

DAM LEVELS ARE CRITICAL!
Reduce consumption immediately.
Every drop counts as we head out of winter and into summer!

© Photograph by: Bruce Sutherland, City of Cape Town.
Thewaterskloof Dam Winter 2017

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Changing our habits so that we can reduce our water footprint **BETTER TOGETHER.**



16-18 AUGUST 2017

The International Association for Impact Assessment South African Affiliate (IAIAsa) is an organisation that brings together representatives from different disciplines, within the environmental management field. This organisation provides an arena for networking and exchanging ideas within a non-political forum.

The IAIAsa 2017 conference was held from 16 - 18 August at Goudini Spa Resort in Rawsonville with the theme being, Inspiring Integrated Environmental Management: Crafting Innovative Solutions to Persistent Environmental and Social Problems.

The associated themes that addressed this topic, included the following:

- Sustainability in business (Eco-Innovation, Sustainability reporting, Environmental, social and governance risk management, Environmental and social performance standards for project finance);
- Environmental Law (20 years of EIA Regulations: How effective has regulation been in achieving Section 24 of the Constitution? Environmental Compliance and Enforcement, Financial provisions and environmental liabilities for rehabilitation);
- Environmental and Development Planning (Sustainable urban planning, Sustainable rural development, Green Economy);
- Economics and Valuation (Applied Environmental Resource Economics, Valuation of Assets and Natural Resources, Economics in EIA);
- Ecosystem Services (Urban green assets and ecological infrastructure, Biodiversity Information Systems, Biodiversity Offsets);
- Energy Security (Energy planning for cities to reduce carbon footprint, Promoting the transition to a low carbon society);

- Water-Food-Energy Nexus (Agricultural development, Agricultural value chain, Integrating water security into planning and environmental assessment); and
- Integrated Environmental Management (Challenges of implementing mega-projects, Challenges of small developments, artisanal and small-scale industries, Improving public participation, Social Impact Assessment Methodology, Tools for Environmental Assessment).

OUR DEPARTMENT'S PARTICIPATION AT THE CONFERENCE

Fourteen DEA&DP colleagues attended the conference, of which all contributed to the total of 11 talks and papers that were presented by the following people:

1. **GERHARD GERBER**
Complexity, uncertainty and risk
2. **FRANCINI VAN STADEN**
A systems thinking approach to sustainable development
3. **BERNARD NIEMAND**
Cape Biodiversity Spatial Plan and Implementation Strategy
4. **LIZA PETERSEN**
Integrated Planning: Creating one vision for sustainable development
5. **LIZE JENNINGS-BOOM**
The Western Cape Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan
6. **ELDON VAN BOOM**
The role of the Environmental Auditor contemplated in Section 34 of the EIA Regulations, 2014

7. **BERNARD NIEMAND**
DEA&DPs municipal support and capacity building strategy - redefining the space for municipal support in the Western Cape
8. **ANIQUE ROSSOUW**
Recent trends impacting on the way we approach integrated environmental management in South Africa - a Western Cape Government perspective
9. **PAUL HARCADLE**
20 years of EIA - reflections of a few old-timers in the Western Cape Government
10. **SHAFEEQ MALLICK**
Section 24G of the NEMA ... to "G" or not to "G", that is the question
11. **LUXOLO KULA**
Project-based Environmental Impact Assessment follow-up in the Western Cape Province of South Africa

FROM CONFERENCE BAGS TO SCHOOL BAGS

Our Department (DEA&DP) sponsored the conference bags for the event. A decision was made and delegates were requested to kindly donate their bags at the end of the conference, so it can be given to a local school for underprivileged children.

The school that was identified to receive the bags, was Goudini Bad Primêr in the Slanghoek Valley, with a total of 58 learners receiving bags.

On 22 August each learner received a sponsored bag which provided big smiles from all the learners. This demonstrates that a small incentive, can make a big difference in someone else's daily life.



Left to right: Liza Petersen, Anique Rossouw, Bernard Niemand, Keshni Rughoobee, Shafeeq Mallick and Moe'mina Hoosain.



Goudini Bad Primêr learners with their bags.

WOMEN'S DAY EVENT 2017



We celebrated our Departments' Women's Day in Cape Town on 24 August 2017, where the event was mandatory and open to all our employees, not only for women! The emphasis was on celebrating diversity in the workplace.

