
Biodiversity Strategy
IMEP
Integrated Metropolitan Environmental Policy
City of Cape Town
CITY OF CAPE TOWN
ISIXEKO SASEKAPA
STAD KAAPSTAD

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INTRODUCTION

On the 31st October 2001 the City of Cape Town (CCT) formally adopted the first Integrated Metropolitan Environmental Policy (IMEP) along with its implementation strategy, the Integrated Metropolitan Environmental Management Strategy (IMEMS). This IMEMS requires that the CCT develop detailed sectoral strategies to meet the commitments made in the sectoral approaches by giving effect to the environmental principles in IMEP.

During the IMEP development process six priority strategies were identified for implementation within two years of the adoption of IMEP. One of these strategies is the Biodiversity Strategy.

Council has committed itself to developing and implementing a citywide Biodiversity Strategy by October 2003 with the aim of protecting, optimising and enhancing the unique biodiversity found in Cape Town.

Some biodiversity facts

- South Africa has the second highest number of plant extinctions in the world
- Cape Town contains remnants of the threatened renosterveld vegetation of which only 3% remains of its original extent, making it one of the most endangered vegetation types in South Africa, if not in the world
- 70% of the Cape Floral Kingdom's 9 600 plant species are found nowhere else on earth
- The Cape Town Lowlands area has the highest concentration of threatened plants per area of remaining vegetation in the world
- The Cape Town Lowlands area support more than 1 466 plant species in 1 874 km^2 of which 76 are endemic and 131 red data species
- The Cape Peninsula Mountain Chain supports 2 285 plant species in 471 km^2 of which 90 are endemic
- 41 mammal species remain in Cape Town with six recently extinct
- 250 bird species live in Cape Town – ten are endangered and at least three species have become extinct in recent years
- There are approximately 111 endemic invertebrate species on the Cape Peninsula Mountain Chain alone
- There are 18 amphibian species in Cape Town of which four are listed in the Red Data Book
- 48 reptile species, of which four are endangered and two are locally extinct, are found in Cape Town
- 24 fish species are dependant on Cape Town's estuaries

1.1 Document Overview and Purpose

To date there has not been a consolidated or coordinated approach to protecting and enhancing biodiversity on a citywide scale. This document presents the City of Cape Town (CCT) Biodiversity Strategy, – an overarching framework for a citywide consolidated and coordinated approach to protecting and enhancing the rich biodiversity of Cape Town.

This document includes:

- The context of Biodiversity in the CCT
- Introduces the concept of "strategy"
- Presents an institutional framework that will facilitate the effective and efficient implementation and management of the Biodiversity Strategy
- Identifies the Seven Strategic Objectives of the Biodiversity Strategy
- Defines the approach to each of the seven Strategic Objectives
- Identifies key performance indicators for the implementation of the strategy as a whole
- Concludes with a mechanism for continual improvement through a cycle of review and revision for the Strategy

1.2 Context

Cape Town is located within an area of world class biodiversity and unique conservation value. This is a result of both the inland aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems and the diverse coastal and marine habitats created by the warm waters of False Bay and the colder waters of the Atlantic Ocean.

The City is located within the Cape Floristic Kingdom, one of only six floral kingdoms in the world. The Cape Floristic Kingdom is the smallest of the world's floral kingdoms but is also one of the richest with a high proportion of endemic (i.e. species which occur nowhere else in the world) and endangered species. As a result, the Cape Floristic Kingdom is known as a "global hotspot", placing an international responsibility on the CCT, Provincial Government and National Government to ensure the adequate conservation thereof. Particular conservation focus is needed on the Cape Town Lowlands area, which supports more than 1466 plant species and is an area that to date has been under-conserved.

Cape Town is a global urban biodiversity hotspot without parallel. This status is further entrenched by the fact that the CCT is unique in that an entire National Park, the Cape Peninsula National Park (CPNP), is situated within the CCT administrative borders. In addition, the CCT is bordered by, and overlaps with, two Biosphere Reserves (the Kogelberg and West Coast Biosphere Reserves) administered by the Western Cape Nature Conservation Board. The CCT itself administers 22 conservation areas. Of the 22 conservation areas under the City's jurisdiction, only 5 are currently managed to appropriate standards, due to a lack of capacity and resources. However, even with these constraints, significantly more conservation areas are necessary to conserve a minimum representative sample of Cape Town's biodiversity. This situation highlights the need for increased resources, focussed and efficient action, particularly on the Cape Town Lowlands, to conserve and protect the unique biodiversity.

1.3 Definition and Value of Biodiversity

Biodiversity (biological diversity) is the totality of the variety of living organisms, the genetic differences among them, and the communities and ecosystems in which they occur. It is the 'natural wealth' of the earth, which supplies all our food and much of our shelter and raw materials.

In the context of Cape Town, and this strategy, biodiversity refers to the variety of living organisms, which occur naturally in the Cape Town area. The value of biodiversity can be measured in its:

- Economic value of functioning ecosystems (e.g. clean water and clean air)
- Intrinsic value through its mere existence
- Contribution to tourism
- Consumptive use value e.g. harvesting
- Educational value
- Social value through recreation and open space
- Aesthetic value through beauty and scenic drives
- Spiritual value
- Bequest value – the value of retaining biodiversity for future generations
- Option value – the value of retaining biodiversity for future use

Cape Town is located within an area of world class biodiversity and unique conservation value.

1.4 Legislation and International Obligations

The CCT Biodiversity Strategy is developed within, and guided by relevant national legislation.

1.4.a The Constitution of South Africa (Act 108 of 1996)

Section 24 of the Constitution states that all South Africans have the right to a healthy environment which is protected, for present and future generations, from ecological degradation. The Constitution further presents an overarching obligation to sustainable environmental management, which calls for local government to provide services in a sustainable manner, provide a safe and healthy environment for all communities, promote social and economic development and ensure transparent governance.

1.4.b Municipal Systems Act (Act 32 of 2000)

The Municipal Systems Act (MSA) has certain implications and obligations for environmental management by local government, which must be accommodated and reflected in the institutional framework and policies of the local government authority.

1.4.c National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998)

The National Environmental Management Act (NEMA) states that local government should develop strategies to protect natural and cultural resources (which constitute and sustain the metropolitan area) but at the same time proactively address poverty.

1.4.d Environmental Conservation Act (Act 73 of 1989)

The objectives of this Act are to reduce potential negative environmental impacts of activities related to development, and to promote sustainable development. Sections 21, 22, and 26 of this Act set out procedures for Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) that must be complied with in order for activities, as defined in the Act, to commence. These regulations deal with the manner in which environmental issues must be addressed during the planning and decision-making stages of individual projects. It should be noted that many Council activities fall within the ambit of the EIA Regulations, such as water supply and wastewater treatment works. Biodiversity and conservation have been low on the agenda for many departments and line functions of the city resulting in few resources and capacity being made available. Having to comply with the EIA regulations thus compels many different line functions to make resources and capacity available for environmental management including biodiversity.

1.4.e Integrated Development Plan (IDP)

In terms of the Systems Act (Act 320 of 2000) municipalities are required to lead and manage a plan for development or IDP.

This IDP includes the allocation of resources, not only to concentrate on the provision of fundamental municipal services, but in addition to the eradication of poverty, boost local economic development, create employment and promote the process of reconstruction and development. An integrated development plan therefore should be seen as a tool that would be used in the eradication of the legacy of the past through restructuring of the city, promoting social equality, creation of wealth, fighting poverty and enabling inter and intra governmental co-operation.

