public's perception of the role of DEA. DEA is generally viewed as a department that is concerned

with the protection of ants and butterflies at the expense of economic development. Ironically, the most rewarding aspect of my life is the ability to walk the same tight rope and be able to demonstrate, through the various job creation initiatives, However, I am also able to show people that this department is as concerned about the flora and fauna as it is concerned about economic prosperity of the citizens of this country. Being at the centre of the department's practical initiatives to deliver goods and services to the citizens of this country is the most gratifying experience.

What do you consider to be your single greatest achievement in life thus far?

The expansion of the footprint of Environmental Protection and Infrastructure Programmes and its initiatives to touch the far corners of this country inhabited by the most poor among us is probably one thing that keeps me going.

I am always very clear in my mind that any achievements we register in my area of work, both here at DEA and elsewhere, are not a result of a single indi-

vidual. It is the collective efforts of all the wise people within that unit.

If you could give your 20-year-old self any advice, what would that be?

Accept that there is not a single route that goes to your destination, so it is important to map out your destiny but accept that there might be detours on the way and you should not be distracted.

Do you reduce, reuse and recycle your waste before disposing it off? What are some of the items you reuse?

Yes, 2 litre drink bottles and ice cream containers.

What are 3 core tenets of your management/leadership philosophy that you would never compromise?

Fairness, Tough empathy and Openness.

Quick Facts

Home town: Ngcobco, Eastern Cape

Role model: President Thabo Mbeki

Favourite quote/motto: "Be yourself; everyone else is already taken." - Oscar Wilde

Hobbies: Reading and playing sport

I am currently reading: The Saint, the Surfer and the CEO by Robin Sharma

I am currently listening to: Harder than the Rest by Culture



SANBI CEO: Dr Tanya Abrahamse leads by example

The Current Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI), Dr Tanya Abrahamse spoke to **Gaopalelwe Moroane** to share what she thinks makes her a good leader. The mother of three daughters spoke affirmatively about how important it is for leaders to practice what they preach. She has been in senior management for the past 25 years and was the first CEO of the SANBI.

What, in your opinion, makes a good leader?

A good leader lives by the motto by Mahatma Gandhi which says that one should be the change they want to see in the world. A good leader leads by example and respects everyone no matter who they are or what position they are in. You engage with everybody no matter who they are, and you treat people with respect and understanding.

What do you consider to be your single greatest achievement in life thus far?

Raising my three daughters is the greatest achievement.

If you could give your 20-year-old self any advice, what would that be?

Don't take life so seriously. A little bit of fun time is essential. Do more fun things. Travel more for leisure. Maybe had more boyfriends. Gone fishing, snorkelling, sailing, go hiking. What is meant to be will be in the long run, you do not have to be so serious about things all the time.

Quick Facts

Home town: Cape Town

Role model: My mother

Favourite quote/motto: "Be the change you want to see in the world" by Mahatma Gandhi and "It always seems impossible until it is done" – Nelson Mandela

Hobbies: I enjoy painting for myself in oil and watercolours painting at home.

I am currently reading: I enjoy "Who-done-its" and have been reading a few of Kate Atkinson's work.

I am currently listening to: Sergio Mendez' Timeless

Do you reduce, reuse and recycle your waste before disposing it off? What are some of the items you reuse?

Not as rigorously as I probably should.

What are 3 core tenets of your management/leadership philosophy that you would never compromise?

- Consistency: Be very clear in the way you treat people.
- Remember that one is in that leadership as a privilege and not as a favour, so one is always accountable to the public to work efficiently and effectively.
- Decisiveness: I think one can't keep discussing the same thing before coming up with a decision. I find sometimes the first decision is the correct decision. One obviously should not be hasty in making their decision, but one should not reel over one idea for too long before reaching a decision.

What does "going green" mean to you?

Going green means reducing consumerism and the idea that we have as people that we need to buy to everything without considering where the energy to produce those goods comes from. It means thinking about how to conserve energy. I think going green is also very labour intensive. So there is more opportunity for jobs with going green as opposed to the usual way of producing energy.

Do you think it is important to promote environmentally sustainable lifestyles amongst South Africans? Why?

Yes. It is economically viable and it will mean that the general livelihood of South Africans will improve dramatically. There is a huge potential in the rich soil

that we have to plant most of the food that we need. In South Africa we were a little alienated from the environment because of our history.

SANBI is celebrating its 10th anniversary this year. What in your view are some of its biggest achievements in this period?

I have been with SANBI for 8 years, and over the years I have noted that the mandate given under the National Environmental Management Biodiversity Act (NEMBA) was broad and it took many years, and over the years I have seen a movement from being a botanical institute to a biodiversity. It has been a long journey which involves change in infrastructure, and people. Another thing that I am proud of is the number of black scientists that have come out of SANBI. In the last few years I am seeing a critical increase in young black scientists.



SANBI celebrates the opening of its 10th National Botanical Gardens

By Gaopalelwe Moroane



Buffalo City Municipality Councilor Helen May, Minister of Environmental Affairs Mrs Edna Molewa and MEC Sakhumzi Somyo cut the ribbon to officially open the Kwelera National Botanical Gardens.

Excitement filled the cloudy skies as Minister of Environmental Affairs, Ms Edna Molewa led the South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI) colleagues on 30 September 2014 at the official opening of SANBI's 10th National Botanical Garden in the Eastern Cape. The opening of the gardens was a collaborative effort between SANBI and the Eastern Cape Park and Tourism Authority (ECPTA).

Speaking at the opening of the Kwelera National Botanical Gardens, Minister Molewa said the garden was going to be an outlet for recreation and leisure to people. "Through this garden we are creating an oasis of tranquillity here at Kwelera, allowing our people, many of whom have never had access to such facilities before, to have an outlet for recreation and leisure," said Minister Molewa.

The youngest of the 10 National Botanical Gardens, Kwelera has heavily wooded sand dunes and is vibrant with birds,

such as the Knysna turaco and emerald-spotted wood dove, vervet monkeys, bushbuck and blue duiker, whilst thicket provides cover for the nocturnal porcupine and the seldom-seen caracal.

"The Garden will provide a tourism attraction for the Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality and the greater East London area. It is hoped it will play a significant role in promoting biodiversity education to surrounding communities. And importantly, that it will pave the way for the growth of local tourism by linking with local and regional tourism initiatives as Jikeleza Tourism," Minister of Environmental Affairs, Ms Edna Molewa.

The Chief Executive Officer of SANBI, Dr Tanya Abrahamse said the benefits of the partnership should translate into a better understood and managed portion of conservation estate comprising largely pristine coastal dune forest and coastal grasslands, for the benefit of both current and future generations.

The name 'Kwelera' is derived from an old Khoi word 'Goerecha' meaning 'many aloes', is the first National Botanical Garden to be established in the Eastern Cape, and marks a significant step towards delivering on Outcome 10 commitments and a major achievement in reaching the country's conservation targets, ensuring ecological sustainability.

The opening of the gardens was a collaborative effort between SANBI and the ECPTA (Eastern Cape Park and Tourism Authority). "The benefits of this partnership should translate into a better understood and managed portion of conservation estate comprising largely pristine coastal dune forest and coastal grasslands, for the benefit of both current and future generations," said Dr Abrahamse.

One of the activities that visitors can enjoy at the Kwelera Gardens is taking hikes through the Strandloper Trail that runs from Kei Mouth to Gonubie includes the unspoilt beach of the Kwelera National Botanical Garden.

Municipalities encouraged to look after air quality monitoring stations

By Veronica Mahlaba



Above: Director of Atmospheric Quality Information Mr Tsietsi Mahema; Chief Director of Air Quality Management, Dr Thuli Mdluli; Acting Chief Director of Environmental Services, Dr William Mngoma; Deputy Minister of Environmental Affairs, Mrs Barbara Thomson; eThekweni Metropolitan Municipality Executive Mayor, Councillor James Nxumalo; and Deputy Director-General of Climate Change and Air Quality, Ms Judy Beaumont at the official opening of the 9th Annual Air Quality Governance Lekgotla in Umhlanga, KwaZulu-Natal.

The Deputy Minister of Environmental Affairs, Ms Barbara Thomson has encouraged councillors to look after air quality monitoring stations in the municipalities. The Deputy Minister was speaking at the 9th Annual Air Quality Governance Lekgotla held in KwaZulu-Natal on 06 – 08 October 2014.

There are currently 112 government owned air quality monitoring stations across the country. "These monitoring stations are important tools that allow us to make a proper analysis and identify priority areas for intervention. The councillors must ensure that these stations are being operated as they are closer to them. These stations must not become a white elephant," said Deputy Minister Thomson.

The main objective of the three day Lekgotla themed: "A Decade of working together to defend the right to clean air," was to ensure that all government air quality managers are inspired to build, strengthen and fine-tune their air quality management interventions towards

"Air quality management in each province must provide where necessary, provincial norms and standards to ensure coordinated and cohesive air quality governance in the province."

the implementation of the Air Quality Act (AQA) to contribute to a better life for all. Attending the Lekgotla was the eThekweni Metropolitan Municipality Mayor, Councillor James Nxumalo who stated that communities within the eThekweni Municipal Area (EMA) have fought for many years to improve air quality, especially in the South Durban Basin (SDB). The SDB is a legacy of apartheid spatial planning which allowed construction of heavy industrial operations within residential areas of people of colour.