Our HOD, Piet van Zyl opened the day's proceedings which was followed by a talk about "Diversity in the Workplace" by Catherine Srubisky from ICAS. Her presentation highlighted general diversity issues in the workplace, but also the benefits where understanding and appreciation for difference, can ensure access to opportunity and inclusion for all. She introduced basic group dynamics and the stereotypes normally associated with it and how it manifests and influence a group of people, with practical ways in dealing with stereotypes.

Karen Shippey, Chief Director: Environmental Sustainability spoke about "Water Security" and gave an update on the drought in the Western Cape and the efforts being done by our Department (DEA&DP).

To add some excitement, lucky draws were done in between the presentations, where staff members won shower timers and solar jars.

Gift packs that were handed out at the end, also included a water efficient shower head.



Johannes Prins from Water and Sanitation at the City of Cape Town finished the day's presentations on "How easy it is to save water" and the role that each of us have to play, especially during our current water crisis. He called on all in the audience to become water ambassadors or water "warriors" and then focused on the roles and responsibilities of water ambassadors and what we all can do to save water.

Employees were encouraged to make a personal undertaking to conserve water, by acknowledging the following:

- reducing my daily consumption from today;
- sharing water saving tips with my family, neighbours and co-workers;
- discourage and avoid water wastage caused by preventable leaks; and
- report bad conduct and water wastage that will lead to water shortage.

Johannes explained that the 87 litre water usage per person per day (due to level 5 water restrictions), is irrespective of where you are during the day, as it is not only confined to home usage.

EASY WAYS TO SAVE WATER AT HOME

Johannes then finished off with a display of house hold items and tips. Three areas of the biggest water wastage in households are taps, toilets and showers and small changes can make a big impact on saving water and reducing daily water usage.



Fitting taps with different flow restrictors which reduce the flow rate, calls for a small investment between R100 to R200. Different flow restrictors were demonstrated and showed people how easy it is to fit them. Hand-outs were given to all, which included flow restrictors.

One can also use a glass bottle filled with water which costs no money, to investing in a "Flushbuddy" bag that contains 2l of water and will displace 2l every time you flush and costs about R50.



The shower model showed the difference between a normal showerhead (flow rate not to exceed 10l p/min) and a water efficient showerhead. Tips were shared on what to look for when shopping for a water efficient showerhead and how easy it is to fit it yourself, which will cost between R100 to R450, depending on choice and budget.



TAPS: Given the water by-law, that states that the flow rate should not exceed 6l p/min, no-cost actions such as using a cup of water to brush teeth, shave and drink water instead of running the tap can be taken.

TOILETS: It was demonstrated how easy it is to save water in a toilet cistern, by adding a water displacer which fits in the toilet cistern. One can also use a glass

SHOWERS: The shower model showed the difference between a normal showerhead (flow rate not to exceed 10l p/min) and a water efficient showerhead. Tips were shared on what to look for when shopping for a water efficient showerhead and how easy it is to fit it yourself, which will cost between R100 to R450, depending on choice and budget.

It is however a combination of actions that will reduce water usage; by taking a shorter shower (2 minutes or less), fitting a water efficient showerhead and using a bucket when you shower. The water collected, can be used to flush your toilet.

With the event taking place during Women's Month, it was emphasised that saving water is really easy and women can make a big difference by changing flow restrictors and showerheads in your home. It is really easy and no need to wait on hubby to do it!

CLICK HERE for all you need to know about saving water at home and how easy it is to make a difference!

INTERESTING WATER SAVING LINKS:
[CLICK TO LEARN MORE](#)

- Top ways to save water indoors
- Find and Fix Leaks
- DIY Guide to Finding and Fixing Water Leaks

SERVICE EXCELLENCE AWARDS 2017



On 28 August, the Premier hosted the 4th annual Service Excellence Awards. The positive energy and sense of collective pride and appreciation, made this event a truly memorable occasion.

Congratulations to all the nominees and winners of the various categories. Our Department (DEA&DP) won the silver award for the **Best Ethics Provincial Department**. Well done and thank you for your outstanding work!

Left to right: Piet van Zyl (HOD DEA&DP), Helen Zille (Premier of the Western Cape) and Gavin Woods (Western Cape Provincial Commissioner of the Public Service Commission).

