



Learning Exchange Criteria - January 2009

1. The exchange visits are intended to provide learning opportunities for people involved in conservation work in the Cape Floristic Region (CFR).
2. Beneficiaries should be working through an established organisation, e.g. an NGO, a community-based organisation, a conservation agency or a farmers' association.
3. Learning exchanges should be set up to involve two organisations with common characteristics and / or challenges who could benefit from visiting each other and exploring common issues together.
4. Learning exchanges should have a clear biodiversity conservation angle, contributing towards the strategic directions of the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund investment in the CFR.
5. The exchanges should be designed to promote learning, inspire participants and broaden their horizons.
6. The proposed exchange should be conceptualised and planned collaboratively by both organisations involved, who should then submit a single application together, including details of both organisations.
7. The implications of participation in the proposed exchange should be clear to both organisations involved.
8. The proposed exchange should be clearly described in the application form, outlining *what* learning is intended to take place on both sides of the exchange and *how* it is intended to take place.
9. The number of people involved in travelling for the proposed exchange from either organisation should not exceed 8.
10. A proposed exchange may entail two visits – from organisation A to organisation B and from B to A, in cases where both sides can learn from visiting the physical environment in which the other works.
11. In other cases, one organisation will visit the other, without a reciprocal visit, where a motivation is made that this would be sufficient to enable the desired learning.
12. The proposed exchange visits should involve travel by road or rail within the Cape Floristic Region, with safe transport, affordable accommodation and good food arranged by the applicant organisations.
13. If an application is successful, the visit(s) should be planned in detail and should be structured to maximise learning (both through field visits and through discussions) and facilitated by the organisations involved.
14. The participants in an exchange will need to complete a full report on the learning achieved, ideally during the last section of the exchange visit(s).
15. The process of calling for and reviewing applications should be managed by the C.A.P.E. Coordination Unit with guidance from the Learning Network Task Team. The CCU should follow up with both organisations 6 months after the exchange to determine the impact of the exchange on their practice.