"As eThekweni Municipality we continue to take the matter of air pollution and air quality management very seriously. In this

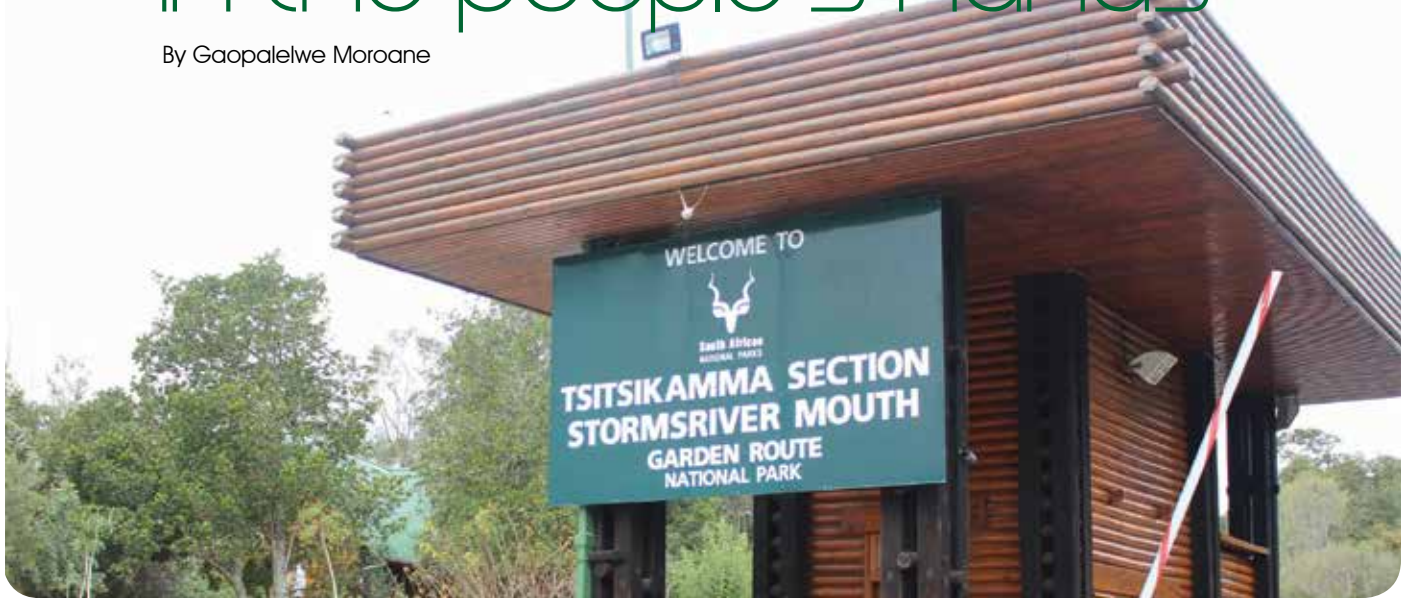
regard, we have already implemented large scale interventions in the South Durban Basin. This initiative cost in the region of R23 million, and clearly demonstrates that government working together with stakeholders can make appreciable strides in improving air quality," Councillor Nxumalo explained.

The focus areas for discussions included the unpacking of the National Environmental Management: Air Quality Amendment Act (20) of 2014. Atmospheric Emission Licensing (new applications, processing fee, applications for postponement of compliance time-frames.); compliance monitoring and enforcement; as well as streamlining government ambient air quality monitoring initiatives.

The year 2014, marks ten years since the promulgation of the National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act (39) of 2004 "AQA". Since then, government has been implementing several programmes at the national and local level to improve the quality of air in South Africa.

National Parks' survival is in the people's hands

By Gaopalelwe Moroane



Above: The Tsitsikamma Section protects a wonderland of inter-tidal and marine life. This is one of the largest single unit 'no take' (including fishing) Marine Protected Areas (MPA) in the world, conserving 11 percent of South Africa's Temperate South Coast rocky shoreline and provides a 'laboratory' for fisheries baseline research on endangered line fish species.

The serene terrain of the Tsitsikamma section of the Garden Route National Park was host to the opening of South African National Parks (SANParks) Week on 08 September 2014 .

Endorsing the Parks Week, the Deputy Minister of Arts and Culture Mrs Rejoice Mabudafhasi (who attended the event on behalf of the Environmental Affairs Minister, Mrs Edna Molewa) said The survival of the National Parks system lied in the hands of South African people: "The SA National Parks Week provides us with that much needed opportunity to establish a real multicultural visitor profile. The major test for our parks is to make them more accessible and appealing to to an increasingly multicultural society that we reside in and it is our belief that the hosting of the annual South African National Park Week campaign will give some answers to the disparity of other segments of society in national park visitation, " said Deputy Minister Mabudafhasi.

This year the SANParks Week ran from 08 September 2014 to 12 September 2014. All 19 of the South African National Parks allowed people to enter parks free of charge for a week. Limitations to the free visits were only extended to commercial ventures within the parks, such as Safari tours.

The Acting CEO of SANParks Mr Abe Sibuya said the aim of the campaign was to bridge the gap between communities and the South African National Parks, which in turn will give communities a sense of ownership and entitlement over

About the Tsitsikamma Section of the Garden Route National Park

The Tsitsikamma Section incorporates various cultural heritage sites ranging from Khoisan cultural heritage sites such as caves, shell middens and rock art to more recent cultural historic sites such as the ruins of small fisher settlements, remnants of the past forestry industries and grave sites. The park is currently embarking on a Cultural Mapping project with the aim of identifying and protecting all Cultural Heritage sites incorporated within the Park.

An oral History Collection project is being implemented currently to recover and interpret information relating to cultural heritage. The more recent history of the forestry and fishing industries that is still in the memories of older folk from the region, is the one thing that strongly connects local communities with the park and can enhance park-community relations. These processes will be developed and implemented in conjunction with local community members and the organisations representing community interests, as well as relevant academic institutions and researchers

the parks. "This will in turn not only make communities proud of them, but also be cautious to preserve and conserve the parks and the wildlife and fauna that live within the parks," said Mr Sibuya.

Since its inception in 2006, National Parks Week has seen an influx of over 130 000 day visitors in all participating parks. The

National Park Week in the Tsitsikamma section of the Garden Route National Park was celebrated with much fanfare as it coincided with Tsitsikamma's Jubilee anniversary of being the first African Marine Protected Areas. In 1964 when it was proclaimed, it became the first Marine National Park to be proclaimed in Africa.

The Tsitsikamma Section protects a wonderland of inter-tidal and marine life. This is one of the largest single unit 'no take' (including fishing) Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) in the world, conserving 11 percent of South Africa's Temperate South Coast rocky shoreline and provides a 'laboratory' for fisheries baseline research on endangered line fish species.



Above: The coastline makes up part of the Tsitsikamma National Park, which was the host of the launch of the National Parks Week on 8 September 2014 to 12 September 2014.

Discovering the untapped marine world

By Tshego Letshwiti



Minister of Environmental Affairs Mrs Edna Molewa delivers the keynote address at the launch of National Marine Week.

“Unlocking the potential of the ocean space and decoding its mysteries will lead to an era of discovery and development,” emphasised the Minister of Environmental Affairs, Mrs Edna Molewa at the launch of National Marine Week in Cape Town on 6 October 2014.

The campaign kicked off on a high note as dignitaries, scholars, DEA officials, media and members of the public descended to East Pier at the V&A Waterfront to join the week long awareness campaign. With an aim to educate South Africans about the role oceans play in their daily lives, the theme for this year was Oceans 70/20: Decoding Mysteries, Optimising Opportunities. Unpacking the theme, Minister Molewa explained that “70” signifies the fact that more than 70 percent of the earth’s surface is covered by the oceans; whilst the 20 refers to government’s achievements over the last 20 years and what they would like to achieve in the future.

Highlighting the need to explore the economic potential of the ocean Minister

Molewa said: “We need good science in order to discover and create new opportunities that will assist our country in fighting poverty, unemployment and yet maintain healthy ocean ecosystems. The oceans in our very backyard hold the key to unlocking the understanding of the true role oceans play in dictating the future climate of the world.”

On the launch day guests were also treated to a tour of the three exhibition spaces which included a video clip on oceans, an interactive space with a display of the department’s research instrumentation, and a career booth for the learners. An exciting area for all was the Ocean Experience (Mirrored Maze) space which consisted of projections on various media, this allowed guests to experience the ocean from a whole new different perspective and gave them an overall oceanic experience.

Forming part of the week long campaign was the Marine Week Golf Day and Gala Dinner which was held in partnership with Smit Amandla in order to raise funds for the Mariam Makeba Foundation. A total of R100 000 was raised and donated to the foundation. As the week long cam-

paign drew to an end, members of the public were invited to enjoy a two day tour of the SA Agulhas II.



