

Quarterly Report

Year 4, Quarter 2

January – March 2018

Local Action for Biodiversity: Wetlands South Africa



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List of Abbreviations and Acronyms

DEA	Department of Environmental Affairs
DEADP	Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning
DM	District Municipality
DEDEAT	Department of Economic Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism
ICLEI	ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability
IDP	Integrated Development Plan
LAB	Local Action for Biodiversity
LAB: Wetlands SA	Local Action for Biodiversity: Wetlands South Africa
LM	Local Municipality
MM	Municipal Manager
NWI	National Wetlands Indaba
PSC	Project Steering Committee
SANBI	South African National Biodiversity Institute
SANParks	South African National Parks
SALGA	South African Local Government Association
SDBIP	Service Delivery Budget and Implementation Plan
SDF	Spatial Development Framework
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WfW	Working for Wetlands
WRC	Water Research Commission
WSAP	Wetland Strategy and Action Plan
WWD	World Wetlands Day

1. Introduction and overview

Local Action for Biodiversity: Wetlands South Africa

Goal:

To protect priority natural wetland resources, thus enabling the supply of ecosystem services, and promoting resilient communities and sustainable local economies under a changing climate within South African local governments.

Objectives:

1. To improve local government and citizen knowledge and understanding (at the individual, organisation and policy levels) of the value of biodiversity and wetlands.
2. To initiate the process of integrating ecosystem services and biodiversity into local government planning and decision-making in a coordinated, multi-sectoral, gender-sensitive and participatory way.
3. To implement and pilot on-the-ground wetland projects and promote the development of bankable project proposals.

This report details the activities undertaken as part of the Local Action for Biodiversity: Wetlands South Africa (LAB: Wetlands SA) project during the period January – March 2018. This period marks the second quarter of year 4 of the project, and includes an overview of how ICLEI supported the municipalities with World Wetlands Day, an update on the status of the WSAPs scheduled for inclusion in the IDPs, detail on the outstanding political leader workshops, information on the case studies developed to profile the project, detail on the three implementation projects and detail on the initial development of both the Wetland Management Guidelines and the Finance Mechanisms. Detail is also provided on the project steering committee meeting held in March as well as other external meetings held throughout the quarter including profiling the project at the IPCC Cities Conference held in Edmonton, Canada in March 2018. Detail is also provided on the statistics on video downloads and website views.

The report then outlines the activities planned for the final stages of the project before it comes to an end in May 2018. This includes following up on the last few WSAPs, detail on the final political leader workshops and Durban Commitments, finalisation of the outstanding case studies, detail on the finalisation of the implementation projects, as well as detail on the finalisation and launch of the Wetland Management Guidelines and the Finance Mechanism. The report also outlines the proposed plans for the close-out meeting scheduled for the end of May.

2. Activities January – March 2018

i. World Wetlands Day

Leading up to World Wetlands Day (which was held on 2nd February 2018), ICLEI ran a hugely successful Twitter campaign on the ICLEI CBC website under the hashtag #WorldWetlandsDay. The campaign ran from 15th January through to 2nd February 2018 and during that time the campaign was **viewed 40 135 times, retweeted 178 times and liked 158 times**. ICLEI also launched an additional promotional webpage: <http://cbc.iclei.org/world-wetlands-day-2018/> which showcased both the LAB wetland awareness raising video as well as the RAMSAR promotional video and downloadable materials.

Please refer to **Annex 1** for the statistical report developed by the ICLEI communications team on the promotional campaign on World Wetlands Day.



Figure 1: An example of the one the ICLEI tweet cards launched during the ICLEI World Wetlands Day campaign.

In addition to running the Twitter campaign, ICLEI sent the project municipalities the World Wetlands Day promotional material developed by RAMSAR as well as the LAB wetland awareness raising video to support them with running an event of their own. Whilst none of the district municipalities had the capacity to run an event this year, Mandeni Local Municipality (located within iLembe District Municipality) and Cape Agulhas (located within Overberg District Municipality) both ran local World Wetlands Day events.

ICLEI also supported the provincial wetland forums with raising awareness about World Wetlands Day by sending them the LAB wetland awareness raising video. The Mpumalanga, KwaZulu Natal and Western Cape Wetland Forums sent the video out as a link to their networks on World

Wetlands Day. Please refer to **Section XII** below which includes detail on the amount of times the video has been viewed this quarter.