DCCP PILOT PLANNING WORKSHOP HELD



The 1st Dassenberg Coastal Catchment Partnership (DCCP) Pilot Planning Workshop was held from 28 - 31 August 2017 at Ganzekraal Conference Venue along the West Coast. The conference attracted close to 40 participants. It was a successful and great conclusion to Women's Month 2017, and paid tribute to the inspiring and significant contributions from partners and stakeholders. This 4-day workshop aimed to illustrate the opportunity in utilizing the "Open Standards for

the Practise of Conservation", as an intervention to enhance adaptive management planning.

The aim is to continue the collaborative nature of the Dassenberg Coastal Catchment Partnership; in a manner which seeks to strengthen the landscape partnership, in order to co-develop an appropriate landscape - level response based on the critical aspects of biodiversity conservation, climate change resilience and adaptation, natural and cultural heritage preservation whilst unlocking innovative benefits within a rural development context.

The workshop was fortunate to attract two remarkable coaches from the International Coaches Network; guiding the delegates through plenaries and working groups on the particular stages in the application of the Open Standards.

The audience and participants incorporated institutional partners, community representation and landowners alike, with the purpose of contributing critical input to help shape their

response, in a way that promotes the future adoption of a landscape strategy.

It goes without saying that the working group added significant contributions. In addition, hats off to the planning team for their efforts in organising this workshop, which played a pivotal role with the specific GEF 5 (Global Environmental Facility, cycle 5) Capacity Building intervention.

The success of the workshop was the direct result of each participant's valuable time invested and the significant contributions made which most certainly demonstrated the diverse values, for allowing the process to evolve in a way that attracts attention to current and future planning scenario's.

The field trip reconnected the group to heritage dating back over 200 years, an experience that will stay with them for years to come. Needless to say, a workshop encompassing long hours of conceptual thinking, infused by many new friendships and an invaluable appetite to build on the partnership.



OUR BIOSPHERE RESERVES

AN ANNUAL OVERSIGHT

In this month's edition of the Green Ambassador, you can read about the projects being implemented in the Gouritz Cluster Biosphere Reserve (GCBR). In upcoming editions of the Green Ambassador, we will be highlighting other biosphere reserves in our Province. Watch this space!

Biosphere reserves are part of the UNESCO Man and Biosphere international programme, implemented in over 120 countries all over the world. These reserves are areas comprising terrestrial, marine and coastal ecosystems; aimed at promoting solutions reconciling the conservation of biodiversity with its sustainable use, in order to foster sustainable livelihoods of the local communities. Biosphere reserves demonstrate harmonised relationships between communities and their natural environments.

In South Africa, there are 9 biosphere reserves and 5 of them are in the Western Cape, namely; Kogelberg Biosphere Reserve, Cape West Coast Biosphere Reserve, Cape Winelands Biosphere Reserve, Gouritz Cluster Biosphere Reserve and the newly designated Garden Route Biosphere Reserve.

Our Department (DEA&DP) give prominence to biosphere reserves within our Province, by providing operational funding of R200,000 to each biosphere reserve per annum. The funding helps for the day-to-day running of the biosphere reserves and enables the biosphere reserves to leverage additional funding from other partners, as well as international donors, in order to implement projects that promote a resilient, inclusive and sustainable living environment in their domain.

THE GOURITZ CLUSTER BIOSPHERE RESERVE

The Gouritz Cluster Biosphere Reserve is globally unique, as it is the **only area in the world** where three recognised biodiversity hotspots converge; namely **Fynbos, Succulent Karoo** and **Maputaland-Tongoland-Albany**.

This biosphere reserve is rich in endemic plant species, with at least 670 of the approximate 5 000 plant species being endemic to the biosphere. Even the arid inland portion of the biosphere reserve is

rich in endemic species, with at least 400 of the 3 200 plant species restricted to the biosphere reserve.

Below is an overview of selected projects in 2017 for the Gouritz Cluster Biosphere Reserve:

1. JOBS FOR CARBON

The Jobs for Carbon project is the GCBR flagship initiative to "Restore degraded landscapes while creating employment". Field activities commenced in February 2017 and field work started in Vanwyksdorp on 6 March. 24 field staff have been employed to harvest and plant spekboom on degraded spekboom veld. The project aims to restore at least 50 hectares of degraded thicket by February 2018.