1.4.f Other Acts that relate to local authorities and biodiversity (this list is not exhaustive)

- Atmospheric Pollution Prevention Act (Act 45 of 1965)
- Hazardous Substances Act (Act of 1973)
- National Water Act (Act of 1998)
- Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act (Act 43 of 1983)
- Animals Protection Act (Act 71 of 1962)
- Sea Birds and Seals Protection Act (Act 46 of 1973)
- Health Act (Act 63 of 1977)
- Water Services Act (Act 108 of 1997)
- National Veld and Forest Fire Act (Act 101 of 1998)
- National Heritage Resources Act (Act 49 of 1999)
- World Heritage Resources Act (Act 49 of 1999)
- Nature Conservation Ordinance (Act 19 of 1974)
- Marine Living Resources Act (Act 18 of 1998)

1.4.g Legislation under development

The **Biodiversity Bill** and **Protected Areas Bill** are currently being written and could have significant implications for local authorities and their role in the protection and

management of Biodiversity. Due to the fact that these crucial pieces of legislation are still under development, it is envisaged that the implications of the two Bills for biodiversity in the CCT will be incorporated into the strategy at a later date as part of the review and revision of the strategy.

1.4.h International Context

South Africa is a signatory to a number of specific international agreements, such as the Biodiversity Convention and World Heritage Convention and it is incumbent on local authorities to give local effect to such conventions by adopting appropriate management strategies.

The 1992 Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the core international agreement on biodiversity, one of the main agreements of the 1992 Rio Summit and adopted by over 180 countries established the three fundamental objectives for biodiversity:

1. Conservation of biodiversity
2. Sustainable use of biological resources, and
3. Equitable sharing of biodiversity benefits.

1.5 Concept of "Strategy"

A strategy is defined as "a systematic plan of action to accomplish a specific goal".

The Biodiversity Strategy therefore aims to be an organised systematic approach working towards ensuring that the rich variety of indigenous naturally occurring living organisms found in Cape Town are protected and enhanced for both current and future generations while the economic potential of biodiversity in Cape Town is optimised.

The overall approach to the Biodiversity Strategy is depicted in the diagram below.

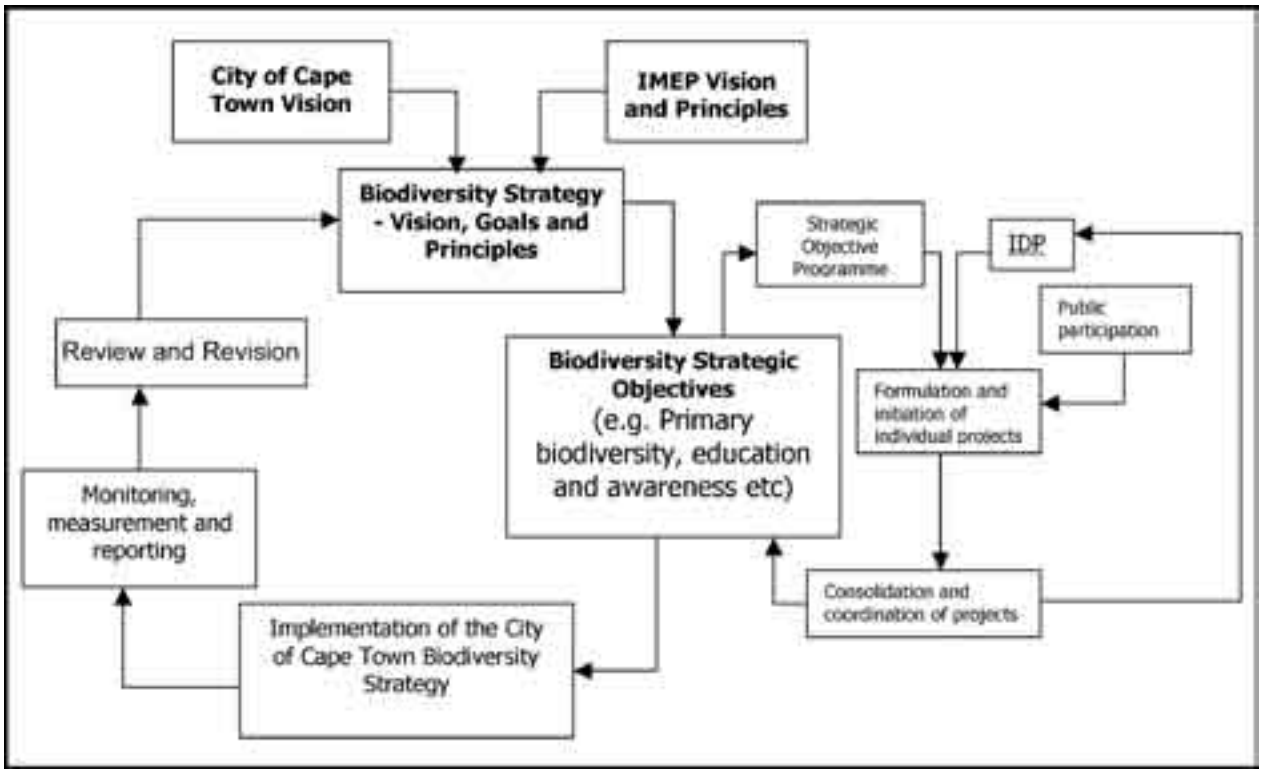

Fig 1 Biodiversity Strategy Flow diagram

1.6 Meeting the City of Cape Town's Strategy, Vision, Mission and Values

The Biodiversity Strategy contributes to the following points outlined in the CCT's strategic direction:

- Poverty reduction
- Economic development, tourism promotion and physical/infrastructure development
- Employment creation
- Good governance
- Improving health, safety and security
- Financial sustainability
- Partnerships
- Communication

The Biodiversity Strategy contributes to the following statements in the CCT Vision 2005 and beyond:

- A sustainable city – a city that offers a future to our children and their children
- A dignified city – a tolerant, non-racist, non-sexist city
- An accessible city – a city that extends the benefits of urban society to all and builds the capacity of its people
- A credible city – a well governed city trusted by its people
- A competent city – a city with skills, capabilities and a competitive edge
- A prosperous city known for its ability to compete in the world of the 21st century and its commitment to the challenges facing South Africa, the Southern African Development Region and the African continent

The Biodiversity Strategy contributes to the following Mission of the City:

- Responsible decision making
- Viable, affordable and sustainable city services
- Dignity and meaningful engagement with City structures
- Fair access to the benefits of urban society and capacity building opportunities
- Trustworthy, accountable, efficient and transparent city government
- The ability to contribute to global, regional, national, provincial and local economic growth and development
- The opportunity to benefit from national and provincial partnerships

Further, the Biodiversity Strategy is driven by the following City Values:

- A clear sense of direction and purpose
- Partnerships at all levels of city life
- Openness, accountability and transparency
- Decisions and actions that will take the needs and abilities of future generations into account
- Efficiency, effectiveness and responsiveness

1.7 Historic Approach to Biodiversity Conservation

To date, the protection and enhancement of Biodiversity was undertaken in a fragmented approach by-and-large as a result of the structure of the previous dispensation. Under the previous dispensation no less than nine government organisations were responsible for the protection of biodiversity in what is now the CCT. This included seven local authorities, the Western Cape Nature Conservation Board and South African National Parks. Little coordination and integration of efforts and approaches between these organisations took place resulting in the fragmented approach to biodiversity.