From left: DEA’s Deputy Director-General : Oceans & Coasts Dr Monde Mayekiso; Mr Nelson Lumumba Lee (Director of The Miriam Makeba Foundation, grandson of Miriam Makeba); Mrs Manana Nhlahlhla (Chairperson, SMIT Amandla Marine); Ms Peliwe Jubase (SMIT Amandla Marine bursary recipient); Ms Petunia Hlope (The Makeba Centre for Girls); DEA’s Director General Ms Nosipho Ngcaba and Mr Sithembiso Mithethwa (Director, SMIT Amandla Marine).



About the contributor: Tshego Letshwiti

Tshego Letshwiti is an Assistant Director: Internal and External Communications at the Department of Environmental Affairs in Cape Town. Ms Letshwiti is a Journalism graduate with experience in print and broadcast media.



iSimangaliso's spring spectacles

The changing seasons in iSimangaliso Wetland Park have brought a fresh sense of hope and life to the parched lands after a particularly dry winter. Late spring rains drenched the yellowing grasslands and management-burnt blocks, releasing a vibrant green flourish almost overnight. In the St Lucia Estuary section of the Park, almost 250mm of life-giving rain fell in September and October, while further north was also blessed by heavy downpours with uMkhuze recording 79mm for the same period.

Throughout the 332 000ha world heritage site, blossoms are blooming and bellies are swelling with imminent new life. From Kosi Bay in the north to Maphelane in the south, the impressive Lebombo Mountains in the west of uMkhuze to the 220km-long pristine north-eastern coastline of South Africa, life is regenerating and springing back.



Above: Lambs, cubs, calves, fledglings and piglets... In the water and out, new life comes to the wetlands, savannahs and lakes of iSimangaliso. Protective mothers hide their newborns away for a while which makes sightings that much more exciting and special.

Below: iSimangaliso is rich in... of wildflowers found in the Po... glance but get down on your... found on the self-guided trail



biodiversity – one of the outstanding universal values for which it was accorded the status of a UNESCO world heritage site – and the range of plants that bloom throughout the year and particularly in late spring is one of the most visible forms of evidence. Many of these seem unimpressive at first glance but when you get your hands and knees and zoom in close... there's incredible beauty in some of the tiniest buds. And best of all, many of these flowers can be seen in the St Lucia Estuary or Eastern Shores nature trails section, as well as around camps in uMkhuze, Kosi Bay or Sodwana Bay.



SA takes lead in preserving the ozone layer

Picture: Zibuse Ndlovu



Above: Security, Vetting and Travel Director, Mr Vinesh Naidoo with the NettMann family who fell in love with the green car.

To find out more about South Africa's role in preserving the ozone layer, the **EQ** spoke to the Deputy Director: Ozone Depleting Substances Sub-Directorate, **Mr Lubabalo Maweni**.

According to Mr Maweni, the Department of Environmental Affairs' Regulations regarding the Phasing-out and Management of Ozone Depleting Substances provide a clear legal framework and implementation timetable for the phase out of chlorofluorocarbons and other banned substances such as halons, carbon tetrachloride etc..

"South Africa does not produce ozone depleting substances but imports them from other countries. Ozone depleting substances are imported for use in refrigeration, air-conditioning, fire-extinguishers, and foam blowing industry and in quarantine and pre-shipment of agricultural commodities," explained Mr Maweni.

To ensure full phase-out of ozone

depleting substances, a permit system and quota allocation system has been put in place to control entry and consumption. "The International Trade Administration Commission (ITAC) issues a permit upon recommendation by the National Ozone Unit (NOU) of the Department of Environmental Affairs. The Department of Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries, may also authorise importation of methyl bromide before the NOU and ITAC can issue a permit. In addition, SARS' Customs and Excise have allocated tariff codes to identify Ozone Depleting Substances. Therefore, imports of these dangerous substances into the country are expected to decrease," elaborated Mr Maweni.

Explanation of terms:

1 ***Chlorofluorocarbon:** Any of a class

of compounds of carbon, hydrogen, chlorine, and fluorine, typically gases used in refrigerants and aerosol propellants. They are harmful to the ozone layer in the earth's atmosphere owing to the release of chlorine atoms on exposure to ultraviolet radiation.

2 ***Hydrochlorofluorocarbon:** A fluorocarbon that is replacing chlorofluorocarbon as a refrigerant and propellant in aerosol cans; considered to be somewhat less destructive to the atmosphere.

3 ***Carbon tetrachloride:** Carbon tetrachloride, also known by many other names, is the inorganic compound with the chemical formula CCl_4 . It was formerly widely used in fire extinguishers, as a precursor to refrigerants, and as a cleaning agent.



Above: Use alternative means of transport such as buses, bicycles, or simply walk.



Above: Wind power is conversion of wind energy into a useful form of energy by using wind turbines to make electricity, and windmills to provide mechanical power.

The Ozone:

What is Ozone – It is a gas whose molecule contains three atoms of oxygen and whose presence in the stratosphere constitutes the ozone layer. Ozone is toxic to human beings, plants and animals at high concentrations and is thus a pollutant when it occurs in the lower atmosphere.

Ozone layer- a layer in the earth's stratosphere at an altitude of about 10 km (6.2 miles) containing a high concentration of ozone, which absorbs the harmful ultraviolet radiation (UV-B) emanating from the sun. It therefore shields plant and animal life from UV-B, which in high doses can be particularly damaging. More UV-B radiation means more skin cancers, more diseases and eye cataracts, less yield from plants, less productivity from oceans and damage to plastics, among other things.

Ozone friendly-not harmful to the ozone layer; using substances that do not produce gases harmful to the ozone layer

All life on earth depends on the existence of a thin shield of a poisonous gas high in the atmosphere: the ozone layer

Ozone depleting substances are those substances which deplete the ozone layer.

Use of Ozone depleting substances –are widely used in refrigerators, airconditioners, fire extinguishers, in dry cleaning, as a propellant in aerosols, as solvents for cleaning, electronic equipment and as agricultural fumigants.

Example Ozone depleting substances: Chlorofluorocarbons, Halon, Carbon tetrachloride (CCl₄), Methyl chloroform (CH₃CCl₃), *Hydrobromofluorocarbons (HBFCs), Hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs), Methyl bromide (CH₃Br) and Bromochloromethane (CH₂BrCl)

How should you preserve the ozone layer?

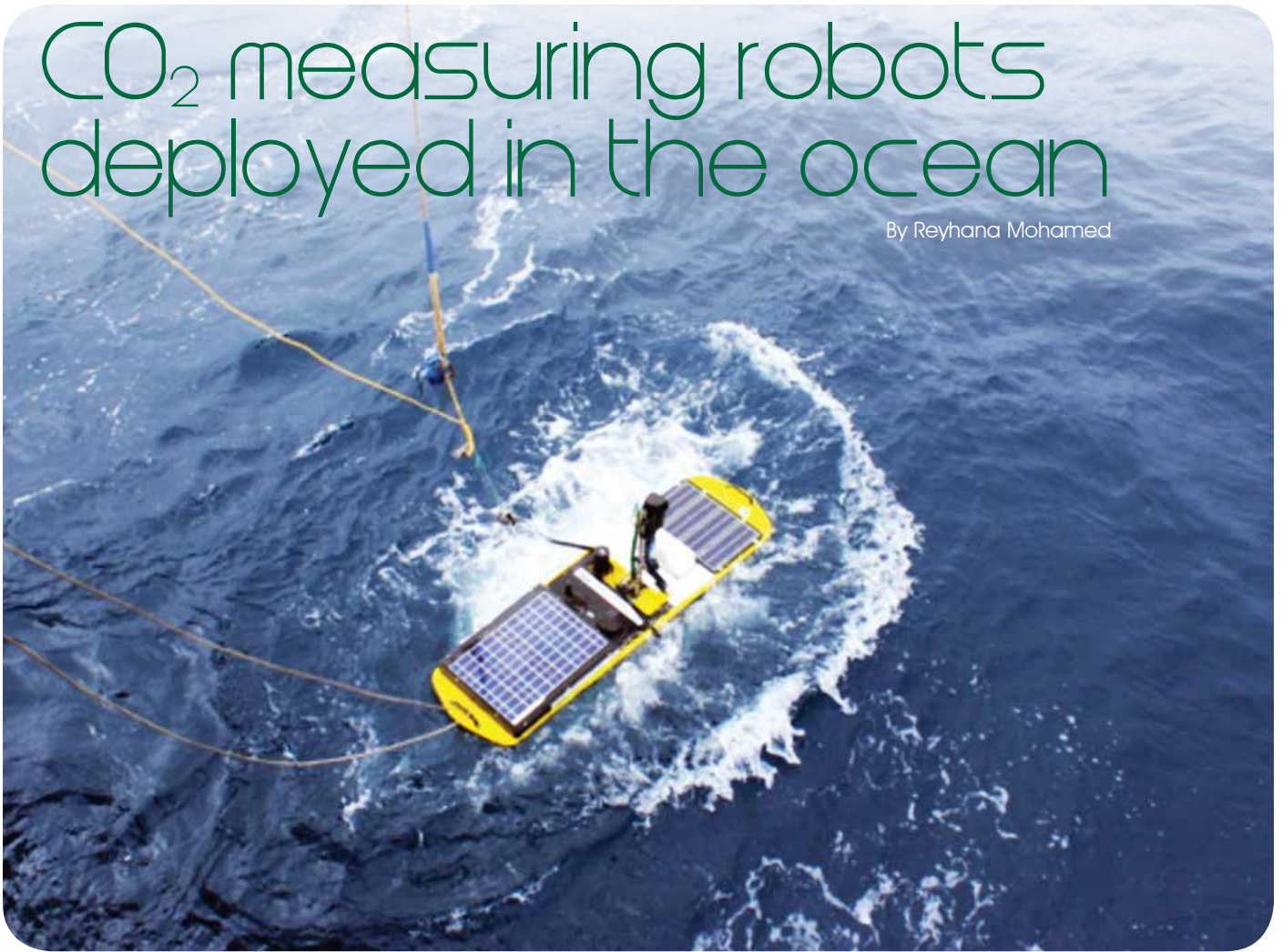
There are many and simple ways in which we can save our ozone layer. With these simple rules we can create a chain of consciousness that will make manufactures stop creating non-environmentally friendly products.

