



25th QUARTERLY MEETING – 31 July 2019

Outspan Inn, Port St Johns

ITEM	INPUTS
1. Welcome, Introductions and Apologies	<p>Ayanda Cele (WWF), the UCPP deputy chairperson, welcomed everyone to the meeting</p> <p>Apologies: Sissie Matela (ERS), Basetsana Khathali (ANDM), Michael Kawa (DEA), Janine Renine (EWT), Zukiswa Magidela (DEDEAT), Inge Kotze (WWF), Mark (Groundtruth), Alice Barlow & Thando Msomi (CSA), Nosi Mtati (Rhodes University), Lara Jordan & Thabo Madlala (EWT)</p> <p>Introductions: by all; <i>see attached register</i></p>
2. Minutes of the last meeting and matters arising	<p>Previous meeting minutes read and adopted with corrections.</p>
3. Inputs and updates from partners	
a. WASH study on behalf of CSA (Gary de Winner, Groundtruth)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The study was looking at Providing collaborative support to CSA to build understanding of WASH (Water Access, Sanitation and Hygiene) within the uMzimvubu Catchment in order to inform design, implementation and coordination of future WASH projects in the catchment. This is in line with SDG 6: clean water and sanitation. uMzmbubu is the 3rd out of 148 catchments in SA in terms of SWSAs. Already existing tools such as capacity for catchments that can be used to look at how the catchment is in terms of EI. Process involved the use of the dialogue focused discussion tool that was looking at the stakeholders in the catchment regarding the work they are doing and where they are doing it. Found that there is lack of data consistency, regular sampling, baseline sampling, spatial data - need for a UCP M&E person <p>Comments Data sharing gap - To bridge the data gap, the UCP website can be used as a platform for sharing data with people and monitor how that data is being used and who is using it.</p>
b. Moving forward: strategic plan feedback, surveys and WWF water source partnerships (Nicky McLeod, ERS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishing a Water Source Partnerships (WSP) to safeguard and ensure effective management of the Eastern Cape and Southern Drakensburg Water Source Areas. Purpose of convening WSP: coordinate the planning and implementation efforts of all relevant partners in the Upper uMzimvubu Catchment and targets WSAs, through high level multi-stakeholder relationship management and reporting to multiple funders and stakeholders complementing the UCP 5-year strategy (2019 – 2024) to ensure the safeguarding and effective management of these critical WSAs in the Eastern Cape – Southern Drakensburg region. What does safeguarding mean? – Where land use practise does not negatively impact on ecological services and is compatible with WWF's mission and SDGs. This will be done as a phasing project with an increase in the footprint i.e. moving to other areas for the next 5 years. Developing a UCP monitoring & evaluation framework on how benefits will be measured. Also looking at our contribution to SDGs. Build on stories of success, lessons learnt and new opportunities <p>Comments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The role livestock auction programme plays is very important in terms of improving food security and people's livelihoods in the catchment, therefore there should be a talk on identifying gaps in the program to make it more resourceful/efficient. A plea to Agriculture partners to share information relevant to such platforms (livestock auctions) UCP programmes undertaken under the banner. Conservation and green economy: youth programmes; livestock implementation programme on rangelands; biomass value chain; water and sanitation Protocols by UCP partners include ... % for UCP costs Entity discussion – remain a convening space. Drop programme – revise logo & letterheads Circulate MoU to be resigned, issues and survey CoPs. For youth programmes – UCP should mentor interns Plastic use – practice no single use bottles. Equity in access to ecosystem services
c. Matatiele watershed stewardship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Purpose of the project is to expand on Protected Areas (PAs) under NEMPAA. Involves 6 Chiefs; land tenure under state/ communal ownership; part of a network of PAs; a buffer to the uKhahlamba Drakensberg Park World Heritage Site; and an important Biodiversity & Eco-