Historically the spectacular Peninsula Mountain Chain received more attention than the Cape Town Lowlands, which were neglected under Apartheid Planning. Prior to 1982 a few reserves were proclaimed such as Tygerberg Nature Reserve and the Rondevlei and Zandvlei Bird Sanctuaries (both now renamed as Nature Reserves). Most of these reserves were proclaimed on a site-specific basis, i.e. sites were not identified in a systematic way that prioritised areas on the basis of their contribution to pre-determined conservation targets for the entire City. The concept of a suite of open spaces, which allowed for activities such as conservation and recreation, was first mentioned in 1982 in the Greening the City Report. This report, which identified some areas as conservation priorities, formed the basis for much of the conservation work that followed and was adopted by the then City of Cape Town's Council in 1984. As one of the results, the Wolfgat Nature Reserve was proclaimed in 1986.

At the same time a project, funded by the government under the Fynbos Biome Programme, was launched to identify conservation priorities in lowland regions of the Fynbos Biome. The resultant Jarman Report identified many priority conservation areas in the City of Cape Town. Despite its value, this report never received political backing and none of its

recommendations were implemented. Many of the priority sites identified therein were lost to the massive expansion of urban areas on the Cape Flats from the mid 1980s onwards. Political pressure and urgency to accommodate a large number of migrants to the city marginalised conservation concerns. In the late 1980s and early 1990's several flora surveys and vegetation mapping exercises were conducted to identify conservation-worthy areas. In 1990 a report entitled "Conservation Priority Survey of the Cape Flats", which identified and mapped important conservation areas, was published. The study identified sites such as Kenilworth Racecourse and was critical in raising awareness – at least amongst conservationists – about the plight of Cape Town's biodiversity. In 1992 the then City of Cape Town Council accepted the recommendations of this study and used it as a reference document to guide decision-making with respect to future development proposals. Despite this Council resolution, the report failed to mobilise significant action and the Council adopted a passive role, particularly when dealing with areas threatened by development. There was no clear or organised strategy for implementation, no delegated body responsible for implementation, and the findings of the report were not communicated to a sufficiently wide audience.

In the early to mid 1990's many of the larger remnants were lost to development while others, even some with protection status (local and provincial nature reserves), gradually degraded, owing to lack of on-the-ground management (e.g. the Driftsands Nature Reserve). Between 1994 and 1997, the attention of government and civil society was focussed on the consolidation of conservation areas and management on the Peninsula Mountain Chain which culminated in the establishment of the Cape Peninsula National Park in 1998. The establishment of the Cape Peninsula National Park is now complete, thereby relieving local and regional government of a large part of its conservation management responsibilities on the Peninsula Mountain Chain portion of the CCT. The stage is set to engage the City authorities in initiatives to effectively conserve the biodiversity of Cape Town focussing on the Cape Town Lowlands while engaging poor and marginalised communities. Further, conservation is struggling to throw off the historically negative connotation amongst disadvantaged communities of it being an elitist approach with few benefits for all communities.

In 1997 the Botanical Society of South Africa, an NGO dealing with flora conservation issues in Cape Town, launched a study to identify flora conservation priorities, based on the principles and practices of target-driven systematic conservation planning. This resulted in the Cape Flats Flora Core Conservation Sites project, in which 37 Core Flora Conservation Sites were identified as critically important to the overall protection of biodiversity in Cape Town.

In summary, biodiversity and conservation have been low on the agenda for many City departments and line functions largely due to limited resources and capacity being made available. A new proactive and integrated approach is needed to secure Cape Town's biodiversity.

1.8 An Integrated Approach to Biodiversity

This Biodiversity Strategy offers a unique opportunity to introduce a paradigm shift including:

- A coordinated and integrated approach to conservation and biodiversity from a citywide perspective
- Biodiversity goals based on citywide biodiversity targets
- The equitable distribution of, and access to, our biological wealth
- Improved and redistributed benefits arising directly from the conservation of our unique biodiversity to disadvantaged communities
- Participative, open and transparent approaches to the conservation of biodiversity rather than restrictive approaches
- Creative approaches to the protection and enhancement of our biodiversity
- Partnerships with external organisations and donor organisations

To be a City that leads by example in the protection and enhancement of biodiversity.

1.9 Towards Integration of Biodiversity Initiatives

1.9.a Within the CCT

A number of biodiversity related initiatives have been completed or are underway. The first aim of the Biodiversity Strategy is to consolidate and integrate those initiatives and ensure that they are all aligned within a common framework and goal. The intention is to build on existing initiatives and work that has already been completed. The strategy will also introduce a new way of working which will require active participation and support across service delivery units and clusters within the City of Cape Town.

1.9.b With Regional Initiatives

The key regional conservation initiative, Cape Action Plan for People and the Environment (C.A.P.E.) funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) – published a report in 1999 for terrestrial ecosystems which showed that all of the habitat types found on the Cape Town Lowlands were of maximum conservation value. The report recommended that all of the remaining remnant habitat was required in order to achieve a modest regional conservation target. Further, the C.A.P.E. programme has identified Broad Habitat Units (BHU's) in its regional conservation planning programme and four of these BHU's exist nowhere else but within the CCT boundaries. As such the CCT Biodiversity Strategy must integrate with C.A.P.E. and give effect to this regional conservation initiative. Given the high-threat status of the CCT region, it must be

considered as a priority for conservation action on a regional scale. It is imperative therefore that the CCT Biodiversity Strategy be aligned within the C.A.P.E. framework and work towards meeting regional biodiversity conservation goals. This alignment with regional plans and initiatives needs to also take place with the Western Cape Nature Conservation Board (WCNCB). Formal partnerships and working relationships must be established and the CCT Biodiversity Strategy must support regional efforts to conserve and enhance the region's biodiversity.

1.9.‹ With National Parks

The CCT has a National Park within its boundaries and biodiversity management must be integrated and coordinated between the CPNP and the CCT. It is imperative that the CCT Biodiversity Strategy supports, and be supported by, the CPNP and that formalised working relationships and partnerships between the CCT and CPNP be established and maintained.

1.10 Integration, support and coordination between IMEP Strategies

The implementation of IMEP is given effect through the development and implementation of a number of IMEP strategies.

These strategies are developed not only to give effect to various environmental issues, but also in support of each other especially where there are significant areas of overlap. None of the strategies must be seen in isolation but rather in the cumulative effect all of the IMEP strategies have on the broad environment of the CCT.

This integration and coordination between strategies in meeting a common goal is particularly significant with respect to Biodiversity. In particular, both the Coastal Zone Management Strategy and Environmental Education and Training Strategy will give effect to, and address, biodiversity issues and these strong links of common purpose, overlap and shared responsibility between strategies are key principles in the implementation of IMEP.

1.11 Strategy Drivers

A successful Biodiversity Strategy will require an integrated and participative approach with input from a wide range of role-players from within the CCT and external to the CCT. These role-players will have different levels of input, some driving and owning the process while others participate around specific issues. Distinction between those levels at this point has relevance to responsibilities and degrees of influence and interest through the delegation of roles in the development and implementation of the strategy.

The following CCT line functions are recognised as the drivers of the Biodiversity Strategy:

- City Parks and Nature Conservation
- Planning and Environment

The following CCT line functions are considered as key partners in the strategy:

- Community Facilities
- City Police
- Finance
- Emergency Services
- Public Housing
- Sports and Recreation
- Economic Development and Tourism
- Water Services
- Transport, Roads and Stormwater
- Property Management
- City Health
- Solid Waste Management

Key stakeholders in the Biodiversity Strategy include amongst others:

- Cape Action Plan for People and the Environment (C.A.P.E.)
- Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism
- Western Cape Nature Conservation Board
- Western Cape Provincial Administration
- South African National Parks (Cape Peninsula National Park)
- Marine and Coastal Management
- Working for Wetlands
- Department of Agriculture
- Department of Water Affairs and Forestry
- NGO's and CBO's (e.g. Botanical Society of South Africa, Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa (WESSA), World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF))
- The public
- Academic and research institutions (e.g. National Botanical Institute (NBI))
- Private landowners
- Business

To be a City that leads by example in the protection and enhancement of biodiversity.

