

CEPF FINAL PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT

I. BASIC DATA

Organization Legal Name: Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa: Western Cape Region

Project Title (as stated in the grant agreement): Blaauwberg Conservation Area.

Implementation Partners for this Project: City of Cape Town

Project Dates (as stated in the grant agreement): November 1, 2003 – June 31, 2005

Date of Report (month/year): August 2005

II. OPENING REMARKS

Provide any opening remarks that may assist in the review of this report.

The Blaauwberg Conservation Area is situated 25km from the centre of the City of Cape Town, South Africa. It is within the growth corridor of the City and is thus under intense development pressure. It is a unique area of approximately 4000ha, comprising a mosaic of natural, cultural and historical resources. It is regarded as the most important biodiversity conservation area within the City of Cape Town. Prior to project implementation, the BCA was largely unknown to the people of Cape Town and was severely neglected by the metropolitan authority. The City of Cape Town and WESSA Western Cape partnered in this project to raise awareness about the importance of conserving the BCA and to secure its conservation status.

III. ACHIEVEMENT OF PROJECT PURPOSE

Project Purpose: "Civil society actively participates in ensuring that the Blaauwberg Conservation Area is managed, developed and used in a responsible and sustainable manner compatible with biodiversity conservation. Further that civil society actively contributes to ensuring that development in the BCA's immediate surrounds is appropriate and compatible with biodiversity conservation in the BCA.

Implementation of this project will result in the public owned portions of the BCA being actively managed for conservation purposes. A reserve management plan will be prepared and conservation management programmes will be initiated. The development of greater civil society awareness of the area will assist with ensuring that there is active participation in ensuring that development is appropriate and that use of the area is in a responsible and sustainable manner.

Planned vs. Actual Performance

Indicator	Actual at Completion
Purpose-level:	
By the end of the project, the active contribution of volunteers contributing to management, awareness and educational aspects of the BCA, will be at least 100 person hours per month.	The Friends organise a guided walk once a month and a hack once a month. Approximately 30 people attend the hacks. This contribution amounts more than 100 person hours per month. Although, in measurable hours, this purpose-level target has been met, the person hours that are being contributed come largely from the Friends of the BCA. An extended volunteer network has not formed, but, on the positive side, many offers of volunteer help have been channelled through the Friends. The Blaauwberg Scout Troupe is involved in keeping a plot of land on the Blaauwberg Hill free of alien vegetation.
By the end of the project at least 5 additional civil society groups are playing an advocacy and lobbying role for the BCA, and its vision and objectives, and are participating in land use planning or environmental impact assessment processes which have an impact on/ or are of relevance to the BCA.	<p>It cannot be stated that five additional civil society groups are playing an advocacy and lobbying role for the BCA. This purpose-level target would have been achieved largely through the formation of the BCA Forum, which did not take place. The reasons for this are detailed below in output 5.</p> <p>On occasions when potential "outside" impacts have arisen, many more than five additional civil society groups have rallied around the BCA. However, such support is intermittent and issue-driven.</p>
By the end of the project there is a 25% increase in the use of the BCA by institutions, organizations, schools and interest groups, e.g. university departments, Botanical Society, Natural History Society. Use will be made of the BCA as, for example, a venue for research, outings or projects, and as a subject of talks and articles in print media, etc.	<p>The increase in the use of the BCA has occurred largely through the environmental education activities, which, ironically, are strictly not part of the BCA-CEPF project. Approximately 1500 school children visit the area in a six-month period. Prior to the commencement of the BCA-CEPF project, no environmentally-orientated use of the BCA was occurring.</p> <p>John Compton, a geologist from the University of Cape Town, has been visiting the BCA to include it in his book on places of geological interest on the West Coast.</p> <p>The Fynbos Corridor Working Group visited the BCA in January 2005. They are looking at developing a fynbos corridor between the inland Tygerberg Hills and the BCA. Scientific use of the BCA is being made by various individuals from different research institutes.</p>
The added skills resulting from the training and development programme have helped to create new opportunities for / are used in entrepreneurial activities by the people trained, for example individuals trained as field guides knowledgeable in the cultural and natural attributes of the area and using skills for economic gain.	The difficulties with attaining this purpose-level target are dealt with in some detail below. In summary, the project catered for two days of training per month. Reality required that the trainees have formal, paid employment in order to ensure ongoing participation in the training. This was achieved via funding from the City of Cape Town Contracted Services Department. The net effect of this was that almost all of the entrepreneurial opportunities envisaged here were undertaken by the labour team as part of their daily duties. The individuals selected for training were unemployed and had very low skill levels. With two

	<p>days of training per month, it was unrealistic to expect that these individuals could develop their skill levels sufficiently to become accomplished and knowledgeable field guides.</p> <p>Despite these difficulties, the training component of the project attracted much positive attention. The trainees gave very successful presentations at the City of Cape Town Councillors Biodiversity Event in October 2004, the C.A.P.E. partners conference in June 2005 and the Business and Civil Society Partnership promotions event. They also gave a presentation to CEPF personnel at their mid-year review in 2004 and another presentation to the GEF in 2005. It is obvious from the response to these presentations, that the training component of the project was an important and attractive component, that should be expanded and catered for within project funding.</p>
<p>The City of Cape Town Nature Conservation Directorate budgets increasing resources for ongoing conservation management of the BCA from the 3rd quarter of 2004, with the operating budget reaching an optimal amount of between R1000 and R1500/ha/a (at present value) after 5 years. (per ha. value dependant on quantity of land, state of land, etc</p>	<p>During its July 2004 – June 2005 financial year, the City of Cape Town increased its operating budget for the BCA to R525 450. This amounts to approximately R1300 per hectare. In addition, the capital budget of the City of Cape Town, in terms of the BCA is R490 000.</p>
<p>The process to obtain statutory conservation status (for the public owned parcels of land) supported and initiated by the end of the project.</p>	<p>The City of Cape Town purchased the Holliday Farm in March 2005 and incorporated it into the BCA in May 2005, when it was registered to the City. This is a key 23 hectare property and its acquisition was critical in terms of visual elements and landscape continuity. Negotiations are ongoing regarding the purchase of Joyce's Dairy, Garden Cities and Klein Melkbosplaas. Jointly, these properties constitute 450 hectares.</p> <p>The process of obtaining statutory conservation status for the public-owned land in the BCA is far-advanced. CapeNature, the Provincial Conservation Agency, has produced all the documentation required, including a Reserve Management Plan. All relevant parties have reached agreement. All that remains is the formal process whereby statutory conservation status will be conferred on the BCA by the Province.</p>

Describe the success of the project in terms of achieving its intended impact objective and performance indicators.