update (Joyce Loza, MDTP)	<p>cultural tourism linkage/ corridor with Lesotho and KZN. Facilitated by ECPTA with GEF5 funding. Driven through a technical team constituting of various organisations including DRDLR and DWS, and a broader stakeholder meeting represented by the 6 Chiefs and other stakeholders.</p> <p>Progress: all Chiefs consulted and participating. Site panel review for Makhoba and Mzongwana - qualified for nature reserve, 4 remaining areas to be assessed on the 13 August 2019. Continuous feedback to Chiefs, conducted capacity building workshop looking at the difference between a NR and PE - permissible and non-permissible activities in both and the human wildlife co-existence and management. Tourism task team formed; positive response from EC DRDLR; community GIS mapping by communities and community resolution planned for September 2019; naming of the property and designating a management authority – still to be done. Attending SANBI biodiversity stewardship workshop on the 21 – 22 Aug in PMB, JPTT meeting on the 23rd Aug 2019 then site visit after by JPTT</p> <p>Questions and comments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Who delegates the meetings for the watershed proposed stewardship project? – the technical team and its chairperson, it is a collaborative initiative by UCP partners The watershed proposed stewardship project's management authority still to be identified via telecommunication and the project will fall under the UCP
d. COKE replenish project update (Mahabe Mojela, ERS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project focusing on alien tree clearing from critical water catchment areas in the EC Drakensberg WSA, in Nkasela, Matatiele ANDM Objectives: build sustainable communities; Catalyse investments in clean water access; Improve water and sanitation access for school children; Empower women through clean water access and entrepreneurship. These will be achieved through protection of local springs, alien plant clearing of 128 ha through employment of 50 people, support for livestock management (1780 ha under improved management) benefitting 1400 livestock framers in grazing associations and monitoring and management. Progress: through local leadership – identification of 46 local springs, employment of 50 people Moving forward: prioritising springs and distributing labour, WASH activities, livestock and rangeland management activities, green business value chain opportunities <p>Questions and comments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Much of the litter found during clean-ups is from coke products and is mostly plastic bottles. Some members raised a concern about the pollution by plastic bottle manufactured by coke and suggested that through the coke project, the UCP can forge a partnership with the coke project funders/donors to initiate talks on the pollution issue. Leverage to tackle plastic problem to support recycling institutions
e. First Jobs ECOFUTURES update (Yonela Sipeka, ERS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaboration between WWF and ERS to host 40 interns between ages 18 – 35 years in the rural EC in Matatiele Providing exposure and skills for fostering careers in rural green economy and water security as part of Ecofutures programme Interns from Sibi and Makhoba traditional authority areas contracted on the 1st April 2019 after 3 intense weeks of recruitment. Chiefs were involved in the recruitment process They have undergone 7 weeks of orientation by Media works (HR), environmental induction by (ERS, WWF, UCP partners including CSA and EWT) Have undergone medical screening, numerous trainings, exposures and other activities such as door to door surveys. Still more upcoming trainings <p>Questions and comments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What informs the progress of the training? A survey is conducted to check progress of the youth after the internship. The Internship programme should include skills marketing where interns are introducing to local entrepreneurs and mentorship.
f. The Tsitsa project: updates from a complex catchment (Margaret Wolff, Rhodes University)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Tsitsa project (formerly NLEIP): born 2014, 2 dams planned on the Tsitsa river (Mzimvubu water project), started out as a restoration project to prevent predicted siltation of the dams (...and improve livelihoods) Vision: to support sustainable livelihoods for local people through integrated landscape management that strives for resilient social-ecological systems which foster equity in access to ecosystem services Research and praxis in the Tsitsa project: complex social-ecological systems Catchments and interventions: how can research-based interventions with stakeholders: government, industry, agriculture, researchers, and residents result in sustainable outcomes that persist beyond the interventions. Working on 5 core principle which are adaptive Have a governance group comprising of A team (high level cooperative governance) and B team (Research consultation committee; praxis evaluation pane; implementation & operations panel) Investment from DEA NRM which is short term and cannot fix everything