THE STRATEGY

2.1 Vision and Goals

VISION

To be a City that leads by example in the protection and enhancement of biodiversity. A City within which biodiversity plays an important role, where the right of future generations to healthy, complete and vibrant biodiversity is entrenched, and to be a City that actively protects its biological wealth and prioritises long term responsibility over short-term gains.

MISSION

- Address biodiversity proactively and effectively
- To ensure an integrated approach to biodiversity between CCT line functions and departments and actively pursue external partnerships
- To adopt a long-term approach with regards to biodiversity
- To ensure sustainability of our rich biodiversity
- To adopt a holistic and multifaceted approach to biodiversity
- To continually measure and monitor the CCT's performance in the protection and enhancement of biodiversity
- To continually measure and monitor the state of biodiversity in Cape Town

2.2 Guiding Principles

The following guiding principles underpin the strategy:

- The importance of both biodiversity pattern and ecological process
- Best management practice
- Promotion of biodiversity as an asset in poor/low income communities
- No ecology without equity – no equity without ecology
- Conservation, enhancement and protection of biodiversity across the entire City
- Recognition of the unquestionable importance of all of Cape Town's biodiversity
- Equitable access to biodiversity for all
- Social upliftment and economic development through the conservation and enhancement of biodiversity
- Open, transparent and responsible governance
- Participation and partnerships
- Integrated and coordinated planning and management
- Responsible stewardship of our unique biodiversity
- Commitment to biodiversity goals
- The Pre-cautionary principle

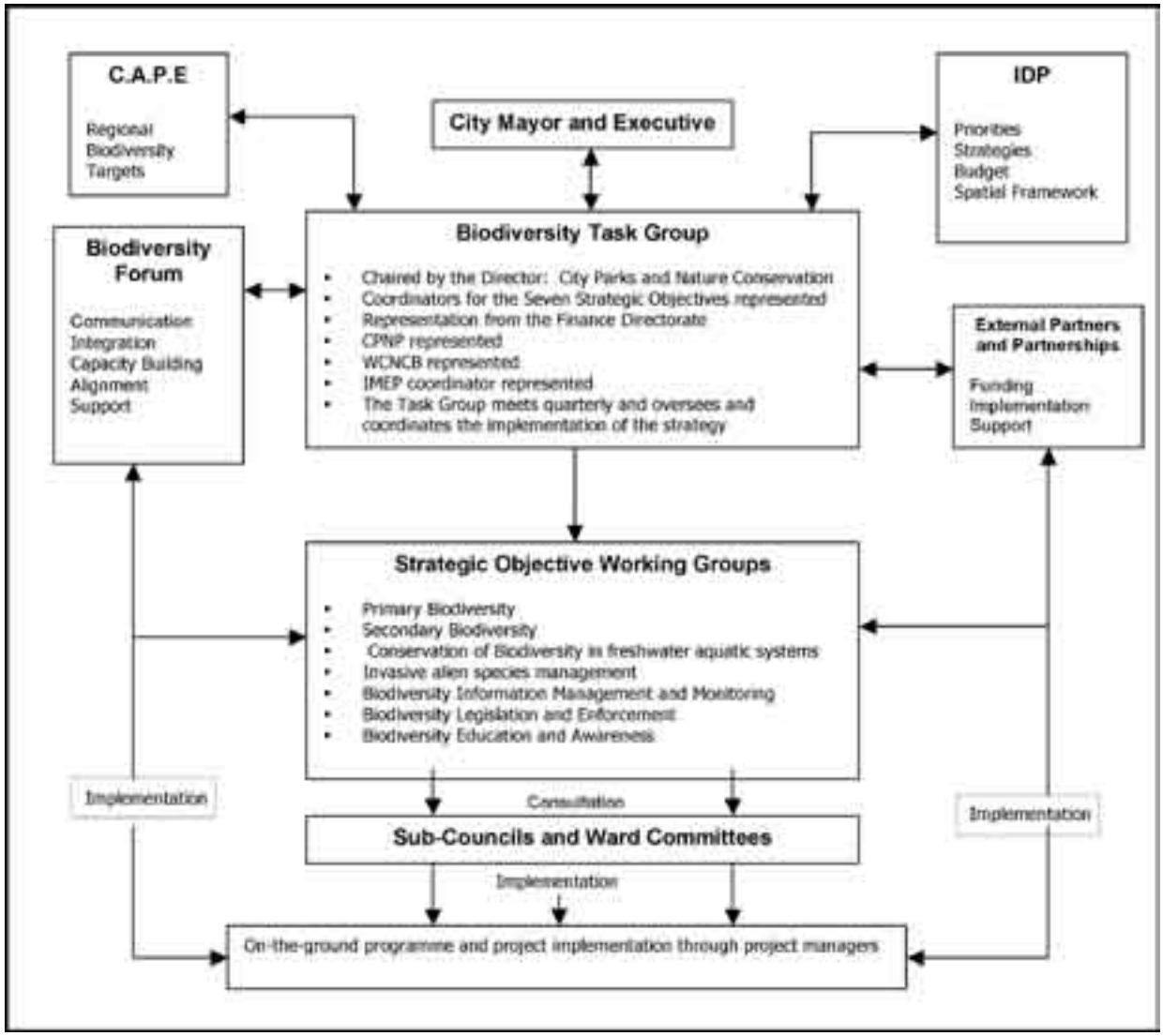

Fig 2 Institutional Management Structure of the Biodiversity Strategy

2.3 Management Structure for the Biodiversity Strategy

The Biodiversity Strategy will be managed according to the institutional management structure depicted in the flow diagram above. A short explanation and role of each level in the diagram follows in the next section of the report.

2.3.1 Political Level

a. Executive Mayor and Council

All relevant documents, programmes and policies will be presented to the Executive Mayor and Council for adoption and endorsement as CCT programmes.

b. Executive Mayoral Committee

All issues around budgets, business plans and the identification of priorities will take place through the relevant Mayoral Committee member and the Mayoral Committee.

c. Section 80 Portfolio Committees

All documents that relate to policy and monitoring will be submitted to the relevant Section 80 Portfolio Committees for information adoption and endorsement. In addition, at a minimum, progress in the implementation of the Biodiversity Strategy will be reported on annually to the relevant committees. In the case of the Biodiversity Strategy all reports will be sent to the Planning and Environment Committee and the Health Amenities and Sport Committee. Where appropriate, other Portfolio Committees will also be consulted.

d. Sub–Councils and Ward Committees

Area specific projects and programmes will be put to the relevant Sub-Councils and Ward Committees as part of the stakeholder and public participation process in the relevant areas.

2.3.2 Biodiversity Task Team

The Biodiversity Task Team will take overall responsibility for overseeing and implementing the Biodiversity Strategy and for ensuring an effective and efficient biodiversity programme across the City.