The immediate response to the question, "Was this project successful?" is that it was. At the time that the project was initiated, the BCA was sorely neglected and negative impacts from illegal and inappropriate use were severe and ongoing. A little less than two years later, illegal access has been almost completely eliminated and rehabilitation of impacted areas is far-advanced. An alien vegetation eradication programme is being implemented and full-time reserve staff are managing

the reserve on a daily basis. The profile of the BCA as an important conservation area has been raised significantly, both in the minds of local politicians and decision-makers and in civil society groups. The area is being used regularly by school groups for environmental education purposes. It is used in a controlled manner by the general public for recreation and three trails either have been or are in the process of being established. The Friends of the BCA constitute a very active and committed group of people who contribute actively to the conservation of the area on a voluntary basis. Members of the public participate vigorously in public participation processes around development applications that have potential negative impacts on the BCA.

This is a broad response to the question of the success of the project and is reflected in almost all of the performance objectives being met or exceeded. In more detail, however, there were aspects of the project that were not as successful as anticipated or hoped. These are detailed within this report. In hindsight and with a better (after the fact) understanding of the situation at project commencement, one must conclude that the project purpose was extremely ambitious – maybe a little too ambitious.

Were there any unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?

A critical aspect of the purpose of the project was civil society participation and awareness. It was envisaged that, by the end of the project, there would be direct civil society participation in the conservation of the BCA, on a volunteer basis. As the project unfolded, it became clear that, in terms of the City's position as the local authority, the priority was to secure the integrity of the reserve and to develop management structures. Only once that had been achieved, would the reserve management be in a position to channel civil society offers of volunteer assistance into constructive action. This applies equally to public use of the BCA as a recreational facility. This created an inherent dichotomy wherein the civil society arm of the partnership (WESSA Western Cape) was promoting public awareness and the government arm of the partnership (the City of Cape Town) was focused on security and management. Although this was an unexpected impact, it is believed that the management of the BCA is now at a point where the level of civil society involvement should be increased substantially. Ultimately, it is through civil society involvement in the BCA that its long-term conservation will be secured.

IV. PROJECT OUTPUTS

Project Outputs: Enter the project outputs from the Logical Framework for the project

Planned vs. Actual Performance

Indicator	Actual at Completion
Output 1: Reserve management mechanism established.	
1.1. 1 appropriately qualified nature conservator and skilled labour force (2 people) employed and on site by the beginning of January 2004.	In November 2003, Senior Nature Conservator, Cliff Dorse, was seconded by the City of Cape Town to the BCA. He remained at the BCA for the duration of the project and is still stationed there. Cliff proved to be a highly motivated and competent team leader. He injected his enthusiasm and commitment into other staff and the success of the project was in no small measure due to his contribution.
1.2. The appointed 3 conservation staff outfitted with uniforms, and equipped with the necessary communication, computing and	Junior Nature Conservation Officer, Adele Pretorius, was appointed in January 2004. She remains on site, and the Table Mountain Fund (WWF-SA) is funding her salary until the end of 2005.

<p>necessary communication, computing, and conservation equipment, and a 4x4 vehicle for conservation management of the reserve by the end of January 2004..</p>	<p>The City of Cape Town seconded a Nature Conservation student, Lizanne Engelbrecht, to the BCA at the end of January 2004. Lizanne remained at the BCA for the duration of the project, and her position as Environmental Education Officer is currently being funded by the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism.</p> <p>Handyman, Gavin Oliver, was appointed and commenced his duties during January 2004. He remained at the BCA for the duration of the project. His appointment has been extended until the end of January 2006, funded by the City of Cape Town Contract Services Department.</p> <p>The appointment of a labourer was deferred until the individual could be drawn from the 15-man labour team, who were drawn from the near-by DuNoon informal settlement. Mncedisi Mtshitshi was appointed during the first quarter of 2005 and remained at the BCA for the duration of the project. Through savings made on funds obtained from the City of Cape Town Contract Services Department, it has been possible to extend Mncedisi Mtshitshi's contract until the end of January 2006.</p> <p>By January 2003, all necessary equipment had been purchased for the infrastructural needs of the project. This included a 4X4 vehicle, computer equipment and software, a digital camera, picks, spades and chainsaws, uniforms and the installation of telephone lines. A GPS was also purchased.</p>
<p>1.3. Relevant agreements regarding reporting responsibilities etc established and documented in terms of activities of output 5, by end of December 2003</p>	<p>By the end of 2003, reporting structures had been agreed to and all the necessary financial monitoring mechanisms had been put in place. A Memorandum of Agreement had been drawn up by the end of January 2004, although this document remained in draft form almost until the end of the project, as a consequence of on-going negotiations with respect to possible lease arrangements of the 4X4 vehicle by the City of Cape Town.</p> <p>The BCA-CEPF Project Team, consisting of all the role players, was established by the end of 2003 and this committee met monthly for the duration of the project. Monthly reports were submitted regularly by relevant members of the Project Team.</p>
<p>1.4. Framework reserve management plan prepared by the end of February 2004. Ongoing refinement of the framework plan will take place.</p>	<p>During project implementation, it soon became evident that this output level target would not be met as initially envisaged. CEPF was informed of this. Negotiations with regard to the management and/or purchase of privately-owned land were ongoing. With the approval of the CEPF, the Project Management Team opted instead for drafting an "Annual Plan of Operation". This APO, as it became known, was used to guide reserve management for the duration of the project.</p> <p>During the first quarter of 2005, a Stewardship Management Plan for the Blaauwberg</p>

