

1

IMPACT GOAL 1: RESHAPE LAND AND SEASCAPES FOR PEOPLE AND NATURE



South Africa's political past has shaped much of its conservation efforts on land and sea, which were historically built around an approach that largely separated people from protected areas.

Nature now has the potential to redress past injustices. South African National Parks (SANParks) has put forward a new Vision 2040, which makes people the primary custodians of large-scale connected landscapes or MLLs. The concept of these MMLs strongly aligns with South Africa's strategic water source areas (SWSAs) – the 10% of land that provides 50% of our surface water and supports 66% of our economy.

WWF will collaborate with partners to reshape the relationship between people and nature at scale in four priority geographical areas (Figure 2) aligned with MLLs and SWSAs. People living in these land and seascapes are recognised as primary custodians as well as beneficiaries of this improved relationship between people and nature.

PATHWAYS

This goal will be achieved through four interlinked pathways to change:

Large-scale biodiversity stewardship, extension and protection

Biodiversity stewardship is an approach where private or communal landowners enter into voluntary agreements with the government to protect and manage biodiversity priority areas. Almost three million hectares have been protected by this means, over the past 20 years, with more than 70% of new protected and conserved areas coming from biodiversity stewardship over the past 15 years.

Despite this, biodiversity stewardship extension is severely under-capacitated, with most support coming from NGO project sources. To date, more effort has been focussed on commercial private landowners. This needs to be balanced by also increasing our focus with smaller emerging farmers and communal landowners. Improved communal rangeland management provides an opportunity to drive significant benefits for people and nature.

International policy has opened new opportunities to designate areas that provide de facto protection for biodiversity even though this may not be its primary purpose. These are so-called other effective conservation measures (OECMs). This is a further opportunity to broaden the suite of area-based protection tools to include more SWSAs, small-scale fishing zones and rangelands.

WWF and its partners will use the full suite of protection and stewardship tools in a cohesive manner to scale up area-based conservation to new levels.

Enhancing livelihoods of communities living in priority land and seascapes

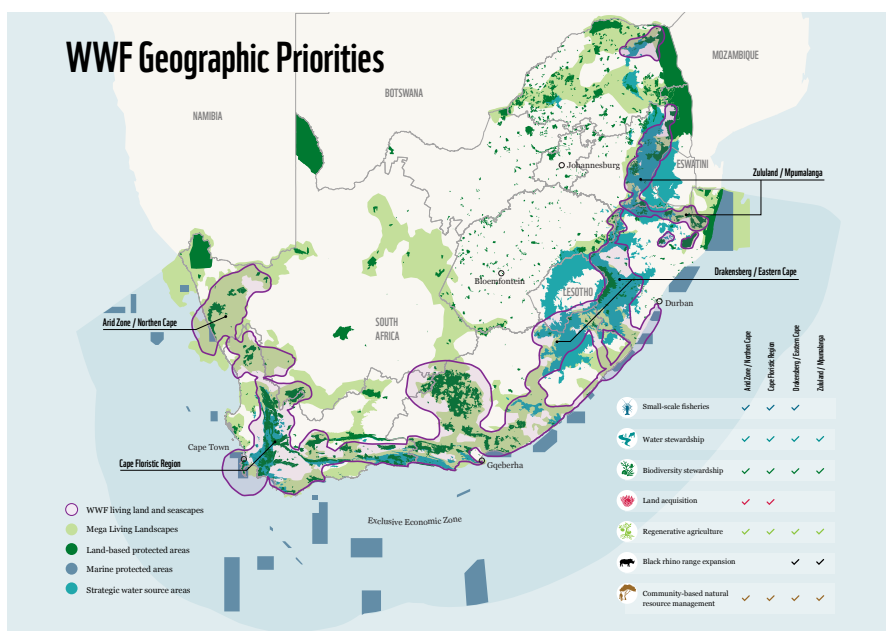
For communities to be incentivised and empowered as custodians of nature, they will need to derive meaningful benefits that enhance their livelihoods. Currently these benefits are insufficient and piecemeal. WWF will provide a consolidated value offering to these communities which could include improved and more equitable governance structures; business and financial capacity and skills; access to markets for local products; food security through agroecology projects and rangeland management support; and water security through spring protection and alien invasive plant clearing.

Unlocking the economic transition that enables people and nature to thrive

Enhancing the livelihoods of people living in these landscapes will need to be enabled through a deeper economic transition that influences specific policies, value chains and financial flows. This pathway will be further elaborated on in Goal 2.

Mobilising finance at new scales that enables people and nature to thrive

Realising our ambitious targets will require mobilising public and private finance at new scales and ensuring that people living in these landscapes are able to access finance. This pathway will be further elaborated on in Goal 3.



The four priority geographic areas where WWF will focus its land and seascape impacts. Please note that the MLLs outlined on this map (see key) are illustrative of intent as opposed to fixed and finally determined.