The Task Team will be chaired by the Director: City Parks and Nature Conservation and coordinated by a representative from Planning and Environment. The Coordinators from each of the Seven Biodiversity Strategic Objectives, the IMEP Coordinator, the CCT's Biodiversity Forum Representative, a representative from the Finance Directorate, a representative from the CPNP and a representative from WCNCB will sit on the Task Team. The Biodiversity Task Team will meet quarterly. The Task Team will have the following functions:

- Strategic planning around all biodiversity and conservation issues in the City
- Preparation of annual Biodiversity Strategy implementation plans and budgets
- Alignment with C.A.P.E.
- Prioritisation of initiatives and actions
- Integration of decision making and allocation of resources and capacity between Directorates
- Coordination and communication of the multi-faceted approach to biodiversity in the City, especially with the CPNP and WCNCB
- Establishment of Strategic Objective Working Groups
- Ensuring implementation of Action Plans and programmes through the Working Groups and project managers thereby meeting the strategy vision and goals
- Interacting with a broader stakeholder group
- Promotion and awareness of the Biodiversity Strategy and biodiversity issues both locally and internationally
- Monitoring of the strategy
- The IMEP Coordinator will ensure integration, coordination and communication between IMEP Strategies

2.3.3 Strategic Objective Working Groups

For each of the seven Strategic Objectives, a Working Group will be established and will be responsible for developing action plans to meet the goals for that specific Strategic Objective. Each of the Working Groups will be coordinated by a responsible person who has been nominated to this position by the Biodiversity Task Team. The Working Groups will develop Action Plans that will contribute to the overall vision and goals of the Biodiversity Strategy through actualising one or more of the Strategic Objectives. These Action Plans will be implemented through line functions, area managers, partners, partnerships and project managers.

2.3.4 Biodiversity Forum

The Biodiversity Forum will be established and convened by the CCT. The Forum shall be intended as a mechanism for communication, partnerships and coordination around biodiversity issues in Cape Town. Representation on the Forum will include biodiversity stakeholders and roleplayers, including NGO's such as the Botanical Society, civil society organisations, CPNP, WCNCB, CCT and institutions such as the National Biodiversity Institute. To ensure that the Forum is both functional and manageable smaller groups will be requested to nominate an appropriate organisation as a representative on their behalf.

The Biodiversity Forum will not report to a higher authority nor will it fulfill an implementation function. It will serve as a forum for sharing ideas and communicating and integrating around biodiversity issues. The Biodiversity Forum will have the following functions:

- Communication of biodiversity initiatives and issues
- Coordination of efforts and programmes
- Capacity building
- Establishment of partnerships
- Support
- Establishment of common biodiversity goals for Cape Town and ensuring that those goals meet with regional targets

The Biodiversity Forum will meet quarterly and shall initially be coordinated by the CCT.

2.4 Implementation

Implementation of the Biodiversity Strategy will occur at two levels. The first level may be considered as a strategic planning level at a city-wide scale. Strategic planning will produce policies and programmes for each of the biodiversity Strategic Objectives that will be implemented at the second level, that of on-the-ground projects by area and project managers. The second level will give effect to the first level.

In the third quarter of each financial year the Biodiversity Task Team must develop an implementation plan and associated business plan for the next financial year. This must include at a minimum:

- Identification of programmes for development and implementation
- Identification of responsible persons/departments/directorates
- Timeframes for development and implementation
- Budgets
- Key performance indicators

Public and stakeholder participation is considered an essential component of the Biodiversity Strategy and will take place around the development of area specific policies, projects and programmes.

2.5 Strategic Objectives of the Biodiversity Strategy

The effective and efficient protection and enhancement of biodiversity is multifaceted and as such a number of strategic objectives have been identified.

These strategic objectives are aligned with, and supported by the following City Parks and Nature Conservation Directorate Performance Management System strategic objectives, namely:

- Provide, enhance and conserve the green environment
- Ensure compliance with relevant legislation
- Enhance stakeholder involvement
- Ensure financial sustainability

Each Biodiversity Strategy Strategic Objective contributes to the overall enhancement and protection of biodiversity within the CCT. The Biodiversity Strategy is founded on the development of overall approaches to each of these strategic objectives. A core component of each Strategic Objective, and an over-arching theme of the Biodiversity Strategy, is the role of partners and partnerships in protecting and conserving biodiversity. The CCT acknowledges its responsibility as a steward of the resources within its charge, but also recognises the importance of co-operative governance and partnerships in ensuring the long-term protection and enhancement of the unique biodiversity in Cape Town.

The seven Strategic Objectives that together make up the Biodiversity Strategy have been identified. These are listed below and discussed in greater detail in Section 3 of this document.

a) Primary Biodiversity (Conservation Areas and Biodiversity Nodes)
b) Secondary Biodiversity (Conservation through Corridors, Links and Mixed Use Areas)
c) Conservation of biodiversity in freshwater aquatic systems
d) Invasive Alien Species Management
e) Biodiversity Legislation and Enforcement
f) Biodiversity Information and Monitoring System
g) Biodiversity Education and Awareness

To ensure sustainability of our rich biodiversity

2.6 City-wide Planning for each Strategic Objective

Comprehensive planning at the outset of the Biodiversity Strategy is central to the success of the initiative.

For each Strategic Objective the following process will take place:

- A comprehensive status quo assessment by the relevant Working Group for the strategic objective in question.
- This must include an assessment of existing and current initiatives, actions, programmes, policies and legislation that relate to the strategic objective
- The development of an Action Plan to address the strategic objective
- This must include clear goals, targets and approaches
- Public and stakeholder participation through appropriate forums and Sub-Councils on policy/programmes where relevant and appropriate
- Endorsement of the Action Plan by the Biodiversity Task Team
- Identification of responsible person/task group and implementation in an agreed time-frame
- Identifying partnerships and financial sustainability

2.7 Measuring, Monitoring and Review

An integral part of the Biodiversity Strategy is the need to measure and monitor the strategy through the use of agreed indicators.

Unlike the Biodiversity Information and Monitoring System, which monitors biodiversity, this measurement and monitoring relates to assessing the success and implementation of the overall strategy. The results of the measuring and monitoring must inform the review of the strategy and be widely reported on. Key process milestones must be identified and reported on during the implementation phase. This will allow for the continual review of the process and facilitate a cycle of improvement.

For each Strategic Objective Action Plan, indicators must be developed and put in place to measure the success and implementation of that specific Action Plan. The methods for monitoring and measuring, and the identification of indicators, must take place in the initial planning stages and be part of the development of the Action Plans. Indicators for measuring the implementation of each Strategic Objective as well as indicators for monitoring the relevant biodiversity aspect are key outcomes from the Action Plan development process.

The strategy, and all the relevant components of the strategy, must be reviewed on an agreed cycle. The purpose of the review is to assess the success of the strategy and its individual components and make improvements and adjustments where necessary to ensure a cycle of continued improvement.

2.8 Reporting

The results of the measuring and monitoring, and performance of the various components of the strategy will be published each year in the Annual State of Environment Report. In addition, the strategy will be monitored through the City's Organisational Performance Management System.

It is important to popularise and profile success stories to enable replication of best practice through a knowledge management programme.

Successful programmes need to be reflected and captured in order to ensure that the achievements and quality of current best practice are maintained, to improve their efficiency and effectiveness, and to guide their continuation. Likewise failures must be recorded and lessons learnt must be communicated.

2.9 Budget and Business Planning

Critical to the success of any strategy, programme, or initiative, is the role of budgets and business planning. It is imperative that biodiversity be placed high on the agenda when budgets are finalised each year, within each of the relevant line functions.

This process must be coordinated through the Biodiversity Task Team. In addition, strategic business planning must be part of the development of Action Plans for each of the strategic objectives. This again must be coordinated by the Biodiversity Task Team and linked to line function budgeting.

Further, budgeting around biodiversity needs to take place over at least five year financial cycles as part of the Medium Term Income and Expenditure Framework (MTIEF).

The successful implementation of projects to meet the seven Strategic Objectives will require partnerships and funding from external organisations and programmes. As such it is imperative as part of the business planning around the Biodiversity Strategy that opportunities to establish these partnerships are sought.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

The seven Strategic Objectives are the core of the Biodiversity Strategy. Unless each of the Strategic Objectives is met, biodiversity in Cape Town will remain under pressure and is likely to be lost in the long-term.