- Avoid buying and using aerosols and sprays composed of chlorofluorocarbon and Hydrochlorofluorocarbon.
- Avoid using fire extinguishers with halogenated hydrocarbon since it is a very aggressive substance for the ozone layer.
- Avoid buying insulating material made up of chlorofluorocarbon and Hydrochlorofluorocarbon.
- Maintain/ clean air-conditioning because if they do not function properly, they emit chlorofluorocarbon and Hydrochlorofluorocarbon to the atmosphere.
- Check the freezer and car air-conditioning. If they do not function properly, have them repair because they may have leaks.
- Opt to buy a refrigerator or an air-conditioning without chlorofluorocarbon and / or Hydrochlorofluorocarbon.
- Reduce the use of products with Bromomethane in some sown fields and crops.
- Reduce the use of your car and of other gadgets like compressors, lawn mowers, etc.

All of us can contribute to the protection of the environment by abiding to the existing mechanism to manage Ozone depleting substances in South Africa," said Mr Maweni.

CO₂ measuring robots deployed in the ocean

By Reyhana Mohamed



The wave glider deployed off the SA Agulhas II. Ocean robots keep tabs on the Earth's climate state, while swimming with whales and riding the high-seas.

In a ground breaking development aimed at measuring key climate variables of the ocean and atmosphere (such as the rate at which carbon dioxide [CO₂] exchanges between the ocean and the atmosphere); the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) has acquired ocean robots and deployed these into the remote Southern Ocean. They are designed to collect oceanic data at depths and regions not recorded previously.

This will allow CSIR scientists to more precisely understand how our climate is changing and thereby allow South Africa to better plan and mitigate against climate change. "The world has always had a natural carbon cycle, with about 100 gigatonnes of carbon dioxide being exchanged between the atmosphere,

the oceans and the land. Anthropogenic carbon dioxide emissions, those emitted by human activities, are magnitudes less than the total cycle at about nine to ten gigatonnes but, of that, half stays in the atmosphere... and a quarter goes into the oceans," explained Dr Pedro Monteiro, a CSIR expert in Oceanography.

By adding carbon dioxide to the ocean, "we are changing the ocean chemistry and that is giving life to ocean acidification," said Dr Monteiro, who is also the head of the Southern Oceans Carbon-Climate Observatory in Cape Town.

Approximately half of the CO₂ emitted to the atmosphere due to human activities – such as burning fossil fuels – is taken up by the oceans and ecosystems on land. However, the ability of nature to mitigate

the impact of these emissions is not limitless.

Small changes in the natural CO₂ cycle could therefore have a big impact on the ability of nature to serve as a carbon sink for man's emissions. CSIR scientists are using state-of-the-art equipment to study the global and regional carbon cycles in an attempt to establish how they function and the extent to which they are changing.

"These robots are deployed off the SA Agulhas II into the Southern Ocean – at depths of up to 1000 km, measuring salinity, oxygen, temperature, etc.," explained CSIR Oceanographer, Dr Sebastiaan Swart. The CSIR has acquired two robots; a sea glider and a wave glider.



About the contributor: Reyhana Mahomed

Reyhana Mahomed is a Communications Manager at the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR): Natural Resources and the Environment. Before joining the CSIR, Ms Mahomed was a Deputy Director in the Department of Environmental Affairs' Chief Directorate: Communications.

Wave gliders

Wave gliders consist of a fibre glass surface unit that carries scientific sensors and solar panels that power them. This surface unit is connected by an umbilical cable to a unit at a depth of 7m that propels the whole glider.

These gliders can be steered via satellite from anywhere in the world. They can move at a speed of 2-3 knots by converting wave energy into forward propulsion, and can remain at sea for several months at a time. The gliders are fitted with sensors that measure

atmospheric and ocean carbon levels, ocean acidity, temperature, salinity and depth.

Sea gliders

These are remotely navigated and collect oceanographic data up to 1km below the surface sending it back in real time via satellite. They are fitted with sensors that collect data about conductivity, temperature and depth; dissolved oxygen, light and chlorophyll. These gliders can be deployed for several months. In 2012, the CSIR deployed these gliders continuously for six months in the remote Southern Ocean.

Flux towers

Measuring CO₂ exchange in the ocean is of little use if one is not measuring CO₂ exchange on land. It is imperative to have a holistic understanding of CO₂ in the atmosphere therefore; flux towers have been designed to measure CO₂ exchange on land.

Flux towers are tall steel structures fitted with eddy-covariance sensors that measure the upward and downward movement of gases above the vegetation canopy due to air turbulence, 20 times per second.



Dr Pedro Monteiro, CSIR expert in Oceanography; with the old SA Agulhas.



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The Skukuza flux tower in the Kruger National Park is one of the longest-running flux towers in Africa.

MEC Vadi opens R16.2 million Non-Motorised Transport System

By Veronica Mahlaba



Above: Executive Mayor of City of Johannesburg, Mr Parks Tau gearing up to cycle.



Above: Gauteng MEC for Transport, Dr Ismail Vadi led the way.



Above: Mr Tlou Ramaru of DEA delivered a speech on behalf of the Minister.

The Gauteng MEC for Roads and Transport, Dr Ismail Vadi officially opened the Orlando Non-Motorised Transport System funded to the tune of R16.2 million in Soweto, Gauteng on 23 October 2014.

Speaking at the official opening of the 5km of walking and cycling paths, Dr Ismail Vadi said phase one of the programme was aimed at developing bicycle routes, parking facilities and rental stations. "Our attempt is to influence cycling and invariably reduce carbon emissions, improve air quality and change the mind-set of society," said MEC Vadi.

The Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) identified and established Non-Motorised Transport (NMT) as one of the programmes to contribute towards the reduction of the carbon emissions in preparation for the hosting of the 2010 FIFA World Cup.

The construction and associated work commenced from July 2011. The project involved two components, namely the construction of NMT infrastructure at municipal level and the establishment of a Project Management Unit at the DEA to oversee the implementation of the project as a whole, nationally.

MEC Vadi told thousands of learners and community members gathered at the Orlando Community Hall in Soweto that biking was cool. "I met my first girlfriend

who is now my wife while cycling. Biking is cool. Today we are gathered here to promote cycling. The greatest thing I have discovered about riding a bike is that it gives one joy and you relax," said MEC Vadi.

DEA's Chief Policy Advisor of Sustainable Development, Mr Tlou Ramaru stated that since 2011, the government has worked well under the Framework of South African - German Financial Cooperation through KfW Development Bank (KfW) to develop the Non-motorised infrastructure across three cities, namely eThekweni Metropolitan, City of Johannesburg and Polokwane Local Municipality. "The NMT programme forms part of the Department's 2010 FIFA World Cup National Greening Legacy Programme. This programme has been implemented in close collaboration with the National Department of Transport," said Mr Ramaru.

The route connects schools to residential areas to facilities such as the Orlando Stadium and the police station as well as Rea Vaya BRT and railway stations. The Orlando project includes sidewalk improvements, provision of bicycle lanes, greening and storm water management, improved street lighting and the provision of bicycle racks with associated street furniture.

Executive Mayor of Johannesburg, Mr Parks Tau thanked the Department of Transport and Environmental Affairs for

working together to ensure that people mitigate any impacts on our environment.

"Obviously we can't promote cycling when the environment or infrastructure is not conducive for cyclists to ride their bicycles. Proper infrastructure has been built, dedicated bicycle lanes and signage. Congratulations to Orlando for getting the NMT system and we hope you will all utilise it as it should be," said Councillor Tau.