	<p>Conservation Area was drawn up by Rhulani Kubayi of CapeNature, the Western Cape Provincial Conservation Agency (Appendix 1). This plan was informed by comprehensive Fire Management and Alien Vegetation Control Plans that had been drawn up by Cliff Dorse. The Stewardship Management Plan is a comprehensive document that will provide a constructive framework for the management of the BCA in the future.</p>
<p>Output 2. Implementation of conservation management programmes and associated activities in keeping with the Reserve Management Plan</p>	
<p>2.1. Minimum of 2 programmes, for example, access control and management, erosion control, vegetation rehabilitation, fire management, etc initiated and in progress by the beginning of the 2nd quarter of 2004. Programmes ongoing and new ones initiated on an ongoing basis (preferably 1 per quarter) as determined in line with the Reserve Management Plan.</p>	<p>Programme initiation did not take place in the orderly and measured way envisaged in the performance tracking report. Access control, alien vegetation clearing and rehabilitation of erosion dongas were initiated on commencement of the project and continued throughout the duration of the project. Law enforcement, the erection of signage, fire management and floral and faunal surveys were programmes that followed in a relatively short space of time. All the programmes were being implemented by the end of June 2004 – effectively six months after commencement of the project. It was felt that with the implementation of these programmes, reserve staff had reached their capacity and it was not envisaged that they would be able to undertake additional programmes. At project completion, all of these projects were still ongoing. Each of the programmes is intense, requires regular monitoring and attention. The projects are reported in more detail below.</p>
<p>2.2. At least 50% improvement in controlling inappropriate access by the beginning of 4th quarter 2004.</p>	<p>At project commencement, illegal access to the Blaauwberg Hill was a serious problem and the vehicles were directly responsible for causing erosion of the hill. Through the employment of security services, the erection of barriers and comprehensive law enforcement, this problem was virtually eliminated during the period of project implementation. By project completion, it had been a year since a 4X4 had gained illegal access to Blaauwberg Hill and motorbike and quadbike illegal access had been restricted to two isolated incidents. An important aspect of controlling illegal access to the Blaauwberg Hill was the enlisting of the support of various 4X4 clubs.</p> <p>Law enforcement operations were supported by officers from CapeNature and a security firm was appointed in 2005 to assist with control of illegal access and activities.</p> <p>An important aspect of access control was the erection of informational and law-enforcement signage, as well as the erection of pipe-gates and fencing. This was ongoing throughout the duration of the project. Maintenance of repair of signage</p>

<p>2.3. Rehabilitation work undertaken on all prioritized dongas starting in the 1st quarter of 2004, and evidence of improvement in gully depth and width by the beginning of the 1st quarter of 2005. Any new erosion channels at least prevented from becoming worse.</p>	<p>became a significant task.</p> <p>During January and February 2004, a total of five work parties with the Friends of the BCA and 4x4clubs were held, where work was done on erosion control measures on the tracks on Blauuwberg Hill. This erosion was the consequence of historical illegal vehicle access to the hill. During March 2004, erosion control measures on the Widow Maker track on Blauuwberg hill were implemented by a contractor, and reserve staff implemented erosion control measure on the track known as The Snake.</p> <p>During April 2004 and May 2004, Reserve staff implemented erosion control and rehabilitation measures on the old military road and a contractor was appointed to implement erosion control measures on the Straight Track on the south eastern slope of Blaauwberg Hill. In July 2004, the contractor completed additional work on the military road. This work continued until October 2004.</p> <p>During November 2004, rehabilitation of the lower track to Kleinberg was undertaken. In January 2005, further erosion of this track was noted and a contractor was appointed to undertake the necessary rehabilitation work , which was completed in May 2005.</p> <p>The Western Cape experienced a second consecutive dry winter season during 2005, followed by the customary dry summer s eason. As a consequence, much of the rehabilitation work done on erosion dongas only bore significant results towards the end of the project, when the 2005 winter rains started falling. After a good 2005 rainy season, it is anticipated that added positive signs of rehabilitation will be very much in evidence in the summer season of 2005/2006. The accompanying photographs evidence the rehabilitation that has occurred (Appendix 2).</p>
<p>2.4. A fire management response system initiated during the 1st quarter of 2004, with a fire management programme initiated by the beginning of the 1st quarter of 2005.</p>	<p>As the project commenced, it became evident that it would not be possible to develop a fire-management programme specifically for the BCA until such a time as all the land had been consolidated. During 2004, the BCA was included in the city-wide fire management programme. A draft Fire Management Plan for the Reserve was drawn up in the first quarter of 2005, with the reserve being divided into fire management blocks. Brush fires in the fynbos are intense, burn rapidly and are often wind-driven. The BCA is included in the City of Cape Town's fire response system, which is excellent.</p> <p>Throughout the duration of the project, all existing fire-breaks were cleared and maintained regularly. It was not possible to develop new fire breaks. This will be done once all the land has been consolidated.</p> <p>Reserve management personnel attended local</p>

	<p>Fire Protection Association meetings and established partnerships with adjoining land-owners. Fire training was given to reserve labour staff and Cliff Dorse is a qualified Fire Boss, which enables him to co-ordinate fire-fighting teams.</p>
<p>2.5. Vegetation rehabilitation initiated in prioritized areas, from the beginning of 3rd quarter of 2004 onwards.</p>	<p>The clearing of alien vegetation formed a significant part of the vegetation rehabilitation programme throughout the duration of the project. This was undertaken by reserve staff, private contractors and contractors within the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry Working for Water Programme. During 2004 a total of 270ha was cleared in the initial and follow-up clearing programmes. During 2005, a total of 185ha was cleared in initial and follow-up clearing.</p> <p>Rehabilitation of the coastline, especially the coastal dunes, was ongoing throughout the duration of the project. This included formalisation of parking areas and the erection of bollards along the coast to stop trampling and vehicle access.</p> <p>In the second quarter of 2004, a nursery was established on the reserve for the propagation of seedlings and cuttings for rehabilitation purposes. <i>Leucadendron lanigerum</i> seeds were sown for later planting. <i>Protea repens</i> seeds were dispersed along the north-eastern boundary of Joyce's Diary and a hummock dune that had been impacted upon during a film shoot was replanted with appropriate dune vegetation.</p> <p>In the first quarter of 2005, <i>Serruria decipens</i>, <i>Luecospermum tomentosum</i>, <i>Leucodendron thymofolium</i> and <i>Protea scolymocephala</i> cuttings were propagated at the nursery. In March 2005, <i>Cyristetes longifolia</i> seeds were broadcast along the eastern slopes of Blaauwberg hill. In April 2005, the following plants were reintroduced: <i>Gladiolus alatus</i> in the BCA; <i>Protea repens</i> and <i>Protea scolymocephala</i> on Garden Cities land; <i>Leucadendron lanigerum</i> at Joyce's Diary and <i>Leucadendron levisanus</i> on the powerline servitude</p>
<p>2.6. Ongoing review and monitoring of the conservation management programmes with a view to an annual formal reassessment and revision, if required, of the Reserve Management Plan</p>	<p>Throughout the duration of the project, monitoring of the conservation management of the reserve formed a significant part of the project. Particularly important was the intense and on-going monitoring of parking areas, where damage to infrastructure and the lighting of illegal fires was problematical. The parking areas were cleaned and repaired twice a week – on Mondays and Fridays.</p> <p>Part of the reserve management was the cleaning and maintenance of buildings. The World War II structures were cleaned of graffiti and an architect was consulted about restoration. This will be ongoing.</p> <p>A botanist, Nick Helme was appointed to do a floral survey of the area in June 2004. The report is attached. Reserve staff recorded floral and faunal sightings throughout the duration of the project</p>