The City of Cape Town cannot achieve the Strategic Objectives alone – creating and working in partnerships with a wide range of organisations and individuals is the fundamental principle underpinning the strategy and each of the Strategic Objectives. The conservation of Cape Town's unique biodiversity is for the common good and as such is a global responsibility.

A range of meaningful partnerships with a wide range of organisations and individuals must be developed, established, and maintained for all of the seven Strategic Objectives. Working together in partnerships with other organisations, institutions and individuals will enhance the CCT's ability to contribute to the protection and conservation of biodiversity in Cape Town. The role of the CCT's Biodiversity Strategy must be seen not only within a local and regional context but also in a national and international context.

This co-operation and integration will avoid the duplication of efforts and inefficiency, ensure that common vision and purpose are shared, and share limited resources skills and capacity.

More specifically the CCT, as an integral part of this Biodiversity Strategy, will actively seek help and partners for all of the following seven Strategic Objectives in:

- Project and programme development and implementation
- Expertise
- Capacity
- Information sharing
- Funding and resources
- Capacity and training
- Technology

Key Partnership Principles

- The development of local conservation leadership particularly in previously disadvantaged communities
- The growth of community involvement in urban conservation through on the ground actions rather than through a focus on structures and meetings.
- Economic development of disadvantaged communities through the optimising of the economic potential of our natural assets
- Capacity building and shared responsibility

3.1 Primary Biodiversity Conservation (Conservation Areas and Biodiversity Nodes)

This Strategic Objective (Primary Biodiversity Conservation) refers to the establishment and effective management of a network of biodiversity areas and biodiversity nodes that are actively managed with the primary function of conserving Cape Town's biodiversity.

These areas include all local government nature reserves, possible public-private partnerships and any other area that is managed for the specific purpose of conserving and protecting biodiversity. This Biodiversity Network must align itself within a regional context and integration with the WCNCB and CPNP is therefore essential.

Further, this Strategic Objective refers to the effective and efficient management of the indigenous fauna and flora of Cape Town.

GOAL

The goal of the Primary Biodiversity Strategic Objective is to, using existing protected areas and initiatives, and by identifying appropriate new areas, establish and secure the key biodiversity areas and biodiversity nodes component of the Biodiversity Network. This Biodiversity Network must effectively conserve and protect an adequately representative sample of all the unique biodiversity in Cape Town for the benefit of current and future generations. This Biodiversity Network must conserve at a minimum, sufficient area and habitat to ensure the long-term sustainability of all of Cape Town's biodiversity. Further, the goal of this strategic objective is to ensure, that appropriate, effective and efficient management plans and policies are developed and implemented at each of the Primary Biodiversity Conservation Areas. These management plans and policies will include a CCT Policy for the management of indigenous fauna and flora. This policy refers specifically to setting guidelines that will resolve issues of conflict around indigenous fauna and flora within the urban and heritage context.

PRINCIPLES

- Use the biological principles within the theory of Island Biogeography
- Biodiversity pattern (representation)
- Ecological process (persistence)
- Complementarity and efficiency
- Conservation of habitat diversity
- Recognise the importance of all freshwater aquatic systems in biodiversity conservation
- Maximise the habitat diversity conserved
- Optimise the social and economic potential of each of the areas under conservation
- Open, transparent, effective, accountable, measurable, reportable management of the conserved areas

APPROACH

a. Strategic Planning

- In partnership with the Secondary Biodiversity Strategic Objective, using existing local government nature reserves, the 37 Cape Flats Core Flora Sites and the best available data, initiate a conservation planning exercise using a defensible and recognised modeling approach to identify a Biodiversity Network
- Confirm and check the results from the modeling exercise
- Undertake a status quo assessment of each of the areas identified
- Initiate an investigation into the range of conservation management models and tools that could be used to manage and protect these areas
- Prioritise (rank) the identified biodiversity within the network areas using appropriate criteria including at a minimum biological pattern, process, complementarity and the C.A.P.E. BHU's.

- Apply appropriate conservation management models to each biodiversity area
- Use this prioritisation within the Network to inform and drive the CCT's Land Acquisition programme
- In partnership with the Secondary Biodiversity Strategic Objective, pilot the Biodiversity Network in an appropriate area and use the lessons learned from the pilot to better implement the remaining Network
- Initiate a business planning and costing exercise for the Biodiversity Network
- Ensure integration with the CCT Landuse Management System (LUMS)
- Apply appropriate land use zones for the conservation of these areas

b. Area Management

Develop consistent, effective and efficient on-the-ground management plans and policies for the management of Primary Conservation Areas. At a minimum this must include management plans and policies for:

- Indigenous plant resource use
- Faunal management
- Aquatic management
- Economic development plans for individual areas
- Co-operative and co-management agreements with local communities
- Visitor management
- Marketing and promotion
- Education

c. Indigenous Fauna and Flora Management

Develop a CCT policy for the management of indigenous fauna and flora. This policy must include:

- Clear principles for protecting indigenous fauna within an urban area and protecting communities from indigenous fauna within an urban context
- Methods for fauna population control
- Relocation of fauna and flora
- Clear guidelines for resolving conflict around heritage issues
- Communication to the public of contact persons responsible for relocation and removal

3.2 Secondary Biodiversity Conservation (Corridors, links and mixed areas)

The CCT recognises the urban context within which the conservation of biodiversity will take place. As such the importance and role of open space, that although serving other primary functions, may play in the conservation of biodiversity is recognised. This type of open space includes amongst others rivers, ecological buffer zones along rivers, areas forming part of the Stormwater Management System, linear parkways, parks, scenic drives, road verges, servitudes and transport routes. These areas can facilitate the movement of species from one area to the next by acting as corridors and links. The Secondary Biodiversity Strategic Objective refers to all areas that are not actively and specifically managed with a primary function as biodiversity conservation areas but which connect the Primary Biodiversity Areas and Biodiversity Nodes into a complete and functional Biodiversity Network. Secondary Biodiversity includes all areas that act as mixed-use areas, corridors, links and stepping-stones.

GOAL

The goal of the Secondary Biodiversity Strategic Objective is to promote, establish and manage open space as a critical component in the success and functioning of the Biodiversity Network. This includes the role of mixed-use areas, corridors and links, which complete and connect the Biodiversity Network. In addition the goal is to initiate a process whereby appropriate local indigenous vegetation is used for horticultural purposes thereby creating biological opportunity within an urban context.

PRINCIPLES

- Biological opportunity and biological corridors
- Promotion of indigenous fauna, flora, habitats and landscapes
- Pride in the unique flora of the CCT
- A green urban environment

APPROACH

a. Strategic Planning

- Prepare a position paper and a set of criteria for what would constitute a functional and effective biological corridor in the urban context of Cape Town.
- As part of the Biodiversity Network Pilot, establish and formalise biodiversity corridors and links within the pilot area and ensure appropriate landuse status for these areas.
- Integrate the pilot areas into the broader Cape Metropolitan Open Space Strategy (CMOSS).

Broad Habitat Units of the Cape Action Plan for People and the Environment (C.A.P.E.)