The launch in Orlando culminated with the hosting of the 2nd National Non-Motorised Transport Conference, which the Minister of Environmental Affairs, Mrs Edna Molewa hosted in collaboration with the Minister of Transport, Executive Mayor of the City of Johannesburg and KfW (German Development Bank) on 31 October 2014.

The conference provides a platform where issues that need to be overcome in the planning and roll-out of non-motorised infrastructure are identified, while the provinces of Gauteng, Polokwane and eThekweni provide insights on non-motorised transport networks in respective cities. The value of programmes to encourage cycling in cities were highlighted, and three pilot sites in the country were showcased. Four themes guided the conference agenda, namely: Policy, Access to non-motorised transport, Engaging with NMT users, and Awareness Programmes.

Deputy Director-General Guy Preston receives Lifetime Achievement Award

By Veronica Mahlaba



Above: Deputy Director-General of Environmental Programmes, Dr Guy Preston (centre) receives the Lifetime Achievement Award sponsored by Paarl Media at the Eco-Logic Awards.

The Deputy Director General of Environmental Programmes in the Department of Environmental Affairs, Dr Guy Preston received the prestigious Eco-Logical Lifetime Achievement Award at the 2014 Eco-Logic Awards hosted by the Enviropaedia on 17 September 2014. The awards were held at a renowned world heritage, the Cradle of Humankind in Maropeng, Johannesburg.

Dr Preston's award recognises his substantial commitment to conserving South Africa's water resources, and biodiversity, as well as his role in empowering the people of South Africa.

After receiving his prestigious award, Dr Preston made a presentation about invasive alien plants that causes skin disorders on people and animals that come into contact with them. He spoke about the Eco-Furniture Programme which creates sustainable job opportunities and skills development for the poor, unemployed people. The programme makes products that are useful for government and other organisations at prices that are far lower than they are currently paying for such items. Simultaneously the programme helps to deal with the scourge of invasive alien plants.

"This award recognises what the department and its partners are doing.

We are all able to achieve the things that we do for the environment and for our people, because of the sustained quality of leadership that we have enjoyed. I would like to acknowledge the Minister, Deputy Minister and the Director-General. It is a great privilege to be part of the team that is delivering on so many fronts," said Dr Preston.

Publishing editor of The Enviropaedia and co-host of the Eco-Logic Awards, Mr David Parry-Davies said the awards focused on "Eco-Logic", which is a mindset and value system that goes beyond products and manufacturing. Eco-Logic includes how we run our businesses; live in our communities and the application of natural law to our politics and economy," said Mr Parry Davies

"We recognise that we have been pouring out information about the world's environmental crisis through The Enviropaedia since 2000 and yet so little has changed. We are trying to bring about awareness to the masses of people to save the environment," Mr Parry-Davies explained.

First launched in 2011, the Eco-Logic Awards identify and give recognition to individuals and organisations that are making a real and measurable difference in creating a more sustainable world in which to live.

The following were the winners in 2014 Eco-Logic Awards:

Categories	Winners
The Biodiversity Award (Sponsored by Exxaro)	North Durban Honorary Rangers
The Climate Change Awards (Sponsored by the Department of Environmental Affairs)	Pick n Pay
The Eco-Innovation Award (Sponsored by EcoAfrika Coatings)	City of Cape Town & Shark Spotters
The Energy Saving Award (Sponsored by NBI)	Hotel Verde
The Recycling Award (Sponsored by Collect a Can)	The Wattville Ithuseng Recycling Co-op Ltd.
The Transport Award (Sponsored by SANRAL)	Blendwell Chemicals
The Water Conservation Award (Sponsored by TCTA)	Duzi-Umngeni Conservation Trust - KwaZulu-Natal
The Municipalities Award (Sponsored by Santam)	City of Cape Town
The Eco-Youth Award (Sponsored by Pick n Pay - Climate Change)	John Lucas
The Eco-Community Award (Sponsored by SABC3)	Miss Earth South Africa
The Eco-Angel Award (Sponsored by ACSA)	Annie Beckhelling
The Eco-Warrior Award (Sponsored by City of Tshwane)	Kelvin Cochraine
The Lifetime Achievement Award (Sponsored by Paarl Media)	Dr Guy Preston

Coastal Clean-up Day: Over 1877kg of litter collected

By Tshego Letshwiti



Above: Deputy Minister of the Department of Environmental Affairs, Ms Barbara Thomson(right) picking up litter along Cuttings Beach.



Above: Volunteers with the bags of litter collected during the clean-up.



Working for the Coast beneficiaries collect the litter along Cuttings Beach.



DEA official Reuben Molale weighs the bags of litter that the children picked up.



Children from the iSipingo were energetic participants in the clean-up.

The Deputy Minister of Environmental Affairs, Ms Barbara Thomson led the International Coastal Clean-up Day on 20 September 2014 at the Cuttings Beach Merebank, Durban, where over 1877kg of litter was collected. The collected litter mainly consisted of small paper, cigarettes and polystyrene packaging.

Delivering the key note address the Deputy Minister encouraged the community to take responsibility for land-based litter and participate in finding solutions to combat the problem. "South Africa has over 3000 km of beautiful coastlines and some of the most diverse environments of the world. There are many benefits derived from these coastal environments but because of constant development along our coastal environment, it is under threat and awareness, specifically through litter collection, is of utmost importance. This is what this coastal clean-up aims to achieve: to make us take responsibility for

the litter we create on land and become more aware of the impact it has on the marine ecosystem," she said.

Over a thousand volunteers, including pupils from 11 schools in the area, joined the Deputy Minister in cleaning up Cuttings Beach. The clean-up activity was in support of the annual International Coastal Clean-up Day (ICCD) which was initiated by the Ocean Conservancy. More than 100 countries participate in cleaning their oceans. The Department's ICCD theme for this year was "Communities creating waves of change". The event was used as a platform to address issues concerning coastal pollution as well as to stimulate change in the behavioural patterns that negatively affect the marine environment.

DEA together with the support from eThekweni Municipality, Plastics SA, WESSA, ABI, Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife, and the Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs,

brought the clean-up event to the Cuttings Merebank Beach and the iSipingo Estuary and Beach.

South Africa has been participating in the ICCD event for 18 years. The information on the litter and debris removed from the beaches has been forwarded to the Ocean Conservancy to form part of the global beach litter database (Ocean Trash Index) annually.

The information assists in finding solutions on litter management from land-based sources as well as from offshore sources. On the day water quality sampling was also conducted to demonstrate the various biological and chemical constituents in water that may cause an impact to humans and the marine ecosystem. The ICCD initiatives worldwide remain the largest volunteer environmental data-gathering effort and clean-up event of coastal and underwater areas in the world to date.

SA's ocean economy expected to contribute R20bn to GDP

By SA News

Government will implement ocean economy projects which are expected to contribute more than R20 billion to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) by 2019.

"Going forward, delivery units have been established in the lead departments to drive the implementation of the detailed delivery plans. We will achieve the growth and the jobs we need in the economy," President Jacob Zuma said during an Operation Phakisa Open Day held in Durban in October. He said progress on the ocean economy initiatives would be monitored on a weekly basis by the Department of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation.

President Zuma was speaking in Durban during the open day of Operation Phakisa, which promotes economic growth and job creation in line with the goals outlined in the National Development Plan.

The open day was an opportunity for the President to release the results of weeks of exploratory work of unlocking the country's ocean economy.

Operation Phakisa has four priority areas, which include marine transport and manufacturing, offshore oil and gas exploration, aquaculture as well as marine protection services and ocean governance.

The operation is an adaptation of the Big Fast Results methodology that was successfully applied by the Malaysian Government in the delivery of its Economic

and Government Transformation Programmes. President Zuma said the oceans have the potential to contribute up to R177 billion to the GDP and create just over one million jobs by 2033.

Vast potential

The work stream on offshore oil and gas exploration has set a target of drilling 30 exploration wells in the next 10 years. "Over the next 20 years, this work could lead to the production of 370 000 barrels of oil and gas per day. The result would be 130 000 jobs and a contribution of US \$2.2 billion to GDP," said President Zuma.

South Africa's coast and adjoining waters have possible resources of approximately nine billion barrels of oil. The aquaculture work stream underlined the high growth potential of South Africa's aquaculture sector due to an increasing demand for fish. Eight initiatives that could spur growth in the sector have been identified. One of the initiatives includes implementing 24 projects across South Africa, which are expected to grow the aquaculture sector's revenue from about R500 million today, to almost R1.4 billion in 2019.

President Zuma said the marine protection services and ocean governance work stream has undertaken the task of developing an overarching, integrated ocean governance framework for the sustainable growth of the ocean economy. "The plan entails the protection of the ocean environment from all illegal activities and to promote its multiple socio-economic benefits with results by 2017. The team also proposes

the delivery of a National Marine Spatial Planning Framework in order to enable a sustainable ocean economy by December 2015," he said.

President Zuma said work on an Ocean Act was in progress and a draft Oceans Bill would be ready in 2015. "The Oceans Act will provide a clear foundation for marine spatial planning," he said.

