Enkangala Grasslands Programme
WWF-SA

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Introduction to WWF Grasslands

Vision

- Secured and better managed high priority Grassland Catchments deliver significant ongoing benefits to people.
  - Biodiversity and ecological infrastructure protected and better managed
  - Significant ongoing benefits: continuing the legacy of service delivery from natural / ecological infrastructure
Our Approach

- Catchment Stewardship: planning, securing and managing catchment ecosystems to sustain or restore delivery of ecosystem services
  - In partnership with landowners and other stakeholders
  - Strengthen ecological compatible land use activities
- Address threats, e.g. destruction of untransformed lands
- Strengthen institutions, into awareness and decisions in support of more intact ecological infrastructure
Grasslands Biome & Enkangala
• This is one of the largest continuous high altitude grassland zones (1.6 million Hectares)
• Large areas of relatively intact grasslands
• High levels of biodiversity and endemism
• Major water source for SA needs (Vaal, uThukela, Usuthu and Phongola rivers have some of their origins there)
• Inter-provincial initiative (project spans 3 provinces and is thus of National Significance)
Land reform and Stewardship

Foci areas in KZN

• Mabaso project (1472 ha), long relationship
  ➢ has impact on approx. 300 people

• Nkosi Nzima project (3348 ha)
  ➢ has impact on approx. 1300 people
Land reform and Stewardship

Foci areas in MP

• **Bambanani CPA (850 ha)**
  - has impact on approx. 102 people

• **Ukuthanda ukukhanya CPA (750 ha)**
  - has impact on approx. 84 people

• **Black commercial farmer (5550 ha)**
  - one family with workers
1) Mgundeni Community Stewardship Site

- Signing of BA
- Advisory forum established
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Conservation in partnership with people

WWF - SA AGM 2014
14th November 2014

Mgundeni Community Stewardship Site
Since the signing of a Biodiversity Agreement, we have facilitated:

- Certified training in invasive weed control
- Certified training in fire management
- A participatory rural appraisal
- A socio economic study
- An economic feasibility study
- Development of a grazing plan (aligned with the BA management plan)
- Implementation of a sustainable cattle farming initiative
- Training in bull testing and pregnancy test
- Bulls of good quality
Biodiversity Stewardship and Sustainable cattle farming initiative

- Access UNDP small grant
Within 1 year:

- Agricultural mentor appointed
- Community herd formalised
- Grazing plan implemented
- Infrastructure developed
- Nutritional requirements of the herd met
- Vaccination programme implemented
- Herd mortality down from over 30 losses to 7 (less than 1.5% loss)
- Job opportunities created
- Access to the commercial market facilitated
In addition:

- Project catalysed other community agreements through learning exchanges
- Recognised as a successful land reform and livestock initiative in Amajuba district
- Resulted in effective partnerships between community and government department
- Effective conservation of natural resources used by the community
2) Ndlamlenze Community Stewardship site
Incentives

- Vegetable garden
- Accessed funds from NRM
- Fire fighting & equipment
Mpumalanga projects
Community Property Association (CPA)

• Launch of the CPA’s
• Land care engagement
• Human settlement, DSD, DoA, Counsellor
• Facilitation of basic services
• Fire fighting training & equipment
3) Bambanani Community Property Association
4) Ukuthanda Ukukhanya CPA

- Vegetable garden
5) Mr Khanyile’s project

- **Adjacent to CPA’s (corridor created)**
- **Landowner is willing to be part of the programme**
- **Properties have large wetlands & rivers therefore NB!!**
- **Qualified for a Protected Environment**

**NB! If successful, this will be the first stewardship engagement with a black commercial farmer in MP**
Challenges facing land reform projects

- Translation
- Basic services
- Agric needs
- Telecommunication
- Safety issues (SAPS)
- Mining
- Land reform process