- Using the Biodiversity Network as a framework, identify appropriate corridors and links connecting the remaining identified Biodiversity Areas and Biodiversity Nodes.
- Formalise the status and establishment of these corridors and links as part of the Biodiversity Network.
- Increase the status of these corridors and links through applying appropriate landuse status and through the use of branding and appropriate signage.
- Identify and promote a wide range of mixed-use areas that may contribute to Biodiversity on a citywide scale while fulfilling a different primary role such as recreation or housing.
- Ensure the inclusion of secondary biodiversity areas into the CMOSS.
- Integrate with the CCT Landuse Management System (LUMS).

b. Management

The following management approach is advocated:

- Maximise the biodiversity potential by developing and implementing appropriate management plans for all the areas identified as corridors, links and mixed use areas
- Ensure appropriate landuse status is given to these areas and ensure enforcement of that status
- Develop horticultural operational guidelines to facilitate the use of local indigenous vegetation where appropriate
- Where appropriate and reasonable, actively replace exotic vegetation with indigenous vegetation in areas actively managed by horticulture
- Actively promote the benefits of indigenous vegetation to private landowners
- Actively support the CCT Indigenous Fauna and Flora Policy

3.3 Conservation of Biodiversity in Freshwater Aquatic Systems

Cape Town's unique rivers, wetlands, vleis, dams and estuaries, form important 'green corridors' between the mountains and the coastline as well as providing habitats for a rich diversity of terrestrial and aquatic life.

These freshwater systems are essential components of the Biodiversity Network. Further, they moderate floods, purify water and generate and renew soil fertility. In addition to these natural ecosystem services, they form a vital component of the city's stormwater management system, are key recreational nodes and are also utilised for the conveyance and disposal of wastewater effluents.

Over the past few decades, many rivers were canalised and wetlands in-filled and drained to allow for urban development, dramatically altering runoff patterns. In retrospect, this approach has inadvertently also precipitated a decline in water quality with concomitant adverse effects for human health and welfare as well as the ecological integrity of the city's rivers and vleis. In addition, potential community interaction and enjoyment thereof has been seriously compromised.

This strategic objective refers to effective management of these freshwater aquatic systems in a manner that maintains or enhances biodiversity whilst ensuring effective functioning for stormwater management and other purposes.

GOAL

To ensure the conservation and protection of freshwater aquatic systems, and their associated biodiversity as well as to optimize the role that rivers and wetlands play as effective ecosystem corridors.

PRINCIPLES

- Acknowledge the vital role played by rivers and wetlands in the provision of stormwater management services as well as the conveyance and disposal of effluents.
- Recognise rivers, freshwater aquatic systems as highly significant biodiversity refuges and corridors.
- Protect and enhance the social, ecological and amenity value of freshwater aquatic systems.
- Where at all possible avoid any further canalising or hard engineering solutions.

APPROACH

The Catchment, Stormwater and River Management Branch will act as the lead agent in partnership with other line functions in accordance with the provisions of the Catchment, Stormwater and River Management Strategy: 2002 – 2007 (May 2002). Outcomes of this strategy, which is founded on the principles of integrated catchment management, include:

- Effective stormwater drainage
- Improved water quality of surface, ground and coastal waters
- Ecologically healthy rivers, vleis, dams and wetlands
- Multi-functional, sustainable use of river corridors
- Active support of the CCT Indigenous Fauna and Flora Policy

3.4 Invasive Alien Species Management

Invasive alien species poses one of the greatest threats to biodiversity in Cape Town. Alien invasive species compete with indigenous species for habitat, and in the case of vegetation increases the intensity of fires and have a negative effect on water resources (both quantity and quality). This strategic objective of the strategy refers to the development and implementation of a CCT Alien Invasive Species Management Programme.

GOAL

The goal of this strategic objective is to develop and implement an effective and efficient city-wide invasive alien species management programme thereby working towards a future weed, and alien invasive animal, free City. In so doing comply with the Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act (CARA) and through the active removal of alien invasive species maximise the biological opportunity within the City. In addition, to create broad awareness across and within the CCT on the role that alien invasive species play in threatening biodiversity.

PRINCIPLES

- Partnerships with other initiatives and organisations
- Learn from successful programmes
- Learn from failures
- Promote and generate economic opportunity for disadvantaged communities as part of the programme
- Zero tolerance for alien invasive vegetation
- Compliance with relevant national legislation
- As the local authority, set the example for private landowners to follow

APPROACH

The following process is required for the development of an Invasive Alien Species Management Programme:

- Development of a clear definition for what is defined and categorised as an invasive alien species within the CCT. This definition must be aligned with and inform the CCT's cultural and heritage policies
- Map the geographical distribution (building on work already done by other organisations including the CPNP) and location of all areas invaded by alien invasive species using GIS
- For each area capture information on the species type and density
- Using this information, and the Biodiversity Network as an implementation framework (biodiversity areas and corridors must be considered as priorities) prioritise areas for clearing and removal
- Evaluate and assess the most successful clearing methodologies pioneered by the Working for Water Programme, Working for Wetlands programme, Working for Fire programme, and Ukuvuka
- Assess alternative models of financing, clearing and leveraging investments from landowners in clearing through land valuation and rates mechanisms
- Based on this prioritisation, and clearing programme assessment, develop clearing and removal methodologies and programmes
- Ensure that site follow-up is a key aspect of the clearing and removal programmes
- Implement the clearing and removal programmes
- Monitor and measure the results

Invasive alien species poses one of the greatest threats to biodiversity in Cape Town.

3.5 Biodiversity Legislation and Enforcement

Legislation is one of the key tools that can be used effectively to protect and enhance biodiversity across the CCT. Furthermore the City is a signatory to the memorandum of understanding of C.A.P.E. and it is therefore essential that appropriate measures be put in place that will help to meet the commitments made.

This Strategic Objective refers to the need for relevant legislation to provide protection to, and guidelines for, the management and utilization of species, habitat and ecologically sensitive areas that area accommodated within the Biodiversity Network as well as elsewhere. This strategic objective further refers to ensuring that existing and new legislation, as it relates to biodiversity is enforced and made effective.

GOALS

To develop, promulgate and implement relevant legislation for the protection, management and utilization of biodiversity in Cape Town. To ensure that legislation as it relates to biodiversity is enforced and made effective.

PRINCIPLES

- Committed governance
- Adoption of a "no nonsense" approach to biodiversity
- Securing our natural assets
- Innovative approaches to protected areas designation and management
- Law enforcement

APPROACH

a. Legislation

- Ensure compliance and implementation of all legislation as it relates to biodiversity by the CCT.
- Contribute to the law reform process initiated by the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism, including the National Environmental Management Protected Areas Bill and Biodiversity Bill.
- Investigate and apply appropriate protected area status to biodiversity corridors and nodes as appropriate in order to achieve the strategic objectives of the biodiversity strategy.
- Ensure biodiversity issues are integrated into spatial planning and land use management processes, including the MSDF, the urban edge and rural policies, as well s the processing of land use applications.
- Review all existing municipal by-laws that relate to biodiversity (this includes both positive and negative impacts on biodiversity).
- Where appropriate, revise municipal by-laws to further support biodiversity in the City.
- Draft new, appropriate and effective municipal by-laws that will ensure the protection of the City's most rare and threatened species.
- Capacitate land use managers, other relevant officials and role players to assist in the protection of areas having conservation status and in the implementation of the a city-wide Biodiversity Network.
- Investigate and promote the role that the City's Rates policy and the collection of rates income may play in protecting biodiversity.
- Develop appropriate and informative signage, to be used across the City, that will support and enhance biodiversity by providing information, creating awareness and promoting responsible behavior.

b. Enforcement

- Capacitate Councillors, City staff and law enforcement officials (City Police) regarding biodiversity legislation.
- Develop appropriate biodiversity information and training resources including biodiversity legislation and appropriate facts and figures, which can be distributed to Councillors, City staff and law enforcement officials.
- Support the dedicated Environmental Crime |Unit of the Western Cape Nature Conservation Board in the enforcement of biodiversity legislation
- Assess the role of Peace Officers in the enforcement of biodiversity legislation
- Activity seek and establish partnerships with other organizations in enforcing biodiversity legislation
- Monitor and report on successful prosecutions for biodiversity related offences

Ensure signage is appropriate, clear, well placed and well maintained.