2. DE RUST WETLANDS WATERWISE

This is the GCBR's newest, and one of its most exciting projects. The project is the re-design and re-construction of the De Rust sewage works, through an artificial wetland, by the use of existing, ubiquitous bulrush and reeds to remove pollutants from the blackwater.

To date the first dam in the secondary treatment facility has been completed, with 4 shade-cloth islands established, with the first water quality analysis results already showing a reduction in ammonium concentrations from 104mg/l (pond 1) to 60 mg/l (pond 7).

The project will include second and third phase activities of micro-farming and compost production.

3. #SPEKKIES

The #spekkies activity has produced a biosphere-supporting product, that will be used to augment restoration and community upliftment efforts run by the GCBR. This product is none other than our most beloved *Portulacaria afra*, better known as spekboom.

4. ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

The GCBR environmental education team continues to make great progress in various schools throughout the domain, most notably with the establishment of Green Clubs.

The Green Butterflies is a Green Club at the Vanwyksdorp Primary School, initiated in 2015 by Landmark Foundation in collaboration with GCBR. The Green Butterflies have had an eventful year thus far, including an art workshop that focused on recycling, hiking trips, learning to propagate spekboom, and the beautification of the school, amongst others.

The first half of the year has also seen the establishment of Green Clubs at Herbertsdale Primary School, and at Ruitersbos Primary School.

5. WAR ON LEAKS

The "War on Leaks" project seeks to reduce preventable water losses and waste resulting from leaky taps in township households around Oudtshoorn. It also raises awareness at household level about the connection between water stress and climate change.

A strong partnership is in place between the GCBR, CapeNature and the Oudtshoorn Municipality. Local youth have been trained to conduct an audit of the water points and leaks. To date a total of 212 households' leaky taps, toilets and broken pipes have been repaired. Water meters are read during visits to houses and a subsequent audit is done to ascertain whether water usage and water bills have decreased and the fixed leaks are still fixed.

Three workshops have taken place, attended by 120 people to raise awareness regarding the importance of water conservation.



To order your **#spekkies** in a hessian bag, different sized compots or a traditional plastic bag, please [click here](#).



Jobs For Carbon



De Rust Wetlands Waterwise

CELEBRATE OUR Diversity

Casual Day took place on Friday, 1 September and thanks to you, our supporting DEA&DP staff members, we have raised R2 460 this year! Also, thank you to our interns for selling so many stickers.

BEST DRESSED COMPETITION

The theme this year was to “Celebrate Diversity”; to show us who you really are and what you celebrate most, with a splash of green to remind us of summer grass, positive growth, hope and fun, and enjoying who we all are.

Thank you once again for celebrating diversity with persons with disabilities **BETTER TOGETHER**



BEST DRESSED INDIVIDUALS

Melissa Erasmus and Jacky van Wyk-Raza

FINANCE ANGELS (1ST PLACE)

Left to right: Anda Sonamzi, Wendy Mhlaba, Avela Bulana, Sipoosake Msila, Hermien Booysen and front, Lana Hentis

BEST DRESSED TEAMS

CRU TEAM (2ND PLACE)

Left to right: Mariana Kroese, Tristan Thomas, Kim Hendricks, Pearl Cloete, Michaela Morkel, Amy-Leigh Uys and Dayline Eyman.

CONGRATULATIONS

EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH



EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH
Chief Directorate: Development Planning
CHANTEL HAUPTFLEISCH
with Helena Jacobs



EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH
Chief Directorate: Development Planning
Back left to right: **DYLAN JOHNSTONE, JULIEN RUMBELOW AND DAWIE KRUGER**
Front: **LAUREL ROBERTSON**
with Helena Jacobs, Gerhard Gerber, Anthony Barnes, Francois Wüst and Kobus Munro.

EXPLORING PARTNERING SOLUTIONS WITH THE BREEDE RIVER CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT AGENCY

The recent signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) marked a key milestone in exploring partnering solutions and strengthening the collaboration between the Western Cape Government (WCG), through the Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (DEA&DP) and the Breede-Gouritz Catchment Management Agency (BGCMA).

