

2ND ANNUAL NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY RESEARCH AND EVIDENCE INDABA

The Limpopo Socio-Economic and Environmental Development Initiative (the Initiative)

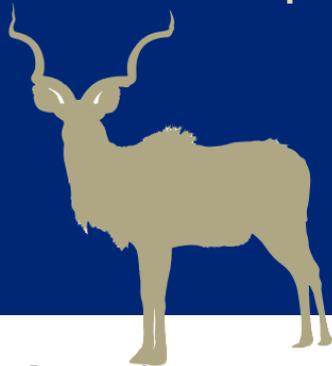
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THE LIMPOPO SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE (THE INITIATIVE)

- The initiative seeks to actively support and partner with multiple stakeholders for a more diverse, resilient provincial economy, which will be underpinned by thriving local communities
- Approaching socio-economic development in a collaboration and partnership way creates the greatest shared value addition
- Unlocking such opportunities in forestry, agro processing, supplier development, ICT / Wi-Fi services
- **Within the initiative there will be a strong wildlife and biodiversity component as Limpopo has extensive wildlife areas under management of both the public and private sectors.**



MOTIVATION FOR THE INITIATIVE



SLPs are very localised in impact and have short time horizon

Economic constraints in mining and the region

High levels of unemployment; low levels of education

Growing social needs with increasing poverty levels

Vision of the Initiative is to be the development partner of choice

OBJECTIVES OF THE WILDLIFE COMPONENT WITHIN THE INITIATIVE

The wildlife industry value chain is centered on game / wildlife farming and ranching activities that relate to the stocking; trading; breeding and hunting of game.



Create partnering and enabling framework with rural communities.

- Utilise areas of land held by mining companies and their host communities throughout Limpopo
- Leveraging often unused assets will allow for:
 - Fair access and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the biodiversity economy
 - Expansion of conservation areas through incorporation of community and mine owned unproductive land
 - Development and restoration of the degraded environment and improvement of infrastructure and optimisation in collaborative land use

THE INITIATIVE SEEKS TO ALIGN ITSELF WITH THE NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY ECONOMIC STRATEGY, NAMELY:



Provision for a sustainable rural development approach for land reform through the enhancement of livelihoods; the protection and restoration of natural resources



Diversification and sustainable rural enterprises and industries by enabling emerging wildlife ranchers and community landholders to participate



Contribution to the reduction of poverty in rural areas through the development and capitalisation of resources



Programmes that aim for inclusive economic opportunities through the partnerships and governance in rural development and expansion of value chains



Opportunities to create an all-inclusive wildlife sector in which emerging farmers can participate

THE INITIAL PROJECTS WILL CONSIST OF:

Phase 1: Market Analysis on Game Value Chain (and assess the potential growth) including livelihood assessment



Phase 2: Mooihoek Farm (community trust owned) near Mokopane – The Biodiversity Economy feasibility assessment



Phase 3: Mine Owned Biodiversity Properties Survey (game farms; reserves; other)



CONCLUSION

There are many barriers to transformation. A private sector initiative will help seize opportunities for host communities in wildlife ranching, activities and products.

It is our belief that the creation of an inclusive Biodiversity sector as part of the Initiative, will enhance and optimise creation of economic opportunities for the poor in Limpopo.



CONCLUSION (CONT.)

The Initiative is closely linked to the National Development Plan and Sustainable Development Goals, namely:

- Management of biodiversity assets and their contribution to the economy, rural development, job creation and social wellbeing
- Investments in ecological infrastructure enhance resilience and ensure benefits to society
- Conservation and management of biodiversity is improved through the development of an equitable and suitably skilled workforce



BENEFITS OF THE INITIATIVE

- Science and market based research has demonstrated very **strong opportunities for successful community run integrated wildlife programmes**
- The benefits include:
 - Access to and **expansion of markets** in the biodiversity economy
 - Development and **restoration of the degraded environment, both host and neighbouring land**
 - **Scaling up opportunities** on shared projects
 - Partnerships with built in governance, RoI and proper M&E
 - **Access to funding** for improvement of infrastructure and optimisation of land use
 - **Transformation of biodiversity economy**, including participation of youth and women

THANK YOU-QUESTIONS

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