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theory of Change and the CoPs and each has looked at indicators (biophysical and social) that would be useful to track and monitor • Have produced a lot of planning documents - too much data that needs metadata analysis • Boundaries on the Tsitsa River catchment do not align i.e. Traditional council, district and local municipalities, quaternary catchments and where the planned Ntabelanga dam is going to be • Using community voice in terms of prioritizing on issues and mapping it all out • Sharing at the SER conference and always on the lookout for additional partners and funding. Build on our own strength, acknowledging our weaknesses
g. Working towards achieving Sustainable Coastal communities in the wild coast (wok of SWC, Sinegugu Zukulu)	<p>Programmes in the Wild Coast...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • YES4YOUTH: Land stewards: - ecobricking, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Permaculture: - organic farming vs chemical farming - GMO vs indigenous seeds - Organic pest control vs poison-based pest control - Market access – looking at entrepreneurship based on productive sustainable land • Eco-Tourism Development: - Sigidi lodge, Kwanyana campsite, Mtentu homestays, Gobodweni • AGROECOLOGY: food security and market access and alternatives • Reviving craft skills and indigenous knowledge systems - Youth “wisdom trust” – how to bring back values from indigenous knowledge • Conservation of PCE • Conferencing and International work... <p>Comments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lessons from the “Sustaining the Wild Coast programmes” can be adopted into UCP programmes working on create job opportunities for youth.
h. CREW activities in the Eastern Cape Drakensberg (Vathiswa Zikishe, SANBI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishing the CREW EC Node: towards implementation of the National Conservation Strategy • Strategy has set some targets in which each includes background on the work done to date; prioritise key areas of work needed; 2-3 major outcomes identified for 2020; work plan with actions, timeframes, responsible stakeholder • Outcomes: Important areas for plant diversity in South Africa identified based on botanical richness and endemism patterns. • uMzimvubu CREW group highlights, mainly in rangelands Field visits with partners and discovering endemic species e.g. <i>Eucomis schijffii</i>: Endemic to Maloti Alpine sub-centre, <i>Alepidea amatymbica</i> EN Griqualand East and southern Drakensberg Mountains including Lesotho. Montane and alpine grassland, on shallow soil over rock, 1500-2500 m, e.g. <i>Schizochilus bulbinella</i>: Rare • Rhodes CREW group highlights - <i>Eucomis grimshawii</i> – a rare, range restricted and habitat specialist and <i>Trachyandra smalliana</i> EN • Reflections highlighted – there is a strong need to work with local communities to apply holistic approach to conservation, data collection efforts needs to be strength
i. Other items:	<p>Feedback from RDI platforms (Dan’sile Cindi, SANBI)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Second phase on the RDI project which will run from 2019-2023 • Catchment-based Indaba to take place in Matatiele <p>Colana & Mvenyane green business value chain (Bongiwe Mafuya)</p> <p>Problem with the clearing teams from other sites that have confiscated equipment and still want to be paid but have not delivered as per the agreement. Have arranged with Henry from Avocado Vision to have a session with all candidates to discuss this and conduct training on self-awareness and communication skills with traditional authority. Colana site has been doing fine as the Headman & Association members intervened and the matter was resolved that the willing team will go back to work and produce and be paid per truck load and also pay the ones who have left for peace sake .</p>
4. Upcoming events and Announcements from partners	
a. Dartmouth College exchange	20 – 30 September 2019, Matatiele
b. SANBI Biodiversity Stewardship workshop	21 – 22 August 2019, Pietermaritzburg
c. Society of Ecological Restoration (SER)	24 – 28 September 2019, Cape Town
d. Catchment-based indaba	21-22 of October 2019, Matatiele
5. Next meeting date	23 October 2019 , Matatiele

Signature: _____

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