

Draft CAPE Strategy: 2011- 2020

This strategy builds on the original CAPE 20 year strategy, and incorporates emerging insights, opportunities and challenges from the first decade of the implementation of CAPE. The original strategy, published in 2000 as the Cape Action Plan for the Environment, is a systematic plan to conserve the biodiversity of the Cape Floristic Region and the adjacent marine environment for the benefit of its people. The strategy was agreed on through a consultative process, with government and civil society signing a Memorandum of Understanding in 2001 committing themselves to implementing it. Over time, the goal and strategic objectives have been further developed.

This revised strategy for the second decade of the CAPE partnership aims to focus the efforts of the partnership towards the programme of work defined in the CAPE Pathfinder process of 2008, measuring the progress of the programme and enabling adaptive management through a monitoring and evaluation framework that supports the strategy. Eight strategic objectives guide the work of the partnership, and assist with both planning and tracking progress – around coordinated action, landscape initiatives, land use planning and environmental management, protected areas including biodiversity stewardship, sustainable production, integrated catchment management, sustainable benefits, and research and knowledge networks.

Strategic Objective	Description	Indicators	Priority actions for 2011 - 2020
The CAPE Partnership	Ten years ago, government and civil society organisations involved with biodiversity conservation in the Cape Floristic Region tended to work in isolation from each other. The rationale of the CAPE partnership is to create vertical and horizontal linkages between these organisations so that they all work together with a common strategy, avoiding duplication, addressing gaps and uniting to leverage resources and to tackle agreed common priorities in terms of a shared vision.	<p>We can measure trends in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The existence and implementation of a coordinated strategy for the CFR The number and extent of terrestrial, marine, estuarine and freshwater ecosystems in each ecosystem status category The extent of the protected area network The range and density of selected invasive alien species The Red Data List status of plants and animals The current percentage of hectares of critical biodiversity areas intact <p>We have case studies on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Progress in protecting key threatened species <p>We would like to be able to measure trends in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The loss of coastal habitat 	By the year 2020, the cooperation of capable institutions ensures that the biodiversity of the CFR is conserved, restored, effectively managed and sustainably utilised, delivering significant benefits to the people of the region in a way that is embraced by local communities, endorsed by government and recognised internationally.
SO1: Strengthening institutional capacity, governance and	Through the Memorandum of Understanding, CAPE’s signatory partners agree to work together in governance and coordination structures	<p>We can measure trends in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The number of signatories to the CAPE programme’s Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) and actively involved in the programme’s 	Enable the activities of the CAPE partnership through collaborative planning, cooperative governance and institutional alignment. Focus the programme of work so a subset of specific priority actions is enabled collectively, and

Strategic Objective	Description	Indicators	Priority actions for 2011 - 2020
communication for coordinated action	that enable strategic alignment, institutional strengthening and collaborative action. These structures enable active participation by hundreds of people in task teams and landscape initiatives, developing capacity and harnessing effort towards better biodiversity management in a range of sectors and geographical areas. Large numbers of civil society partners are reached through communication and awareness strategies in a growing community of practice. Institutions are strengthened through interventions that aim to build financial sustainability for biodiversity management, and to address the human capital development and transformation needs of the sector.	<p>work</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The number of stakeholders registered with the CAPE programme • The number of civil society-led projects that are funded and implemented through the partnership <p>We have case studies on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing resources for partners' biodiversity conservation mandates • The impact of mentoring and capacity development interventions on the career paths of targeted groups • The impact of the CAPE programme on signatory partners <p>We would like to be able to measure trends in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The extent to which conservation mandates are funded • The effectiveness of South Africa's Human Capital Development Strategy for Biodiversity 	<p>focus on sustaining gains of the first decade of implementation.</p> <p>Amend the CAPE MoU to enable strategic guidance for the programme, and formal participation of task teams in governance structures. Invite new organisations, who have the potential to contribute significantly to the goals of CAPE, to join the partnership. Monitor and evaluate the progress of the CAPE partnership, and enable iterative and adaptive planning.</p> <p>Secure adequate resources for biodiversity management, and support their effective and efficient use. In particular, apply for GEF-5 resources to scale up initial GEF investments in work in the Cape Floristic Region, and use the outcomes of the 'Making the Case' and other business planning processes to lobby for increased Medium-Term Expenditure Framework resources from government.</p> <p>Work with South Africa's Human Capital Development Strategy for Biodiversity to support the transformation of the sector, and to build institutional and professional capacity and skills both to enable the implementation of organisational mandates and to support the enforcement of legislation.</p> <p>Meaningfully involve a broad range of stakeholders in CAPE activities, including project development and implementation. This should include strengthening civil society participation in the programme, building on the work and experience of the Table Mountain Fund, and exploring links with potential funders.</p> <p>Inspire participation and involvement in biodiversity conservation through communication, awareness and advocacy strategies.</p>
SO2: Enabling local level engagement and coordination through	Landscape initiatives across the fynbos region, including mega-reserves, large-scale corridors of natural habitat and biosphere reserves, provide an	<p>We can measure trends in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The number of task teams and steering committees coordinating activities across the CFR 	Consolidate the achievements and successes of the landscape initiatives, and enable the sustained operation of their coordination mechanisms.