Finally, Ryan Fisher of ICLEI was invited to present at the Water Research Commission (WRC) event on World Wetlands Day held in Tshwane on 1st February 2018. Detail on this is included in **Section XI** below as well as in the associated news piece published on the LAB: Wetlands SA website shortly after the event:

<http://cbc.iclei.org/wetlands-sustainable-future-city-tshwane/>

ii. Wetland Strategy and Action Plans (WSAP)

As noted in the previous Quarterly Report, the Wetland Strategy and Action Plans (WSAPs) and the integration of these into the municipal IDPs are core outputs of the project. The WSAP is intended to be an *action plan* that guides the collective management of wetlands within the municipality going forward. Following a WSAP development workshop with each of the project municipalities, a WSAP tailored to the needs of each municipality was developed. Each of these are available for download on the LAB: Wetlands SA webpage: <http://cbc.iclei.org/project/lab-wetlands-sa/>

During the previous quarter, the WSAPs for Amathole, iLembe, Overberg and West Rand were presented and adopted by Council for inclusion in their municipal IDPs. An update on the inclusion of the outstanding 7 WSAPs' into the municipalities' IDPs is included below.

Table 1: Update on the final development of the remaining WSAPs for each of the municipalities:

Municipality	Comments
Bojanala Platinum	The Bojanala Platinum WSAP has been finalised. ICLEI is now awaiting confirmation on the status of including the WSAP into the IDP.
Buffalo City	The Buffalo City WSAP has been finalised and presented to Council. As of January 2018, reference is made to the WSAP in the IDP review.
Eden	The WSAP has been finalised by Eden District Municipality and was submitted at both the Mayoral and Council Committee meetings on the 16th and 28th November 2017 respectively. Eden have confirmed that the WSAP will be presented to the IDP review committee for official inclusion in the IDP on the 19 th April 2018.
Ehlanzeni	The Ehlanzeni WSAP has been finalised, (including the inputs suggested by ICLEI). As of March 2018, reference is made to the WSAP in the IDP review. Additionally, the IDP review also specifically refers to Ehlanzeni's partnership with ICLEI in regard to wetlands. Ehlanzeni has also, for the first time, committed funds towards public awareness on wetlands.
Ekurhuleni	The Ekurhuleni WSAP has been finalised. Ekurhuleni have advised that due to the metropolitan planning processes, the WSAP itself cannot be included in the IDP itself, however it is now specifically taken into consideration when planning and deciding on indicators and targets for the metropolitan. This year, as a result of considering the WSAP in the planning process, Ekurhuleni has committed funds towards wetland rehabilitation and this is reflected in both the IDP review as well as the Service Delivery Budget and Implementation Plan (SDBIP).

Frances Baard	The Frances Baard WSAP has been finalised and has been submitted to the IDP manager for review. ICLEI is now awaiting confirmation on the status of including the WSAP into the IDP.
Waterberg	ICLEI and WDM collaboratively finalised the WSAP in August 2017. The WSAP was formally launched and introduced at the Waterberg Political Awareness Raising workshop on 27 September 2017. Waterberg have advised that, as of March 2018, reference is made to the WSAP in the IDP. Specific reference is also made in the current IDP review to support the continued implementation of the ICLEI LAB: Wetlands SA Programme.

iii. Political Leader Awareness Raising Workshops

As noted in previous Quarterly Reports, it was felt that political/ traditional leader workshops were necessary to (1) raise awareness of biodiversity and wetlands at the political level, (2) support the mainstreaming of biodiversity and wetlands into land use planning and (3) strengthen the ability of local governments to play a proactive decision making role around biodiversity and environmental considerations within the municipality.

Political Leader Workshops have been undertaken during previous quarters in Bojanala Platinum, Ehlanzeni, Frances Baard, iLembe, Overberg, Waterberg and West Rand District Municipalities. An update on the outstanding Political Leader Workshops is included below.