Through the facilitated role and support of the Economic Development Partnership (EDP), the Directorate: Pollution and Chemicals Management with the Chief Director: Environmental Quality and the BGCMA leadership engaged in discussion on the benefits of the partnering approach and explored the potential for the BGCMA and DEA&DP to collaborate on particular mutual areas of interest. The endorsement of the partnering approach by the Board of the BGCMA, facilitated by the Chief Director: Development Planning, demonstrates

the leadership commitment to the process. Insights garnered through the partnering impact assessment conducted by EDP on the governance and partnerships related to the implementation of Berg River Improvement Plan (BRIP) has been invaluable to Breede River partnering approach.

In pursuing the broader outcome of improved water security, the MOU frames the commitment of the parties, through improved governance and collaboration on mutual areas of interest on water and natural resource management matters, within the Breede River catchment area.

The MOU will also ensure alignment between the Catchment Management Strategy (CMS) of the BGCMA and the Breede River Environmental Resources Protection Plan (ERPP), developed by our Directorate: Pollution and Chemicals Management.

The specific areas of collaboration and joint action identified in this partnering agreement will contribute to the successful implementation of both the CMS and the Breede River ERPP.



Phakamani Buthelezi of the Breede-Gouritz Catchment Management Agency and Gottlieb Arendse, Chief Director: Environmental Quality representing the Western Cape Government at the signing of the MOU.

ARBOR DAY CELEBRATIONS

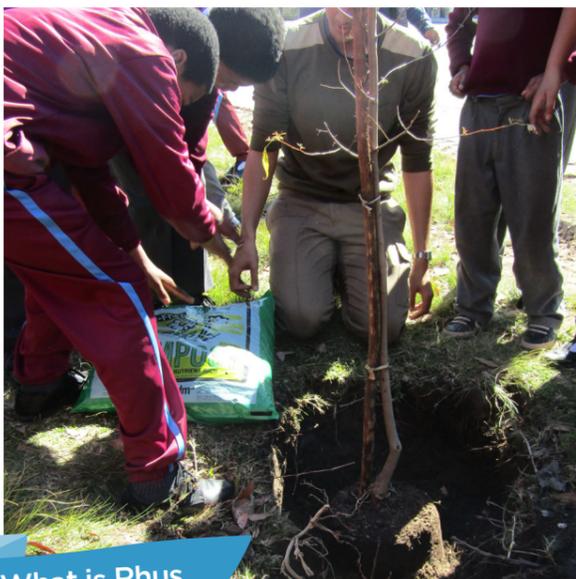
On Friday, 1st September and Monday, 4th September 2017 the Western Cape Government Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning together with the National School Nutrition Programme-Sustainable Food Production (NSNP-SFP WCED) as well as our colleagues from CapeNature, planted 20 Rhus Pendulina trees and 10 Spekboom at 2 schools in the Overberg/Theewaterskloof areas to celebrate Arbor Day and to promote the importance of planting and caring for indigenous trees.

These celebrations took part in Grabouw at Kathleen Murray and Pineview Primary Schools with the Grade 5 Learners.

A selection of learners who the teacher's felt had an aptitude for art, were given an art lesson by **Mark Jeneker**, a local artist and art teacher from Mitchells Plain. The learners were encouraged to think about the role that trees play in their lives and to illustrate this through the medium of a painting.

While the art class was taking place inside, the rest of the Grade 5 learners were outside participating in tree planting activities. CapeNature, WCED and DEA&DP gave a presentation to the group on the importance of trees, as well as on the current drought situation.

The learners then split into their classes and were taught how to correctly plant a tree, and to care for the tree that they had just planted. Each class is responsible for ensuring the life of the trees that they have planted.



What is Rhus Pendulina?



Spekboom, the wonder plant!



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Photograph by: Bruce Sutherland City of Cape Town. Theewaterskloof Dam - Winter 2017

2017

SEPTEMBER-DECEMBER

Click on the highlighted dates to find out more about each event

SEPTEMBER

- 1 September Arbor Day
- 1-7 September Arbor Week
- 16 September World Ozone Day
- 16 September Coastal Cleanup Day
- 22 September World Rhino Day

OCTOBER

- 2 October World Habitat Day
- 4 October World Animal Day

NOVEMBER

- 15 November GIS Day
- 21 November World Fisheries Day

25 November to 10 December 16 Days Activism

DECEMBER

- 1 December World AIDS Day
- 16 December Day of Reconciliation
- 25 December Christmas Day
- 26 December Day of Good Will



SEPTEMBER

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3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

OCTOBER

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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

NOVEMBER

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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

DECEMBER

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31					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