Strategic Objective	Description	Indicators	Priority actions for 2011 - 2020
landscape initiatives	appropriate scale at which to engage local role-players in the promotion of both biodiversity conservation and sustainable development in their regions. Role-players, including government, conservation agencies, communities, NGOs and the private sector, coordinate strategically and undertake joint projects through a landscape-scale approach – working within and beyond protected areas to create a mosaic of land uses in which biodiversity compatibility is maximised.	We have case studies on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Landscape initiative models and approaches • Landscape initiatives as communication hubs in the landscape 	Continue to layer investments in the landscape initiatives in order to build coordinated implementation and sustained impact.
SO3: Integrating biodiversity into land use planning and environmental management	Spatial biodiversity information is increasingly being integrated into government and private sector spatial and development planning at various levels. Maps and guidelines indicating the location of critical biodiversity areas and ecological support areas are used to inform land use planning and environmental management – enabling development such as housing, agriculture and mining to be sited appropriately, away from threatened terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems – and strengthening resilience to climate change. CAPE partners work to make information and training accessible to local and provincial government, parastatals and the private sector.	We can measure trends in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The percentage of habitat loss in critical biodiversity areas in priority corridors • The percentage of critical biodiversity areas secured in priority corridors • The degree to which Spatial Development Frameworks (SDFs) incorporate biodiversity priorities • The number of biodiversity sector plans produced and bioregional plans published We have case studies on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EIA basic assessment decisions being informed by relevant biodiversity planning products • The impact of SDFs incorporating biodiversity priorities on achieving biodiversity targets • Compliance with biodiversity management conditions set out in Record of Decisions • The integration of biodiversity priorities into the EIA process We would like to be able to measure trends in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proportion of EIAs informed by biodiversity planning products and of compliance with biodiversity management conditions in Records of Decision 	Promote the use of Biodiversity Sector Plans and/or Bioregional Plans in planning and environmental management, and build the capacity of officials to utilize them. Agree on institutional responsibilities and adequately resource processes for timeous updating of spatial biodiversity products, including the Western Cape Biodiversity Framework. Support the development of Biodiversity-GIS services to serve biodiversity information and support tools to targeted groups in the CFR. Support initiatives to improve compliance with conditions of authorization that are issued to safeguard against adverse impacts on biodiversity priorities and ecosystem services. Mainstream biodiversity into integrated planning frameworks, such as Strategic Environmental Assessments and Environmental Management Frameworks.
SO4: Securing	The terrestrial protected area network of	We can measure trends in:	Identify and secure priority terrestrial and aquatic