Table 2: An update on the remaining Political Leader awareness raising workshops:

Outstanding Political Leader Workshops	
Municipality	Comment
Amathole	On 7th February 2017, ICLEI presented the LAB: Wetlands SA Project at the annual Amathole District Municipality Technical Strategic Session held at Mpekweni Resort located on the R72 Coastal Road between Port Alfred and East London in the Eastern Cape. For further detail, please refer to the report which is included as Annex 2 .
Buffalo City	Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality has indicated that they would like to hold a political leader workshop. It is anticipated that this will be held on 17th May 2018.
Eden	On the 27 th March 2017, Eden District Municipality and ICLEI co-hosted the "Eden District Municipality Political Leader Workshop" at the Eden District Municipality Council Chambers in George. For further detail, please refer to the report which is included as Annex 3 .
Ekurhuleni	Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality has indicated that they would like to hold a political leader workshop. It is anticipated that this will be held on 13 th April 2018.

iv. Signing of the Durban Commitment

To date, as a result of municipal engagements throughout the project, **a total of 12 Durban Commitments have been signed.** Signatories include Bojanala Platinum, Eden, iLembe, Overberg, Waterberg and West Rand District Municipalities, as well as several local municipalities from within the project municipalities (Cape Agulhas, Merafong City, Rand West, Modimolle, Mogalwena and Mookgopong). An update on the remaining Durban Commitments to be signed is included below.

Table 3: An update on the remaining Durban Commitments to be signed:

Outstanding Durban Commitments	
Municipality	Comment
Amathole	Amathole District Municipality have indicated that they will sign the Durban Commitment in early May when ICLEI visits the district to run the Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality political leader workshop.
Buffalo City	Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality have indicated that they will sign the Durban Commitment at their political leader workshop, which is scheduled for early May.
Bojanala Platinum	Bojanala Platinum District Municipality have advised ICLEI that they will sign the Durban Commitment privately with the Executive Mayor. ICLEI is currently waiting for confirmation on when this will be.
Ehlanzeni	Ehlanzeni District Municipality have advised ICLEI that they will sign the Durban Commitment privately with the Executive Mayor. ICLEI is currently waiting for confirmation on when this will be.
Ekurhuleni	Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality have indicated that they may sign the Durban Commitment at their political leader workshop, which is scheduled for 13 th April. This however will be dependent on whether the Mayor is in attendance.
Frances Baard	Frances Baard District Municipality have advised ICLEI that they will sign the Durban Commitment privately with the District Mayor. ICLEI is currently waiting for confirmation on when this will be.

v. Case Studies

In order to capture the lessons learnt from the LAB: Wetlands SA project, case studies are currently being developed for each of the project municipalities which highlight the challenges municipalities face as well as showcase the project successes. To date, case studies have been completed for Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality and West Rand District Municipality. Both have been published on the LAB: Wetlands SA website: <http://cbc.iclei.org/project/lab-wetlands-sa/>

The remaining case studies will be completed and uploaded to the website during the course of April and early May. Further detail on each of the case studies is provided below:

Table 4: Update on the LAB case studies

Municipality	Heading & Sub-Heading	Status
Amathole District Municipality	<i>"Focusses wetland prioritisation in Amathole District Municipality"</i>	In Progress

	Planning for wetland rehabilitation in Amathole District Municipality through focused wetland prioritisation	
Bojanala Platinum District Municipality	Topic to be confirmed	In Progress
Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality	<p><i>“Supporting Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality with effective wetland management”</i></p> <p>Identifying gaps in wetland information and developing a wetland strategy and action plan to improve wetland management within Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality.</p>	<p>Completed and uploaded to the website:</p> <p>http://cbc.iclei.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/LAB-Buffalo-City-case-story-FINAL.pdf</p>
Eden District Municipality	<p><i>“The importance of good quality maps”</i></p> <p>The value of detailed mapping to inform land use planning within Eden District Municipality</p>	In Progress
Ehlanzeni District Municipality	<p><i>“Supporting Ehlanzeni District Municipality identify their wetland management gaps”</i></p> <p>Raising awareness around the value of wetlands and identifying gaps in wetland information required to improve wetland management within Ehlanzeni District Municipality</p>	In Progress
Ekurhuleni District Municipality	Topic to be confirmed	In Progress
Frances Baard District Municipality	<p><i>“Putting wetland management ‘back on the map’ in Frances Baard District Municipality”</i></p> <p>Rekindling wetland management and the subsequent revival of the Northern Cape Wetlands Forum</p>	In Progress
iLembe District Municipality	Topic to be confirmed	In Progress
Overberg District Municipality	Topic to be confirmed	In Progress
Waterberg District Municipality	Topic to be confirmed	In Progress

