

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The South African national Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism (DEAT) has been involved in State of the Environment reporting initiatives for the past five years. The development of environmental indicators that can be used to enhance current State of the Environment reporting has been a priority in the Department for the last couple of years. The National Environmental Indicators Programme was launched to fulfil this need. This report provides an overview of the process that DEAT has undertaken to develop environmental indicators for State of the Environment reporting. In addition, a very brief outline of the indicators is presented in this report. More detailed information on this initiative, as well as more detailed information on each individual indicator, can be found at www.environment.gov.za/soer/indicator/index.html. Information specifically related to the National Environmental Indicators Programme can also be found on this website, including the detailed specialist reports that were produced during the project. Included on the website is a database housing all information on the indicators. The database can be queried and customised indicator reports can be created.

The following individuals contributed to the success of this project:

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