The marine transport work stream has developed 18 initiatives across three categories, including infrastructure and operations, skills and capacity building as well as market growth to accelerate sector growth. President Zuma said the initiatives would expand the South African port capacity for repair work for oil ships and oil rigs.

"Some of the initial targets drawn up include firstly, an increase in the local manufacturing capacity through a 10 percent increase in the usage of local components for boat and ship building. Second, is an increase in the ship repair capacity in Richards Bay, thus creating 200 direct jobs," he said.

Another target included increasing the amount of minerals exported on South African ships, which would create more than 4 000 direct jobs. President Zuma said some of the progress made included the process of establishing a National Shipping Company in partnership with South Korea. He said Operation Phakisa represented a new spirit of moving faster in achieving a growth target of five percent by 2019.

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Minister Molewa hands over 14 title deeds to communities in Mthatha

By Veronica Mahlaba



Above: Mr Lesiba Pila from the Mabjaneng Communal Property Association signing the title deed of the land they claimed, also signed by Minister of Rural Development and Land Reform, Mr Gugile Nkwinti and Minister of Environmental Affairs, Ms Edna Molewa.



Minister of the Department Environmental Affairs, Ms Edna Molewa is interviewed by Ms Faith Mangope of e.tv's Sunrise breakfast show.

The Minister of Environmental Affairs, Mrs Edna Molewa together with the Minister of Rural Development and Land Reform, Mr Gugile Nkwinti handed over 14 title deeds to communities that were misplaced during the apartheid days from across South Africa. The hand over occurred during the 6th People and Parks Conference held in Mthatha on 8 – 11 September 2014.

Minister Molewa said that historically, the establishment of protected conservation areas came at great cost to indigenous and local communities, who were displaced and dispossessed. "The People and Parks programme is a means of redress, one of acknowledging the experiences of these communities and ensuring their future participation in the management of these parks.

"Because we know that conservation cannot be motivated by ethical considerations alone; it is key to sustainable development, the management of

resources and vitally a means of livelihood. So any form of redress cannot stop at land restitution alone, it must necessarily be complemented by measures to enable people to fully utilise the benefits of that same land," explained Minister Molewa.

The People and Parks conference was inspired by the International Union for Conservation of Nature - World Parks Congress (IUCN-WPC). The Congress set the global agenda for protected areas and emphasised the need to consider communities as key stakeholders in the management of parks. The overall theme of the programme has been Conservation for the people with the people and this year's theme for the 6th conference is 10 years of inclusive parks management.

Minister Nkwinti mentioned that one of the main complaints that his department received was that the roll out of land claims had been very slow. "We are looking at transforming Rural Development in such

a way that people become landowners and take pride in the work they do," he said.

A recipient of a title deed from Mabjaneng Communal Property Association in Limpopo, Mr Lesiba Pila said he was relieved to be getting the title deed officially. "A title deed means having security for life. As a community we have decided to do business on the piece of land we received back. We have already started building chalets, conference rooms and tuck shops. We can now receive funding assistance since we now own the title deeds," Mr Pila explained.

The People and Parks Conference serves as a platform to highlight the importance of protected areas in South Africa by bringing together role players from different spheres of government, conservation authorities, non-governmental organisations, academic institutions, traditional leaders and private and local communities.



About the contributor: Veronica Mahlaba

Veronica Mahlaba is the Senior Communications Officer under Editorial Services at the national Department of Environmental Affairs. Ms Mahlaba has experience as a Lecturer in the Media Studies Department at a private college. She has worked as writer for a metropolitan municipality and she is a keen photographer.

COO encourages use of social media to blow the whistle on rhino poaching

By Madimetja Mogotlane



Above: Environmental Affairs Chief Operating Officer Ms Lize McCourt encouraged the use of social media to spread the message against rhino poaching.



Above: Executive Director of the South African National Editors Forum (SANEF), Mr Mathata Tsedu interacts with Telkom officials during Highway Africa Conference.



Above: Media practitioners across the African continent used the Highway Africa Conference to educate themselves about the impact of social media to disseminate information.

The continuing use of social media can be an alternative communication method to help in the fight against rhino poaching. This was the suggestion by the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) Chief Operating Officer Ms Lize McCourt. Ms McCourt was addressing the members of the media and the public during the Highway Africa Conference at Rhodes University on 08 September 2014.

Speaking at the conference, Ms McCourt said social media had become the main form of communication for many across Africa. "Let us use it, let us update our status on Facebook, Twitter, WhatsApp, Let us safeguard our natural heritage and strengthen our democracy by holding our principals accountable," she said.

The COO also described how the use of cyberspace impact on social media

fodders to stimulate conversation on different platforms.

"The story about rhino poaching is a good example of how through social media and other platforms, we can all learn, educate, debate, share information, whistle-blow. Unfortunately, it is also often through social media platforms that facts get distorted, good initiatives get discredited and fraudulent opportunistic fundraising initiatives get launched and attract participation," Ms McCourt said.

Dr Glenda Daniels from the University of Witwatersrand also praised the use of social media as the booming communication tool that helps in the migration of news from the margins to the mainstream in the newsroom.

"The use of social media in the newsroom is increasing in leaps and bounds. Editors felt

industry needed to have more discussions about possible regulations of the online space. Editors were keen for journalists to engage on the different social media platforms and this encouraged social media use," said Dr Daniels.

Deputy Minister in the Presidency for National Planning, Performance, Monitoring and Evaluation, Mr Buti Manamela, described the use of social media as a platform of acknowledging each other's opinion.

"Everyone has a by-line when it comes to social media today. The Highway Africa Conference is an opportunity for the insides of the African media platform to be challenged. Africans need to be inspired at home rather than experiencing a sense of helplessness," he advised.

Masibekela Recreational Park creates 45 local jobs in Mpumalanga

By Veronica Mahlaba



Above: Deputy Minister Thomson conducts a site inspection of the Masibekela Recreational Park with local leadership.

The Deputy Minister of Environmental Affairs officially opened the Masibekela Recreational Park on 28 October 2014. During its implementation the park created 45 local job opportunities in Nkomazi Local Municipality, Mpumalanga.

Deputy Minister Thomson stated that despite South Africa's positive economic trajectory, unemployment remains rife amongst skilled and unskilled people.

"We are faced with an ongoing challenge of unemployment and as the Department of Environmental Affairs have heeded the call to fight the plight of unemployment especially amongst our youth, women and people with disabilities. We are gathered here to highlight and celebrate the progress made by the Department through its Environmental Protection and Infrastructure Programme (EPIP). The Department has funded the implementation of the environmental project in Mpumalanga Province using labour intensive methods as per the requirements of Expanded Public Works Programme," explained Deputy Minister.

The Masibekela Recreational Park falls within the Greening and Open Space Management focus area of the EPWP. The main objective of the open

"The Department has funded the implementation of the environmental project in Mpumalanga Province using labour intensive methods as per the requirements of Expanded Public Works Programme."



Above: Deputy Minister of Environmental Affairs, Ms Barbara Thomson, Mayor of Nkimazi Local Municipality, Councillor Thulisile Khoza and Inkhosi Mlambo II, officially opening the Masibekela Recreational Park in Mpumalanga.

space management amongst other things is to establish an eco-friendly open spaces that are safe, attractively designed, well managed for the benefit

of all communities. Furthermore, the project aims to promote the maximum use of alternative energy sources, green infrastructure and ecosystem services as well ensuring that children and young people enjoy their play time and leisure.

Mayor of Inkomazi Local Municipality, Councillor Thulisile Khoza said the creation of the park would create a positive impact in Nkomazi as the area was very rural. "We don't have many parks, especially in the rural areas. So this will enhance the image of the area and of our people. We will be generating revenue through holding functions, parties and weddings. This park will be monitored to maintain its beauty," said the Mayor.

Creation of a green recreational park in Masibekela Village included the following deliverables: fencing of the park, construction of entrance gate with guardhouse, perimeter fence, ablution facilities, walkways, parking area and office block, drilling of borehole, installation of bins and solar powered lights and general landscaping.

To celebrate the opening of the park the locals performed with songs, dances and poetry.

DEA, SANParks and coal mine sign historic biodiversity agreement

By Eleanor Momberg



Above: Coal of Africa CEO, Mr David Brown; SANParks Board Chairperson, Mr Khuseni Dlamini; and DEA Acting Director-General, Ms Judy Beaumont sign the agreement.

The Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) signed an offset agreement for the Vele Colliery to the value of R55 million over the life of the mine at a ceremony in Centurion, Pretoria on 08 October 2014.

The Environmental Affairs Deputy Director-General, Ms Judy Beaumont signed the agreement (on behalf of DEA's Director-General) with the Chairperson of SANParks, Khuseni Dlamini and Coal of Africa Limited (CoAL) CEO, David Brown.

"We have indeed reached a momentous stage in our country's development, where sectors originally perceived to have competing mandates, have realised the common vision of growth and prosperity for our country, and are beginning to walk this path towards sustainability together," said Ms Beaumont.

