

<u>FINAL REPORT:</u>	Taking CAPE to a finer scale: Catalyzing Conservation Action in the Cederberg biodiversity corridor, the “Cederberg Mega-Reserve Area” in the Cape Floristic Region
<u>Requested amount:</u>	\$3,842
<u>Date:</u>	30 June 2003

In the Ecosystem Profile, CEPF has identified a specific investment niche “support civil society involvement in the establishment of protected areas and management plans in CFR biodiversity corridors.” To assist CEPF realise this objective, a broad range of stakeholders need to be engaged in the Cederberg biodiversity corridor, to develop more detailed action plans / project scope, identifying specific roles and responsibilities and new partnerships need to be brokered.

An initial stakeholder consultation workshop that will develop a 3-year Action Plan for the region were launched on the 23 & 24 April 2003. The goal of the workshop was to provide an open forum for generating consensus around a common vision and a three year plan of priority actions for conservation and sustainable development in the area. Participants representing all of the main land-user groups in civil and government society were being identified using the combined knowledge of relevant stakeholders.

Workshop deliverables

- Nearly 100 participants from various sectors (Nature conservation – WCNCB, SANParks, Northern Cape Conservation, Tourism, Research, Local Authorities, Department of Water Affairs, Various conservancies, Local community groups, NGO’s, Department of Agriculture Western Cape, Private landowners, Education, Archaeology, Geology, Mountain Club of SA) attended the two day workshop.
- A broad vision was established for the Cederberg Megareserve Process during workshop discussion through the use of ParticiPlan.
- The workshop participants identify what could prevent success and what actions could be developed to overcome these restraints for the Cederberg Megareserve Process.
- The workshop participants identify critical success factors for success of the Cederberg Megareserve Process and measures of success for each activity.
- The workshop participants developed an action plan and identify and assess capacity-building needs of stakeholders required for implementation. This was done through discussion around three themes that emerged at the workshop:
 - (1) Conservation management theme (... effective management and ensuring partnerships and cooperation).
 - (2) Knowledge and awareness theme (... through effective research and community involvement).
 - (3) Local economic development with linkages to biodiversity conservation theme (through people empowerment and creation of effective enterprises).

Workshop outputs:

- A Guideline Summary Report: Cederberg Megareserve Action Planning Workshop was drafted and distributed containing discussion of workshop. Report contain the following:
 - (1) outlining a common vision for Cederberg Mega-Reserve Area
 - (2) Potential projects and applicants for catalyzing conservation projects in line with CAPE Vision and CEPF objectives identified
 - (3) Opportunities for co-financing and linkages with existing initiatives secured
 - (4) List of all participants
 - (5) Minutes of 2day workshop using ParticiPlan sheets.
- A team of partners (i.e. catalytic teams), the Cederberg Megareserve Interim Steering Committee was elected to ensure the projects are developed and support the common vision initiated (note that it is recognized that these teams will be expected to act as drivers in the

initial stages, but the mechanism established will be flexible and may need to evolve to encourage greater participation e.g. co-management structures).

- Civil society groups aware of and empowered to take advantage of opportunities for developing biodiversity conservation projects in priority regions for CEPF funding

General consensus was of gratitude towards CEPF for donating the funds to enable this workshop to initiate the Cederberg Megareserve Process. We achieved transparency, representation, awareness and dedication to establish this very important biodiversity corridor – the Cederberg Megareserve.

With kind regards

Jaco Venter

Interim Coordinator: Cederberg Megareserve Process
Cape Action for People and the Environment
Succulent Karoo Ecosystem Plan

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Yes _____

No _____

If yes, please also complete the following:

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