Strategic Objective	Description	Indicators	Priority actions for 2011 - 2020
biodiversity through protected areas including biodiversity stewardship	the CFR is being expanded strategically to include a representative sample of both biodiversity pattern and ecological process, and to enable adaptation to climate change. Expansion takes place through land acquisition by conservation agencies in some cases, but most significantly through partnerships between these agencies and private and communal landowners who own land with important biodiversity – through biodiversity stewardship agreements. Marine protected areas are also being expanded. Improving management effectiveness in protected areas is an important focus of the partnership.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The extent of protected areas as recognized by the PA Act • The number and extent of biodiversity stewardship sites • Protected Area Management Effectiveness <p>We have case studies on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private investment in biodiversity stewardship sites • Risks where the management of protected areas is not legally compliant 	<p>biodiversity in a network of protected areas, in line with the NPAES, using strategies including declaration, verification, acquisition and biodiversity stewardship.</p> <p>Improve management effectiveness in CFR protected areas (including terrestrial, freshwater and marine) and support the development of mechanisms to monitor the impacts of climate change, and to demonstrate the value of adaptation strategies.</p> <p>Secure privately and communally owned and managed critical biodiversity areas by enabling and implementing an effective stewardship programme, and promoting co-management arrangements.</p> <p>Strengthen the formalisation and management of a representative network of Marine Protected Areas.</p> <p>Promote protected areas as assets that build resilience to climate change and unlock the biodiversity economy, especially through tourism and job creation.</p>
SO5: Protecting biodiversity through sustainable production initiatives	CAPE partners and landscape initiatives work with role-players in production landscapes to improve the sustainability of cultivation and harvesting practices, to restore degraded landscapes, to set aside natural veld for conservation where possible and to integrate biodiversity management objectives into economic sectors. This involves working with industry associations to achieve voluntary self-regulation by producers, often through incorporating biodiversity guidelines into industry standards.	<p>We can measure trends in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The number of sectors that incorporate standards for biodiversity conservation • The level of public awareness of sustainable seafood consumption <p>We have case studies on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Models for sustainable production <p>We would like to be able to measure trends in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proportion of production sector footprints that are managed to certified standards 	<p>Continue to work with business and industry in production landscapes and seascapes. In particular, promote the sustainable use of natural resources and conservation of priority biodiversity through the integration of biodiversity into their production and service standards and guidelines.</p> <p>Incorporate biodiversity and environmental management objectives in area wide plans and farm planning processes.</p> <p>Deepen relationships between conservation and national and provincial Departments of Agriculture, including collaborative efforts to strengthen capacity for extension and enforcement functions.</p>
SO6: Promoting ecosystem based adaptation to climate change through integrated catchment	Managing river catchments or watersheds effectively is essential for protecting biodiversity and securing ecosystem services from these catchments. CAPE partners collaborate to maintain natural ecosystems in a healthy condition, to remove alien	<p>We can measure trends in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The number of priority freshwater ecosystems in a good condition • The number of priority estuaries in a good condition • The number of catchment strategies developed for which the resource protection sub strategy incorporates freshwater ecosystem priorities 	<p>Support Catchment Management Agencies to incorporate freshwater ecosystem priority areas in catchment management resource protection strategies.</p> <p>Promote the protection of freshwater ecosystem priority areas and priority estuaries in the water resource classification system and process.</p>