	<p>(Appendix 3 and Appendix 4).</p> <p>In February 2005, alien vegetation on city-owned land was mapped and evaluated in terms of age, density and species in order to inform the reserve management plan.</p> <p>During 2005, a monitoring and evaluation system was introduced that was in line with the City of Cape Town's process, known as the Xpert process.</p>
<p>2.7. At least 1 trail (together with appropriate signage), aimed to enhance nature based recreational opportunities, designed and built by beginning of the 4th quarter of 2004, and maintained on an ongoing basis. At least another trail (together with appropriate signage) to be designed and construction to have commenced by the beginning of 1st quarter of 2005.</p>	<p>A 1.2 km trail from the base of the Blaauwberg Hill to the summit was completed in December 2004. Appropriate and informative signage was erected along the trail during 2005 and an interpretive booklet was developed. From March 2005 onwards, the Friends of the BCA conducted monthly walks for members of the public.</p> <p>A 6.8km hiking trail along the coast was identified between Big Bay and Melkbosstrand, which highlights various aspects of the BCA, including coastal management, biodiversity, KhoiSan middens and views of Robben Island and Table Mountain.</p> <p>The Blaauwberg Rotary Club has come forward with partial sponsorship for the establishment of a trail specifically designed for disabled people. This 800m trail will be constructed north of Eerste Steen and planning for the trail was in an advanced stage at the conclusion of the project.</p>
<p>Output 3. Capacity building, skills training and development programme, within the context of the BCA, initiated and operational in surrounding disadvantaged communities, to the benefit of both the BCA and communities.</p>	
<p>3.1. A formal training programme, connected to physical upgrading / improvement work in the area, for at least 15 people from a local poor community initiated in the 1st quarter of 2004.</p>	<p>The formal training programme commenced with induction training at the beginning of March 2004. Prior to this, intensive effort went into identifying an appropriate local community from which to draw the labourers, and also into drawing up a set of criteria to aid with the selection of individuals. The decision was made to draw trainees from the nearby DuNoon settlement. Training modules were identified and aligned as closely as possible to the South African Qualifications Framework Units Standards Level 2.</p> <p>At the outset, it was recognised that, given the harsh reality of poverty, unemployment and lack of skills, it would be impossible to establish a fairly stable trainee team of fifteen if these individuals were paid only on the two days of each month that they received training. Alternative funding was obtained for the full-time employment of the trainee labourers and this had unavoidable consequences for other outputs, as detailed below – specifically output target 3.3.</p>

<p>3.2. Classroom (and field based, as appropriate) training of at least 15 people from a local poor community for at least 2 days per month, commencing in the 1st quarter of 2004. Topics proposed to be covered include: alien plant identification and clearing methods, lifeskills and personal development, budgeting, management, coastal eco-tourism, biodiversity, erosion management, local history and archaeology, environmental impact assessment, plant nursery development, and entrepreneurship</p>	<p>Training occurred regularly as planned in the logframe. As a result of being granted a no-cost extension to the project, more intensive training of three individuals was implemented during the last five months of the project. The content of the training was captured in a Training Manual, which is included in this report as a separate document.</p> <p>At the end of June 2005, a closing ceremony was held for members of the labour team at Eerste Steen in the BCA. Each trainee received a certificate which recorded the skills training received, as well as a letter of recommendation from WESSA Western Cape.</p>
<p>3.3. Specific economic opportunities related to the BCA, e.g. field guiding, gabion construction work, path maintenance, woodwork, plant propagation, security etc, identified and incorporated into the programme on an ongoing basis, and promoted as opportunities for employment/ entrepreneurship for persons participating in the training.</p>	<p>In hindsight, this output level target was unrealistic. Given the low level of skills that the trainee labourers had at the start of the project, it was always unlikely that they would develop sufficient skills so as to be able to exploit anticipated entrepreneurial opportunities as fully as this output target suggests. Two days of training per month (amounting to 40 days in total for the duration of the project) is inadequate in this context.</p> <p>Significantly, the anticipated entrepreneurial opportunities became duties of the trainee labourers who were contracted on a full-time basis for the duration of the project. It is likely, given the City of Cape Town's current modus operandi, that a reserve like the BCA will not give rise to significant entrepreneurial opportunities. In the interests of comprehensive law enforcement and reserve management, it is imported that the Reserve Manager has a team of full-time, permanent labourers, rather than having to contract out many of the activities envisaged in this output.</p> <p>On the positive side, the training certainly provided at least some of the trainees with sufficient skill to be successful in gaining permanent employment. Five of the trainees left the programme because they had gained permanent employment elsewhere.</p> <p>It is important to note that an output level target of this nature presupposes that the 15 trainees constitute a stable group for the duration of the project. This is obviously not the reality.</p>
<p>Output 4. Active partnership network, in support of BCA, established and functional</p>	
<p>4.1. Database of relevant organizations (e.g. CBO's, NGO's, interest groups) and information (e.g. initiatives of relevance)</p>	<p>The database of relevant organisations had some 300 records in it by the end of the project. This was updated regularly and at project conclusion, individuals and organisations were still requesting to be added to the database. People and</p>