Ms Beaumont said the offset would enable Mapungubwe National Park and World Heritage Site to implement various projects to rehabilitate and improve management of archaeological sites,

as well as the development of key park infrastructure such as an overnight education facility for children and roads.

An ecosystem approach to biodiversity management formed the basis of the agreement. The approach promotes the integrated management of land, water and natural capital to achieve optimal conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. It is aimed at strengthening co-operation between the three parties towards the conservation and sustainable development of the Mapungubwe



About the contributor: Eleanor Momberg

Eleanor Momberg is the Rhino Communications Manager in the Department of Environmental Affairs. Ms Momberg was a member of the South African delegation, which attended the CITES 16th Conference of Parties in Bangkok, Thailand.

Cultural Landscape (MCL) World Heritage Site.

“Entering into the agreement has as an additional aim the maintenance of the integrity of the site, and ensuring that the negative impacts of development are avoided, minimised or remedied in the pursuit of sustainable development. The agreement is expected to promote the development of Mapungubwe so that it benefits the environment, the local economy and resident communities,” explained Ms Beaumont.

The signing followed more than four years after the granting of a mining right by the Department of Mineral Resources to the Limpopo Coal Company (Pty) Ltd, owner of Vele Colliery - a wholly-owned subsidiary of CoAL. In terms of the agreement Vele Colliery is permitted to extract coal on a surface area of 8 663 hectares.

The mine is approximately 7km North East of the Mapungubwe Cultural Landscape World Heritage Site (MCLWHS) boundary and within an area that was initially earmarked for the expansion of the Greater Mapungubwe Transfrontier Conservation Area.

Among those opposed to the issuing of the mining permit initially had been the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) which at

the time had considered the mining right area to be part of a future buffer zone around the World Heritage Site.

SANParks Board Chairperson, Mr Khuseni Dlamini said through the processes to revise the Mapungubwe World Heritage Site buffer zone, SANParks had expressed the view that it was possible for the mine to continue with its operations without impacting negatively on the protection of Mapungubwe, “provided an appropriate framework is put in place to manage the interface between mining operations and the World Heritage Site.”

Vele Colliery applied for and was, issued with an environmental authorisation in terms of Section 24G of the National Environmental Management Amendment Act, (Act No. 107 of 1998) on 5 July 2011 allowing it to continue with the listed activities that has commenced without the proper authorisation. Among the conditions set was the formalisation and implementation of a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) among DEA, CoAL and SANParks as the Management Authority for the World Heritage Site.

The MoA signed on 01 September 2011 spelled out the Section 24G conditions of authorisation. The conditions included the development and implementation of the biodiversity offset programmes and implementation plans that were to be agreed

upon. It had committed the three parties to “ensuring that the negative impacts of development are avoided, minimised or remedied in pursuit of sustainable development.”

In addition, the parties agreed to promote alliances in the management of natural and cultural resources, as well as to collaborate in the formulation of biodiversity offset programmes that would ensure continued access to financial resources and achieve greater conservation value within the Mapungubwe World Heritage Site (WHS).

These projects were expected to create an estimated total of 349 temporary work opportunities for local communities over a fifteen year period, supporting at least 15 SMME’s. The bulk of the work opportunities – a total of 250 – would be created during the first 5 years of the programme. The eleven permanent positions needed for the management of the new facilities would become part of the operational responsibilities of the park.

A steering committee will be established in order to manage and implement the terms of the agreement. Three representatives from each of the three parties to the Agreement (DEA, CoAL and SANParks) will be appointed to the Committee, which will meet quarterly.



Above: Acting Director-General of Environmental Affairs, Ms Judy Beaumont addressing the signing ceremony.

6th World Parks Congress: S A to create 60 000 jobs in the wildlife industry

By Eleanor Momberg



Above: Deputy Minister of Environmental Affairs, Ms Barbara Thomson delivering remarks on behalf of South Africa at the opening ceremony of the 6th World Parks Congress in Sydney, Australia.

South Africa's commitment in terms of Vision 2024 is to create at least 60 000 new sustainable jobs in the wildlife industry. This was revealed by the Deputy Minister of Environmental Affairs, Ms Barbara Thomson, during the 6th World Parks Congress (WPC) held in Sydney on 12-19 November 2014 under the theme "Parks, people, planet: inspiring solutions".

Delivering South Africa's pledge to the Sydney Congress, Ms Thomson said South Africa, through the Presidential Lead Project called Operation Phakisa promises to triple ocean protection over the next ten years through the creation of a network of Marine Protected Areas within South Africa's Exclusive Economic Zone. "This will indeed unlock the economic potential of our oceans whilst increasing our ability to cope with, and adapt to, the impacts of climate change as a developing continent," explained the Deputy Minister.

"We will ensure that 2 million hectares of new conservation land is acquired and restored and that more than a million poverty-stricken people are supported," said Deputy Minister.

More than 6 000 delegates from 170 countries gathered for The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) World Parks Congress 2014. The IUCN World Parks Congress 2014 is a landmark global forum on protected areas, where the agenda for protected areas conservation is set for the next decade.

"South Africa, through the Presidential Lead Project called Operation Phakisa promises to triple ocean protection over the next ten years through the creation of a network of Marine Protected Areas within South Africa's Exclusive Economic Zone."

In her opening statement at the congress, Ms Thomson said the management of protected areas, and conservation, could only move forward "if we bring the people along with us."

Ms Thomson said the management of natural resources in a mega-diverse and developing country required innovative

solutions. "Youth-centered policies, sustainable financing as well as the harnessing of strategic partnerships are needed to unlock opportunities. However, we need to ensure that our developmental needs are in balance with conservation," explained Ms Thomson.

The South African delegation to the World Parks Congress 2014 was led by the Minister of Environmental Affairs, Ms Edna Molewa, and Deputy Minister Thomson. Representation included officials from the Department of Environmental Affairs who participated in themed stream discussions aligned to the Congress theme.

The Minister and Deputy Minister held a number of bilateral meetings and participated in the World Leaders' Dialogue series where issues such as building resilient parks, sustainable financing of protected areas, strengthening partnerships, the illegal wildlife trade and the value of protected areas to conservation and socio-economic development were discussed.

Minister Molewa, supported by Ms Thomson and senior Department of Environmental Affairs, SANParks and

KZN Ezemvelo Wildlife officials hosted a successful Rhino Conservation Side Event on the sidelines of the 2014 Congress.

Addressing more than 150 delegates, Mrs Molewa confirmed that no decision has yet been taken over the legal trade in rhino horn by South Africa.

"If we come up with measures that completely eradicate poaching we may not need to look at (trade). We are not looking for money. We are looking at war. This is a war we must win. If there is a solution, we may not have to look at possible trade," she said.

Outlining the interventions by the South

African government, and conservation bodies, to combat rhino poaching, the Minister said actions at international level will further strengthen efforts to not only address rhino poaching, but the illegal wildlife trade in general.

Minister Molewa was among 10 panelists discussing the nature of, and possible solutions to wildlife crime.

Minister Molewa gave the assurance that South Africa will do its best to implement the integrated management strategy approved by Cabinet in August 2014. "The government will work with rangers, local and international communities, as well as international organisations such

as CITES and ICCWC to ensure that the collective action necessary to halt rhino poaching is taken. People need to see the real value in live rhino," stressed the Minister said.

Speaking at the closing plenary Ms Thomson recommitted South Africa to the development of the ocean and wildlife economies in South Africa. "Our vision is to ensure socio-economic transformation and growth of the biodiversity economy, while ensuring the entrance of the landholders and previously disadvantaged communities into the mainstream economy to restore their pride and dignity," she said



Above: Minister of Environmental Affairs, Ms Edna Molewa, addressed more than 150 delegates at the Rhino Conservation Side Event at the 6th World Parks Conference held in Sydney, Australia



Above: Delegates to the 6th World Parks Congress held in Sydney, Australia, were traditionally welcomed to the country by Australia's First People with an Aboriginal smoking ceremony, music and dance performances.



Above: Environmental Affairs Minister, Mrs Edna Molewa, flanked by CITES Secretary General John Scanlon (right) and Dr Marco Lambertini, WWF Director General (left) participated in a World Leaders' Dialogue entitled "The nature of crime – Extent and impact of illegal wildlife trade."

Norway provides R5 million funding for environmental co-operation

By Veronica Mahlaba



Above: Director-General of Environmental Affairs, Ms Nosipho Ngcaba (in grey) seals the deal with the Ambassador to the Kingdom of Norway, the Honourable Trine Skymoen (in pink jacket) with the supporting team.

The Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) will be funded with approximately R 5 million from the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA), represented by the Norwegian Embassy. South Africa and the Kingdom of Norway signed a Business Plan on 14 November 2014 regarding the Environment Cooperation Programme between DEA and MFA for the planned period 2014 to 2017.

The Director-General of Environmental Affairs, Ms Nosipho Ngcaba said the programme to be undertaken was called Capacity Development within the South African National Greenhouse Gas Inventory Unit. "It will be initiated and

managed by the DEA in Pretoria in accordance with this Business Plan. Such a programme entails building capacity of the South African Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventory Unit to establish a national system of data collection to provide detailed, complete, accurate and up-to-date emissions data in the form of a Greenhouse Gas Inventory. It also includes a Monitoring and Evaluation System to support the analysis of the impact of mitigation measures," Ms Ngcaba explained.