Strategic Objective	Description	Indicators	Priority actions for 2011 - 2020
management	vegetation, to rehabilitate wetlands, to conserve soil resources, to control the spread of fires and to keep rivers and estuaries in a healthy state, following a "catchment to coast" philosophy. This has become important in the face of anticipated climate change as temperatures in the CFR increase and rainfall patterns change – with more intense rainfall events and longer dry spells. Effective management of natural habitat in rural and urban areas needs to be combined with restoring degraded areas to help buffer against climate change and to maximise carbon, water and social benefits.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coverage of Fire Protection Associations • The number of hectares of alien invasive species cleared and maintained <p>We have case studies on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wetland rehabilitation • Optimal management of alien invasive species • Optimal fire management • Effects of alien invasive plant clearing on stream flow • Innovative implementation of Ecosystem based Adaptation projects in the landscape <p>We would like to be able to measure trends in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The degree to which fire is effectively managed • The area of the CFR with appropriate fire intervals 	<p>Implement the CFR alien invasive species (AIS) strategy, and systematically reduce the rate and extent of AIS invasion in the CFR.</p> <p>Continue to pilot the application of Payment for Ecosystem Services as a means of achieving sustainable integrated catchment management.</p> <p>Secure and optimize the use of Expanded Public Works Programme resources for rehabilitation and restoration of critical biodiversity areas and ecological support areas in the CFR.</p> <p>Identify and implement coordinated strategies for improved fire management in the CFR, particularly the establishment of Fire Protection Associations, and strengthen integrated fire and AIS management.</p> <p>Pilot ecosystem-based adaptation to climate change in municipalities, and illustrate how climate change resilience, ecosystem services and biodiversity conservation are interconnected.</p>
SO7: Delivering sustainable socio-economic and cultural benefits to local communities	Pilot projects and interventions in the enabling environment support communities, non-governmental organisations, land reform beneficiaries, emerging farmers and entrepreneurs to create small businesses that promote biodiversity conservation and sustainable development, for example through nature-based tourism, crafts and sustainable harvesting of natural resources. Local communities are supported to derive socio-economic, recreational, cultural and other benefits from municipal, provincial and national protected areas. Temporary work and training opportunities are promoted through leveraging of public works resources to tackle biodiversity priorities	<p>We can measure trends in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The number of jobs and person work days directly associated with natural resource management in the CFR • The number of biodiversity-based businesses initiated and/or supported through the CAPE partnership <p>We have case studies on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The delivery of social, cultural and economic benefits of biodiversity to local communities • The replication or roll-out of innovative pilot projects benefiting local communities <p>We would like to be able to measure trends in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The number of work opportunities created by biodiversity based businesses initiated through the CAPE partnership 	<p>Provide social and economic benefits to communities through biodiversity-based enterprises and work opportunities associated with natural resource management. In particular, promote job creation through the Green Economy agenda and the Expanded Public Works Programme, and influence the Local Economic Development agenda of municipalities.</p> <p>Scale up the lessons of the Cape Flats Nature pilot project and demonstrate how municipal nature reserves deliver educational, recreational, cultural, traditional, religious and spiritual benefits for local communities.</p> <p>Involve tourism stakeholders in biodiversity conservation, and promote opportunities for the development of small tourism-related businesses by previously disadvantaged communities and individuals.</p>

Strategic Objective	Description	Indicators	Priority actions for 2011 - 2020
	in the landscapes.		<p>Strengthen collaboration between biodiversity stewardship and land reform stakeholders, and identify opportunities and raise resources for demonstration projects.</p> <p>Explore and promote new models to combine ecological restoration and the creation of sustainable small businesses.</p>
SO8: Developing innovative approaches through research and knowledge networks	A managed network for learning and research underpins the CAPE programme and informs policy, planning and practice. Partners collaborate through learning exchanges, forums and partner conferences. Approaches to conservation education are coordinated across the CFR, and integrated into human capital development processes. Partner organisations work towards bridging the science-policy-implementation gap, and develop innovative approaches to integrating biodiversity considerations into policy, legislation and the development of new economic instruments.	<p>We can measure trends in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The existence and implementation of a coordinated CFR research programme • The outcomes of improved coordination of conservation education activities across the CFR • The number of CAPE toolbox resources, case studies and papers on lessons learned • The number of stakeholders receiving the CAPE electronic newsletter. <p>We have case studies on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research and / or pilot projects informing planning, policy and decision-making • Social learning networks supporting governance, integration, learning and collaboration across the CFR and reflecting a changing culture of cooperation • Securing and maintaining political support for conservation action • The development and application of economic instruments for promoting conservation stewardship • The science-policy-implementation interface 	<p>Facilitate collaborative problem solving and learning, and support policy, planning and best practice development through learning networks, including learning exchanges, forums and partner conferences.</p> <p>Promote the achievements of the partnership within the biome, nationally, regionally and internationally. Explore participation in a developing country learning network. Recognise outstanding contributions through the Fynbos Conservation Awards.</p> <p>Reframe messages about biodiversity conservation and align them with political, social and economic priorities of government in South Africa, including climate change, green economy and food security agendas.</p> <p>Support and empower sub-regional networks of environmental educators to influence school learning about biodiversity and ecosystems.</p> <p>Support and inform biodiversity management with an adequately resourced and coordinated interdisciplinary research programme that bridges the science-policy-implementation gap.</p> <p>Integrate biodiversity considerations into resource management policy and legislation, and identify, develop and implement economic instruments that promote biodiversity conservation, including payments for ecosystem services. In particular, strengthen the link with biodiversity conservation and the green economy agenda of South Africa.</p>