<p>and a document library collated by the end of the 1st quarter of 2004. Updating of information will occur as new information becomes available</p>	<p>organisations on the database include: City of Cape Town officials and politicians, local schools, local libraries, residents' and ratepayers' associations, local businesses and media (Appendix 5).</p> <p>The compilation of an information and document database, as well as a document library took longer to get off the ground. Approaches were made to Universities and Technikons with regard to research that had been undertaken in the BCA, but responses were in the negative. Several references were obtained that dealt with the Battle of Blaauwberg. The database of references was compiled and maintained digitally and the references and field guides were housed at the offices of reserve staff. These were made available to any stakeholder groups that required them (Appendix 5).</p>
<p>4.2. Database and information will be promoted to and used by stakeholder groupings as a resource from 2nd quarter of 2004 onwards, and stakeholders encouraged to contribute to it.</p>	<p>Two Partnership Promotions Days were held – one with civil society groups (4 August 2004) and one with local businesses (15 September 2004) (Appendix 6). The resources were actively promoted at these promotions, as well as being promoted on the website and via the newsletter. As will be seen under a separate output, civil society participation did not unfold as envisaged, and use of the resources collected was thus not as widespread as anticipated.</p>
<p>4.3. A newsletter, which will highlight pertinent issues, identify opportunities to become involved in activities, and report on progress with the BCA, with input from partnership network, produced and circulated to individuals and organizations on the database, libraries, schools and identified businesses within the Blaauwberg area on a quarterly basis commencing in the 1st quarter of 2004.</p>	<p>From end of the first quarter 2004, a newsletter, <i>BCA Focus</i>, was published quarterly for the duration of the project (6 in total) and distributed electronically or in print format to everyone on the database of stakeholders or interested persons/organisations. The newsletter was also used as an advertising tool on many other occasions. Copies of these newsletters are included in Appendix 7.</p> <p>The newsletter was taken over by the Friends of the BCA at project conclusion.</p>
<p>4.4. A website, designed to allow for 2-way information and communication flow, established during the 1st quarter of 2004 and maintained on an ongoing basis throughout the project.</p>	<p>The website was up and running by the end of the 1st quarter of 2004 and was updated and maintained on a regular basis after that (Appendix 8). It proved popular, with the number of hits and visits increasing each month. By the end of the project, the monthly recorded hits were approximately 3000 and the visits were approximately 500.</p> <p>The website was taken over by the Friends of the BCA at project conclusion.</p>
<p>4.5. Activities of civil society groups presently active in the BCA diversified and increased by at least 25%, with introduction of at least 1 new grouping, utilizing and</p>	<p>At the commencement of the project, the Friends of the BCA were actively involved in the BCA. This Friends group was formed in 2002, but became much more active with the commencement of the BCA-CEPF project.</p> <p>During the first half of 2004, the 4WD Club, the</p>

<p>supporting the BCA, per quarter, starting from 1st quarter 2004.</p>	<p>Landrover Club and the Cape Bird Club started utilising and supporting the BCA. Members of the 4WD Club and the Landrover Club assisted with erecting barriers to restrict vehicle access to the eroded tracks on Blaauwberg Hill. By the end of the project, both the Friends of the BCA and a local Scout Troup had adopted plots and were conducting regular hacks to clear alien vegetation. The improved management of the reserve definitely contributed to more structured and sustainable involvement by the Friends of the BCA. This output envisaged other groups becoming involved with the same intensity as the Friends of the BCA, and in this context, this output level target was not fully met.</p> <p>A significant reason for this is that, although a number of civil society groups showed interest in becoming involved in the BCA, reserve management staff felt they could not cope with a high level of civil society involvement, given the lack of infrastructure in the reserve. Practical issues such as safety remained a concern throughout the project and most approaches by civil society were channelled through to the Friends of the BCA.</p>
<p>4.6. Promotion and awareness campaign aimed at decision makers, politicians and the broader public initiated within the 1st quarter of 2004 and implemented thereafter.</p>	<p>From the beginning of 2004, for the duration of the project, various activities were planned and events used for the promotion of the BCA to the wider Cape Town community (Appendix 6).</p> <p><i>African Wildlife</i>, WESSA's national magazine, carried a number of articles on the BCA, the last one being in June 2005. The editorial of Issue 1/2004 of <i>Cape Environment</i>, WESSA Western Cape's newsletter, focused on the BCA-CEPF project. Information on the project was posted on WESSA Western Cape's website and WESSA's National website on the WESSA Western Cape page. A display was also set up at the WESSA Western Cape office and a display on the BCA in the Blouberg and Tableview libraries was set up in April and May of 2004. The local, free, saturation-circulation newspaper, the <i>Tygerburger</i> published a number of articles highlighting different aspects of the BCA.</p> <p>The Cape Flower Show was a significant event held in the Cape Town International Convention Centre from the 7th to 10th October 2004. WESSA Western Cape and the Friends of the BCA were given a free stand at this show. Brochures, posters and T-shirts were produced. The BCA was also showcased at a display at the annual conference of the Institute of Environment and Recreation Management during the same quarter.</p> <p>An article, with photographs, was published in the <i>Cape Odyssey's</i> January 2005 issue. The general focus of this edition was the Battle of Blaauwberg.</p> <p>The Youth Environmental Festival is an annual</p>