The Ambassador to Norway, Honourable Trine Skymoen mentioned that the purpose of the Programme was to strengthen South Africa's National Inventory Unit's

ability to produce national greenhouse gas inventories in a sustainable manner.

"This must be in line with accepted international reporting requirements and the provisions of the national Climate Change Response Policy (NCCRP). Last year, we opened a solar plant which is the biggest in South Africa. It is one of the biggest collaborations we have had with South Africa. Throughout the construction and opening of that solar plant, 3000 jobs were created. I think it is a symbol of how we would like to collaborate and carry on with this country," said Honourable Skymoen.



Above: Director-General of Environmental Affairs, Ms Nosipho Ngcaba signs the business plan, with Ambassador Trine Skymoen looking on.



Above: Great minds coming together to move South Africa forward.

Minister launches the Seventh National Compliance and Enforcement Report

By Nicole Limberis

The Environmental Affairs Minister, Mrs Edna Molewa launched the 7th National Compliance and Enforcement Report on 08 October 2014 in Pretoria.

Speaking during the launch, Minister Molewa highlighted that South Africa's environmental laws have the potential to advance a green economy by, amongst others, improving the health and safety of the workforce and communities. "This opportunity is however being threatened by those that choose to contravene South Africa's environmental laws by engaging in illegal activities that undermine these development objectives. It is now widely recognised that the consequences of environmental crimes stretch far beyond ecological impacts and have socio-economic and health effects that disrupt entire economies and ecosystems," explained the Minister.

The Report provides an overview of environmental compliance and enforcement activities undertaken by the Green Scorpions, formally referred to as the Environmental Management Inspectorate, across the country between 1 April 2013 and 31 March 2014.

The Report reflects the work of officials from the 9 provincial authorities, 4 provincial parks authorities, SANParks, Isimangaliso Wetland Park Authority and the National Department. "It serves as the primary communication resource aimed at informing the public and other key stakeholders of the achievements and failures of the Green Scorpions in the preceding financial year," said the Minister.

The Green Scorpions comprise a network of compliance and enforcement officials from national, provincial and municipal government. They are responsible for monitoring compliance with environmental laws, and for taking enforcement action when transgressions are detected.

In the report's foreword, Deputy Director-General, Legal Authorisation, Compliance and Enforcement, Mr Ishaam Abader says, "The seventh National Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Report represents the efforts of the Environmental Management Inspectorate (EMI), the network of compliance and enforcement officials at national, provincial and local spheres of government."

The capacity of the Green Scorpions continues to grow as a 12.26% increase in the total number of Green Scorpions brings the total from 1705 in 2012/13 to 1915 in 2013/14.

The reporting period saw a continued focus on strategic inspections. While there was a noticeable improvement in the performance of the cement and refinery sectors, it was necessary to step up enforcement efforts in the ferro-alloy, iron and steel industry.

Joint projects and operations focused on two key areas; namely rhino and driving off-road vehicles in the coastal zone. The rhino related initiatives involved the verifying of rhino horn stockpiles and collaboration with the Hawks in respect of Operation Cobra II. The off-road vehicle initiative saw representatives from different spheres of government collaborate to identify the non-compliance "hot-spots", target these areas and apprehend offenders.

Speaking at the launch, Chief Director Enforcement, Ms Frances Craigie said the forensic project would help build up a rhino DNA database. "[The] VGL is already doing the analysis of DNA from rhino. What we are doing through this project is funding additional capacity in this laboratory. We are going to ensure that all the backlog samples [are worked away]."

The managing director of Blue Platinum Ventures (Pty) Limited, a clay mining company, was sentenced to 5 years'

imprisonment suspended, with conditions including that the environment damaged by the mining be rehabilitated; a task that is expected to cost some R6.8 million. The case was brought to the attention of the police by the Batlhabine Foundation, representing the community affected by the illegal activities of Blue Platinum, assisted by the Centre for Environmental Rights. The Batlhabine Foundation laid 14 criminal charges against all 6 directors of Blue Platinum, for a number of activities that have caused severe environmental damage to the community's land. The Director: EMI Capacity Development and Support, Mr Mark Jardine said that "this case illustrates that directors who are involved in environmental contraventions can no longer hide behind the corporate veil."

Another significant sentence giving effect to the polluter pays principle was handed down in the matter of the State v Nkomati Anthracite (Pty) Limited. The offending company entered into a plea and sentence agreement in which it admitted guilt in respect of eight counts of contravening water and environmental impact assessment legislation. It was sentenced to a fine of R1 million, suspended for a period of 5 years. In addition, the company was ordered to pay the Green Scorpions a sum of R4 million to be used to further enforcement activities. "These types of sentences are an asset to the Inspectorate" said Grant Walters, Director: Enforcement Environmental Impact and Pollution, "because they supplement the budget of the Inspectorate, for example by enabling the purchase of additional equipment and contributing towards costs of rehabilitation in instances where the perpetrator, although convicted, is financially unable to rehabilitate."

Members of the public are encouraged to continue to report environmental incidents and crimes to the 24 hour hotline 0800 205 005.



About the contributor: Nicole Limberis

Nicole Limberis is the Environmental Control Officer (grade B), EMI Legal Support within the Directorate: Capacity Development and Support in the Chief Directorate: Enforcement. Nicole practiced as an attorney until joining the Department in January 2014.

Vox Pops

DEA staff members

Veronica Mahlaba and Gaopalelwe Moroane

The Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) new Green Building, named Environment House was awarded a 6 Star Green Star South Africa Rating by the independent Green Building Council of South Africa (GBCSA). **We asked DEA staff and the public what they think about Environment House.**



1. Mr Kevin Manda.

Risk Management, Director.

The best aspect for me is that we will be living our Constitutional Mandate, in ensuring that our resources are conserved sustainably. An added advantage for me is the fact that I am traveling 5km's a day to work.

What I love most about the Environment House are the Pause Areas. The fact that food is only eaten there is great news indeed. In the old building you would smell food in the office which made one to get hungry easily and caused distraction to ones stomach.



4. Mr Tjaart Kruger.

Vetting Officer.

My favourite thing about the Environment House is that it is closer to my home. This also means that I will spend less time in traffic when I travel to and from work.



6. Mr Shumani Raswiswi.

Human Resource Management: Assistant Director

Although in some may I see it as a disadvantage, my favourite thing about the new building is the open plan set-up. I say this because it will improve relationships and team work in sub-directorates and directorates as communication will be increased as a result of the set-up.



3. Ms Karen Meintjes

IT Business Solution

There are a lot of things I like about this Green Building. Firstly it is close to my home. It is very clean. Our managers are close, so we have easier access to them. The open space allows you to know your colleagues better.



5. Ms Fatima Rawjee.

Special Projects Deputy Director.



2. Ms Mamello Tshemese.

Financial Management Intern,

Vox Pops continued

Members of the public



1. Ms Lydia Raphiri

It is a great step that the Department of Environmental Affairs has taken to construct the green building. The department is setting a good example. Going green is beautiful. Maybe the construction of this green building will give other people ideas of going green. Some may have wanted to do it for a long time, but didn't know how. Now they will have something to refer to. The reception area is pretty. Going green makes you feel comfortable and calm, when you walk in you relax. Recycling of water from the rainfall is a good idea, especially in a country like ours where water is scarce.

entrance. It makes you feel like you are on holiday, but as you enter the building you know its work as usual. I also like the flower wall. It is definitely an eye-catcher and an interesting piece.



3. Mr Bruce Bowale

The building definitely describes how the Department of Environmental Affairs should be. It shows that it has people who work for the environment. It is very beautiful. You can see it by the green décor that it is an environmentally friendly building.

Affairs is leading in the green-ing space.



5. Ms Dineo Rumani

I think it is a great step for the department. Unlike the previous building that had a relatively small reception area, this one is spacious and open and much easier to navigate. I love that as one walks in one can feel that it is green from how clean it looks.



7. Ms Sameerah Khan

The building's design is very impressive especially around the reception area. I also like the fact that there is good security in this building. I feel much safer in this building than I did when at the old one. .



2. Mr Mikael Da Silva

I have been to a lot of government buildings, a few look as beautiful as this one. I love the waterfall feature at the



4. Ms Desiree Dalli

The building is impressive. It is good that the government is setting a good example for the rest of South Africa. I like the fact that the building makes you feel welcome. It has a natural beauty to it and it's clean. I am glad that the Department of Environmental



6. Mr Aslam Mahomed

This building is super 5 star. And I like the fact they stick to the green theme not only in the décor but in the features in the building. The open plan set-up of the building is also lovely, because it makes it easier to find individuals who are at a specific section.

"This landmark new Green Building represents a major commitment by the government to green building and sustainable development."

***~Mr Brian Wilkinson
Chief Executive
Officer of the Green
Building Council of
South Africa***

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