3.6 Information and Monitoring System

The CCT has recognised the unique asset that it has in its biodiversity. As such, the most up-to-date and detailed information is needed on this asset. This Strategic Objective refers to the need to establish a Biodiversity Information and Monitoring System. This biodiversity information system is to be a central database where high quality information about the City's biodiversity is stored, interpreted and made available to policy– and decision-makers at all levels, in support of biodiversity conservation and sustainable development. In addition, the database will act as the foundation for detailed and accurate monitoring of the state of the City's biodiversity.

GOAL

The goal of the biodiversity information and monitoring system

is to collect, store, interpret and disseminate the most accurate and up-to-date biodiversity information available, in order to increase the knowledge about biodiversity and to monitor the state of biodiversity in the City of Cape Town. Further, the goal of this strategic objective is to develop key indicators to measure and monitor the state of biodiversity in Cape Town.

PRINCIPLES
- Measurement and monitoring
- No data collection for its own sake
- A needs-driven approach
- Information is knowledge
- Informed decision-making
- Access to information
- Building knowledge for environmental custodianship

APPROACH
- Develop indicators that measure the state of biodiversity, ecological performance and the implementation of the Biodiversity Strategy in the CCT
- Identify biodiversity data and compile a resource database
- Identify and fill gaps in biodiversity information through dedicated research projects supported by the City of Cape Town
- Interpret biodiversity data and information
- Negotiate and maintain networks and partnerships with academic and other institutions and organisations to access and share biodiversity data
- Capture institutional knowledge on biodiversity in an electronic format
- Disseminate biodiversity data to internal and external users using the Intranet and Internet and related technologies
- Continually maintain and update the database

3.7 Biodiversity Education and Awareness

This strategic objective of the Biodiversity Strategy refers to the empowerment of the citizens of Cape Town with regard to biodiversity issues in order to effectively share, own and take collective responsibility for the City's exceptional biodiversity resources.

The Biodiversity Strategy relies on buy-in and ownership of biodiversity by the people of Cape Town and the sharing of responsibilities between local government and environmentally educated residents. This further includes assisting the City's own staff (officials and politicians) understand and honor CCT biodiversity responsibilities. Education, training and awareness is pivotal to every IMEP Sectoral Strategy. Further, where programmes and policies have been successful and to facilitate the replication of best practice, the establishment of a Knowledge Management Programme will enhance the long-term success of the Biodiversity Strategy.

GOAL
Promote and generate public awareness around biodiversity highlighting the role that society needs to play to ensure the long-term survival of our unique resource, and create awareness and raise the profile of Cape Town's biodiversity among politicians and officials. Increase the profile and understanding of the unique biodiversity of the CCT and its value, particularly in the impoverished urban context and disadvantaged areas. Further, capture success stories, programmes and policies that may be used as examples of best practice, in a Knowledge Management Programme.

PRINCIPLES
- Education equals empowerment
- Collective responsibility
- Awareness and appreciation of our natural assets
- Replication of best practice
- Knowledge sharing

APPROACH
Education and awareness around biodiversity, the Biodiversity Strategy, nature reserves, and all relevant components to the conservation and enhancement of biodiversity will form a central component to the CCT IMEP Strategy for Environmental Education & Training. The successful approach used to promote and educate people around the Cape Flats Flora Core Conservation Sites project and the significant environmental education success achieved at Rondevlei Nature Reserve should be used as the frameworks for this strategic objective. Use of the Biodiversity conservation areas and Education Centres as key implementation sites for this environmental education must be promoted.

Finally the development and centralisation of a city-wide Knowledge Management Programme that will form a database of successful approaches and best practice for the purpose of replication and the biodiversity education of officials. This database must list all policies, projects and programmes initiated as part of the Biodiversity Strategy and for each the following must be captured:

- Integration with the Biodiversity Forum to ensure broad capacity building initiatives across the city and across communities
- Lead officials/department/directorates
- Goal, approach and methodology
- Lessons learned
- Successes and failures

Education equals empowerment

IMPLEMENTATION, MONITORING AND REVIEW OF THE STRATEGY

4.1 Implementation of the overall strategy

A number of projects, initiatives and programmes are currently underway that will support or contribute to the strategy. Official implementation of the Biodiversity Strategy for the CCT will begin on the date that the strategy is adopted and endorsed by the relevant Council committees. The implementation of the strategy is a long-term initiative and implementation and success must therefore be measured over years rather than months.

4.2 Monitoring of the overall strategy

The success and implementation of the strategy must be reported on to the relevant Council Section 80 Portfolio Committees by the lead Directorate, in this case shared by City Parks and Nature Conservation and Planning and Environment, in a progress report every six months.

For each Strategic Objective indicators will be identified as part of the Action Plans to measure and monitor the implementation of programmes and actions aimed at meeting the goal of each Strategic Objective.

The State of Biodiversity will be monitored and measured as part of the Biodiversity Information and Monitoring System Strategic Objective and reported on in the Annual State of Environment Report.

To facilitate communication and integration, an Annual Biodiversity Strategy Report will be prepared and submitted to Council, and for information, to the Biodiversity Forum. This report will profile and present progress made in the implementation of the strategy and present the annual Action Plans for each of the Strategic Objectives. The first Annual Biodiversity Strategy Report will be compiled at the end of 2004 and will be compiled by the Biodiversity Task Team.

Monitoring and measuring the implementation and success of the Biodiversity Strategy in its entirety, will be measured by the following key performance indicators:

- Record of minutes for each of the Biodiversity Task Team meetings
- Development of annual implementation plans by the Biodiversity Task Team
- Development and presentation of annual Action Plans for each Strategic Objective
- Number of policies, programmes and action undertaken, developed and implemented as part of the Biodiversity Strategy and the Strategic Objective Action Plans
- The number of functional biodiversity partnerships implemented between the CCT and stakeholders and organisations on an annual basis
- An annual measure of the State of Biodiversity in the City of Cape Town in the Annual State of Environment Report

These key performance indicators will form the bulk of the annual Biodiversity Strategy Report.

4.3 Review of the overall strategy

The Biodiversity Strategy (this document) will be reviewed every five years. Revisions and changes to the strategy will be done so as to ensure a cycle of, and commitment to, continued improvement by the CCT in its conservation and enhancement of biodiversity.

The next date of review for the Biodiversity Strategy is October 2008.

Actions Plans for each of the Seven Biodiversity Strategic Objectives will be reviewed and updated annually.

The Biodiversity Strategy (this document) will be re-viewed every five years.

CONCLUSION

The realisation and actualisation of each of the Strategic Objectives of the Biodiversity Strategy will ensure the long–term survival of the CCT's biodiversity for the benefit of current and future generations. Further, the enhancement and protection of the CCT's biodiversity has the ability to play a significant role in the social upliftment and economic development of the people of Cape Town. In conclusion the following points remain central to the success of the Biodiversity Strategy:

- **Adequate resources and capacity must be made available by the City of Cape Town to meet the goals and targets of the strategy**
- **Partnerships between the CCT and organisations are central to the success of the strategy**
- **Efficient and effective use of resources made available by the City of Cape Town and various donors is central to the success of the Biodiversity Strategy**
- **The strategy must undergo regular review to ensure continued improvement**
- **The CCT must remain committed to its biodiversity**
- **The implementation of the strategy through the Strategic Objectives is a long-term process**

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