	<p>event held in Cape Town in June and this was used in both 2004 and 2005 to promote the BCA. During the 2004 Festival, the BCA Environmental Education Centre was used as a pilot activity centre on coastal conservation.</p> <p>The official launch of the BCA took place in February 2004. There was good representation from the City of Cape Town councillors. Towards the end of October 2004, the City of Cape Town Councillors' Biodiversity Event took place in the BCA. Councillors were taken around the BCA and exposed to its importance as a conservation area. Towards the end of 2004, senior officials from within three departments of the City of Cape Town and WESSA Western Cape staff held a brainstorming session around conservation issues, recreational needs and future economic opportunities for the BCA.</p> <p>At the San Francisco Conference on World Environment Day 2005, the BCA was submitted to UNEP as the City of Cape Town Mayor's favourite environmental project.</p>
<p>4.7. BCA's interests actively lobbied and represented in all public participation processes or initiatives of relevance to the area (e.g. project EIA's, planning frameworks, etc.), from the beginning of the 1st quarter of 2004 onwards, by attendance at public meetings, provision of comment, communication with consultants requesting registration as IAPs for processes in the area, etc.</p>	<p>Almost at project inception, there was a threat of the construction of a regional landfill site on the eastern, inland boundary of the BCA. Through WESSA Western Cape and other I&AP's representing the interests of the BCA very strongly, this alternative for the landfill site, although listed as one of three best preferred alternatives, was abandoned.</p> <p>In the first six months of project implementation, there was a threat to the southern tip of the BCA when the City of Cape Town Engineering Department wanted to lay a stormwater pipeline for the Big Bay development into a 5 ha artificial wetland in the BCA (the Big Bay and hinterland stormwater project). The outcome was the construction of a small detention dam behind the primary dunes and overflow during storms directed across the beach and into the sea. The pipeline was laid through the BCA, but rehabilitation work was undertaken at the cost of the Engineering Department.</p> <p>The public participation processes that were of relevance during the period of project implementation are detailed below.</p> <p>Proposed R300/N21 Cape Town Ring Road proposal: This proposal constitutes an unsolicited bid to construct a ring toll road from the eastern edges through to the western edges of Cape Town. The western section of the proposed route would run on the southern boundary of the BCA. Substantial comment was made on the Scoping Report and the draft Environmental Impact Report. A Ring Road Forum was established and networking with many other organisations was ongoing. This proposal seems to have fallen into</p>

	<p>abeyance as no final Environmental Impact Report has yet been produced. WESSA Western Cape will continue to remain involved in this process.</p> <p>Substantial development in Cape Town's northern suburbs has resulted in sewage facilities becoming inadequate. Two proposals are relevant in this connection – the Proposed Melkbos Sewerage Outfall Pipeline, through the BCA – along the edge of Otto Du Plessis Drive, and the construction of a new sewerage processing plant at Melkbostrand, on the northern edge of the BCA. Oddly enough, these two proposals were dealt with by separate consultants and in separate processes, when they are clearly very closely linked to each other. Comment was made on both proposals. Neither process has yet been concluded.</p> <p>The sale of the National Department of Public Works land, abutting the southern boundary of the BCA, was put out to tender. Tenders have apparently been submitted, but no decision has been made. A letter was sent to the Director General of Public Works pointing out that the EIA process should have been initiated prior to the tender being put out. Concern has been expressed about the fact that a golfing estate appears to be the preferred tender. There has been a significant proliferation of golfing estates in the Western Cape over the past few years. In 2005, the Provincial Minister for the Environment commissioned a Rapid Review of the cumulative impacts and benefits of golfing estates. The scarcity of water in the Western Cape is a major point of concern. WESSA Western Cape participated actively in the Rapid Review process. It is likely that a comprehensive policy on approval of golfing estates will emerge from this process.</p> <p>Other processes that required input were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• a proposed hovercraft landing area on the southern boundary of the BCA.• SANNCOB proposal to develop a new facility for the rehabilitation of oil-covered coastal birds along the BCA coastline.• an unsolicited bid by a private consortium, the Circle of Faith, to establish various highly impacting tourist facilities in and around the BCA.• the proposed expansion of the Cape Town harbour, with potential coastal erosion;• the proposed Omega Electricity Substation Development on land a few kilometres north of the BCA. Concerns here are the impact on the scenic landscape, affecting tourism, and lighting at night.• use of a hilltop by the SANDF for helicopter pilot training exercises. Use has been reduced.• an application by mountain bikers to use the BCA was turned down.
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	<p>In all processes, civil society groups participating were numerous and varied. In all processes, the importance of the BCA and the significance of the impacts were highlighted, both verbally and in writing.</p>
<p>4.8. At least 4 local community business partnerships providing support to BCA by end of 4th quarter of 2004. Support demonstrated by either sponsorship of events/ activities, in kind contributions or financial.</p>	<p>This proved an exceptionally difficult output level target to meet. In South Africa, there is no shortage of worthy causes for business to vest in via social responsibility spending. Part of the partnership aspect of such spending are the marketing opportunities that businesses are able to exploit through social responsibility spending. The removal of the environmental education component from the BCA-CEPF project had the effect of removal of a natural linkage between people and the environment. It was difficult to attract businesses to partnerships in a project that appeared to be more concerned with biodiversity conservation than with social issues.</p> <p>As mentioned previously, two Partnership Promotions Days were held – one with civil society groups (4 August 2004) and one with local businesses (15 September 2004). As an outcome of the Business Partnership Promotions event, a web advertising company placed a link to the BCA website on their own website free of charge and the Sandown BP Service Station offered to assist with the transport of school groups to the Environmental Education Centre.</p> <p>Letters were sent to twelve major Cape Town businesses with links to the area and which had identified conservation as a funding area. None met with positive responses. Contact was made with the Blaauwberg and West Coast Chamber of Industry. Their only response was to invite WESSA Western Cape to become a member! The three Rotary Clubs in the area were also addressed. The project identified by them for support was the construction of a trail for the disabled.</p> <p>At the time of writing this report, discussions are in progress with a company, Horse Trail Safaris, with regard to the potential launching of horse trails in the BCA.</p>
<p>4.9. A BCA Forum, a network of interested organizations, that will work towards sustainability of the BCA established by the beginning of the 4th quarter of 2004.</p>	<p>This output level target has not been met. At the time of formulating the project proposal, it was not clearly understood that reactive management of the reserve would be an all-consuming process. The proposed BCA Forum constituted a proactive initiative. As mentioned previously in this report, reserve staff were unable to cope with something of this magnitude. For the duration of the project and beyond, they have been fully occupied with controlling access, law enforcement, maintenance of facilities and vegetation rehabilitation. The environmental education centre that was established separately to this project dealt with large numbers of school children. The Friends of</p>

	<p>the BCA conducted regular walks and Cliff Dorse often gave of his leisure time to take people around the BCA. For a Forum of this nature to be established, the area in question needs to be secured and in a stable management situation, which is not the case with the BCA.</p>
<p>Output 5. Project co-ordination across outputs, including monitoring and evaluation, which supports long-term sustainability of the overall project initiated and operational.</p>	
<p>5.1. Partnership parameters e.g., internal reporting structures, roles and responsibilities in terms of project partners and staff identified and formalized by the end of December 2003, and established during 1st quarter of 2004.</p>	<p>The partnership parameters were established within the first month of project commencement and finalised at the beginning of 2004. The Project Team was established and met monthly. Reporting structures and deadlines were adhered to. The minutes of these meetings are included in Appendix 9.</p>
<p>5.2. Continuous project co-ordination and management, with project activities and outputs revised and amended, and remedial action taken, as and when necessary, in line with findings of monitoring programme.</p>	<p>Management and co-ordination of this project was generally smooth. At the monthly project team meetings, activities were discussed, and where necessary outputs were amended, after consultation with CEPF. The funds available for project implementation were much less than projected, as a consequence of Rand/Dollar exchange rates. As a result of the City seconding a reserve manager, substantial savings were made and the project was granted a no-cost extension of five months. This extension period was used to focus strongly on training. In addition, the City of Cape Town covered some anticipated expenditure in their operational budgets. This allowed for funds to be transferred to other outputs, where necessary.</p>
<p>5.3. Requirements for expansion of project, replicability of successful aspects, and those aspects which should be reconsidered, identified and documented by the middle of the 4rd quarter of 2004.</p>	<p>It is not believed that the project in its current form can be expanded or replicated. Despite concerted efforts, it was not possible to attract substantial amounts of funding. The partnership between WESSA Western Cape and the City apparently functioned smoothly, but in reality, the parties tended to act as separate entities rather than partners. This is because employees and officials of the City of Cape Town are tied to the administrative structures of the City. Certain procedures, policies, etc. are laid down and there is not the flexibility and adaptability available to allow for the development of organic partnerships with civil society. As an example, City spending on the BCA took place without WESSA Western Cape being aware that funds were being made available, much less being a partner to discussions about how those funds were spent.</p> <p>The BCA will continue to progress as a formally conserved nature area, as its formal conservation status will come about in the near future. The City of Cape Town has allocated significantly more resources to the BCA than in the past and there is</p>

	<p>no doubt that the BCA-CEPF project has served to place the BCA in a better position of prominence with regard to City decision-making and budgeting.</p> <p>At a brainstorming session that was held with the City in December 2004, it was noted that it was critically important that the BCA be used to promote economic and recreational opportunities immediately outside the core conservation area. It is important that City planners are forward-looking with respect to the planning of recreational needs in this area, which is coming under severe residential development pressure. Such planning will enhance the status of the BCA and also contribute to its long-term viability.</p>
<p>5.4. From the start of the project, ongoing interaction with, and promotion of the BCA project, as opportunities present themselves, to potential funders, donors and partners, to canvas funding for continuance of the overall project with a view to achieving the long-term conservation goal.</p>	<p>Approaches were made to a number of potential funders and donors: the various property developers of the adjacent Big Bay development, the St Ledger Lindbergh Charitable Trust, the Rowland Lettie Hill Trust, the Cape Tercentenary Foundation, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the Rufford Maurice Laing Foundation, South African Landbank, Global Opportunities Fund (British High Commission). Discussions were held with CEPF and C.A.P.E. None of the above had positive outcomes.</p> <p>Porters Auto in Milnerton assisted with the purchase of a 4x4 vehicle, through reducing the cost.</p> <p>The City of Cape Town Contracted Services Department paid for the employment of the 15 trainee/labourer team.</p> <p>The City of Cape Town funded the employment of one nature conservation student for the duration of 2004, and two students for the duration of 2005.</p> <p>Table Mountain Fund has agreed to fund the junior nature conservation officer for a period of one year, commencing 1 July 2005.</p> <p>The Working For Water Programme (South African Department of Water Affairs and Forestry) funded some of the contract alien clearing work.</p> <p>The National Department of Environmental Affairs funded the appointment of an environmental education officers through its Internship Programme.</p>

Describe the success of the project in terms of delivering the intended outputs.

The project had a total of five outputs, each of which was delivered successfully when viewed as a whole. The City of Cape Town certainly contributed significantly in terms of funding – more so than anticipated. This provided the opportunity for outputs 1 and 2 to be achieved at a higher level than expected.

At the level of specific output indicators, some were more successfully achieved than others and three were not achieved at all. Specifically, the training of labourers did not result in their

exploiting entrepreneurial opportunities within the reserve. The reasons for this are clearly articulated within the report. It is recommended that this sort of output be included in future projects with caution. There needs to be a clear understanding of length of time required, the skills required compared with skills that trainees have at project outset and the intensity of training required in order to ensure that trainees can go forward as successful entrepreneurs. Entrepreneurial gaps are not as prolific as they were ten years ago. Despite this, the training component was one of the most successful aspects of the project – and certainly one that generated a significant amount of interest at promotion events. The provision of stable employment also had an impact far beyond the individuals who were employed. This social aspect of biodiversity conservation needs to be considered more carefully for full incorporation into projects of this nature. It must be remembered that trainees were employed using City of Cape Town funding. Had their involvement been restricted to the two days training per month envisaged in the project proposal, it is extremely doubtful whether this output would have been successful.

The second output indicator that fell short of its intention was the volunteer involvement of civil society groups. Once again, the reasons for this have been given within the body of the report. In the long-term, reserve staff will have to provide structures for civil society to participate more actively and freely. It will not be possible to channel everyone through the Friends of the BCA. Groups wish to retain their own identity and have their own projects. The relationship between civil society and local government, with its rigid structures, procedures and policies, is a challenge that requires an ongoing positive response from local government. The staff that are employed at the Reserve are highly motivated, energetic and enthusiastic. Their creativity and flair needs to be harnessed more positively by allowing them more freedom to function in the dynamic space that exists between civil society and government. Related to the issue of civil society involvement, is the lack of a vibrant BCA Forum at project conclusion. It is hoped that the City will retain this as an objective.

Were any outputs unrealized? If so, how has this affected the overall impact of the project?

No outputs were entirely unrealised.

V. SAFEGUARD POLICY ASSESSMENTS

Provide a summary of the implementation of any required action toward the environmental and social safeguard policies within the project.

None.

VI. LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE PROJECT

Describe any lessons learned during the various phases of the project. Consider lessons both for future projects, as well as for CEPF's future performance.

The most important lesson at the outset was that the project should probably have run over a much longer period of time, with the outputs being implemented in phases and not simultaneously. Outputs 1 (appointment of staff) and 2 (reserve management) should have been implemented first. Output 1 should have included the appointment of a labour team. Implementation of output 3 (training) should have commenced shortly after the commencement of output 2. Output 4 (awareness-raising) should largely have commenced after approximately 18

months. Output 5 (financial administration and project management) obviously extends for the duration of the project.

During the development of the project and in order to cut the cost of the CEPF-funded part of the project, the environmental education component of the project was removed in its entirety – as was the employment of a labour team. A brutally honest appraisal of the project leads to the conclusion that the success of the project hinged around Cliff Dorse (the reserve manager), the labour team and the environmental education activities. All other outputs fed off these successes in order to achieve their own success. This is a very important lesson learnt.

In a developing country, social imperatives cannot be separated from biodiversity conservation imperatives. If the primary purpose of a project is biodiversity conservation, that project will achieve success if and only if it is contextualised within local social and developmental needs. In the same way that unemployment, poverty and lack of skills are pressing adult social needs, so environmental education is a positive response to equally pressing educational needs of our youth. The runaway success of the EcoSchools programme is testimony to this. It is believed that these must be important considerations for CEPF in future projects in developing countries.

Allied to the above is the lesson learnt in the failure to attract business partners and funding. The fact that the BCA is owned and managed by the City of Cape Town meant that civil society and potential business partners did not feel that they could develop a sense of ownership in any project they might support. Businesses, in particular, were not prepared to fund what they perceived as a funding responsibility of government. Once again, this poses challenges for the City of Cape Town with regard to how it articulates partnership relationships in the future.

Project Design Process: (aspects of the project design that contributed to its success/failure)

The Project Design Process was extremely lengthy and time-consuming. This was a significant hidden cost that was borne by WESSA Western Cape and the City of Cape Town.

Although the design process is tedious and difficult to understand at the outset, it certainly does provide a good framework for project implementation and reporting. CEPF staff are really supportive, too. It is questionable whether less capacitated organisations can even work their way around the design process in its current form. The three-day course that was given on negotiating the logframe, etc. is not enough to develop the expertise required to negotiate the design process smoothly.

A very significant aspect of the design process is that all budgeting is done in US\$. A considerable period of time elapses between the formulation of budgets and the receipt of the first tranche of money. Exchange rates in developing countries are unstable. In this particular case, the exchange rate was significantly less favourable than was budgeted for. Had the City of Cape Town not been able to come to the fore with funding in the way that it did, the success of this project would have been seriously compromised. Some sort of strategy needs to be worked out whereby fluctuations in exchange rates can be catered for.

Project Execution: (aspects of the project execution that contributed to its success/failure)

The partnership between WESSA Western Cape and the City of Cape Town functioned well at a superficial level and very well on a personal level. However, as a consequence of the complex structures and procedures within the City of Cape Town, the partnership was not a real partnership. Officials within the City of Cape Town did not always inform WESSA Western Cape fully about decisions (budgetary or otherwise) that related to the BCA. Effectively, there was a split in project implementation – management by the City and training and awareness-raising by WESSA Western Cape. The fact that so many different departments within the City are involved in some way or another with the BCA, complicated matters further. Direct control in fact sits with

three different departments (as far as we could interpret). This comment is not a reflection on anyone personally involved in the project. It is a comment on City structures that in reality do not allow for true public participation or partnerships.

A very significant feature that contributed to the success of the project was the high level of special skills and commitment by all those who were involved with project implementation, both on the side of the City of Cape Town and WESSA Western Cape. It is difficult to imagine being able to handpick, from anywhere, a more competent and committed team. Thank you.

VII. ADDITIONAL FUNDING

Provide details of any additional donors who supported this project and any funding secured for the project as a result of the CEPF grant or success of the project.

Donor	Type of Funding*	Amount	Notes
City of Cape Town	A	\$48 001	Contracted Services Department for the employment of 15 trainee/labourers.
City of Cape Town	A	\$58 823	Contracted Services Department for the clearing of aliens and parking area & road maintenance.
City of Cape Town	A	\$29 122	Operational budget for the BCA (2003/04)
City of Cape Town	A	\$61 817	Operational budget for the BCA (2004/05)
City of Cape Town	A	\$171 764	Capital budget for the BCA (2003/04)
City of Cape Town	A	\$57 647	Capital budget for the BCA (2004/05)
Department of Water Affairs and Forestry	A	\$14 479	2003/2004 financial year – alien vegetation removal.

Note:

- 1. It is unclear exactly to what extent the City of Cape of Cape Town funded various aspects of the BCA project. The items specified above are those that are known, but WESSA Western Cape was not provided with detailed breakdowns of what was included in these amounts. The above figures are in all likelihood underestimates.**
- 2. Dollar rates are based on an exchange rate of R8.50: US\$ 1, which was the conversion rate used in developing the budgets for the project.**

***Additional funding should be reported using the following categories:**

- A** *Project co-financing (Other donors contribute to the direct costs of this CEPF project)*
- B** *Complementary funding (Other donors contribute to partner organizations that are working on a project linked with this CEPF funded project)*
- C** *Grantee and Partner leveraging (Other donors contribute to your organization or a partner organization as a direct result of successes with this CEPF funded project.)*

D Regional/Portfolio leveraging (Other donors make large investments in a region because of CEPF investment or successes related to this project.)

Provide details of whether this project will continue in the future and if so, how any additional funding already secured or fundraising plans will help ensure its sustainability.

It is anticipated that the project will continue under the management of the City of Cape Town. Funding will come mainly from City budgets, with some additional funding obtained through national and/or provincial departments. Both the Development Bank of Southern Africa and the Table Mountain fund have agreed to provide some funds for 2005/06 financial year, as has the National Department of Environment Affairs and Tourism. The City of Cape Town Contracted Services Department will continue to fund the labour team (2005/06). The BCA-CEPF Project has definitely been the catalyst for this positive situation.

VIII. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

None.

VIII. INFORMATION SHARING

CEPF aims to increase sharing of experiences, lessons learned and results among our grant recipients and the wider conservation and donor communities. One way we do this is by making the text of final project completion reports available on our Web site, www.cepf.net, and by marketing these reports in our newsletter and other communications. Please indicate whether you would agree to publicly sharing your final project report with others in this way.

Yes

If yes, please also complete the following:

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