<p>West Rand District Municipality</p>	<p><i>“Spatial mapping developed to address West Rand District Municipality’s gaps in wetland planning”</i></p> <p>Identifying spatial planning requirements and establishing a partnership with external stakeholders to address wetland management gaps</p>	<p>Completed and uploaded to the website:</p> <p>http://cbc.iclei.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/LAB-West-Rand-case-story-27-Feb-2018.pdf</p>
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vi. Implementation projects

As noted in the previous Quarterly Report, a total of **3 project proposals** were selected for implementation (see previous Quarterly Report for copies of the selected service providers’ project proposals). Updates on the implementation of the three selected projects is provided below:

Amathole District Municipality

Eco-Pulse Environmental Consulting Services was appointed to undertake a pilot project titled “Focused wetland prioritisation and rehabilitation planning”

The main objectives of the project are to (1) make an initial contribution to the detailed mapping of wetlands within one target local municipality within Amathole District Municipality; (2) to prioritise wetlands within the target Local Municipality for rehabilitation; (3) to identify priority wetlands for rehabilitation; (4) to develop a rehabilitation plan for one priority wetland; (5) to provide an opportunity for collaborative learning throughout the project between wetland experts, municipal staff and local stakeholders as part of an initial capacity building education programme.

To achieve these objectives, the project is divided into four phases which are outlined below:

1. **Phase 1:** Regional Prioritisation. This entails the assessment of the local municipalities within Amathole District Municipality to identify which municipality will benefit most from focused wetland work.
2. **Phase 2:** Detailed desktop wetland mapping and Present Ecological State (PES) assessment of all wetlands within the selected Local Municipality;
3. **Phase 3:** Prioritisation and selection of wetland sites for rehabilitation within the selected local municipality
4. **Phase 4:** Completion of a detailed rehabilitation plan for one prioritised wetland within the selected local municipality.

Eco-Pulse has completed Phase 1 of the project (Mnquma Local Municipality was selected for detailed focus work) as well as the desktop mapping component of Phase 2 of the project. Eco-Pulse is currently undertaking the PES assessments of the wetlands identified in the initial mapping process. The outcome of the PES assessments will inform the prioritisation process (Phase 3 of the project).

Two blog posts have been posted to the LAB: Wetlands SA home page which provide detailed updates on the progress of the Amathole implementation project. The links for these blogs are provided below:

- <http://cbc.iclei.org/planning-wetland-rehabilitation-amathole-district-municipality-focused-wetland-prioritisation/>
- <http://cbc.iclei.org/evaluating-potential-wetland-rehabilitation-amathole-district-municipality/>

The project is scheduled for completion towards the end of April. A close out report, including the outcomes of all phases of the project, will be included in the next Quarterly Report.



Figure 2: Local municipal representatives, external stakeholders and Eco-Pulse Consulting undertaking the initial assessment of wetlands within one of the local municipalities of Amathole District Municipality as part of Phase 1 of the project.

iLembe District Municipality

Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT) was appointed to undertake a pilot project titled “Assessment of coastal wetland ecology and alien vegetation risk in the iLembe district through local community citizen science”

The main objectives of the project are to (1) improve understanding at a community level of the value of key wetland systems in iLembe District Municipality (IDM) to feed into the IDM Wetland Biodiversity and Ecological Goods and Services knowledge and data bank; (2) build citizen science capacity of local community members through skills development; (3) understand the extent of alien invasive plant invasion and densities in respect to wetlands in the district; and (4) develop an Alien Invasive Plant Eradication (AIP) plan for the IDM.

To achieve these objectives, the project is divided into four phases which are outlined below:

1. **Phase 1:** Identification of key sites within IDM to undertake the work, election and training (skills development) of local community members from within close proximity to the selected sites and undertaking of initial habitat and invasive species surveys;
2. **Phase 2:** Development of a habitat and invasive species dataset for the selected sites;
3. **Phase 3:** Completion of ecological goods and service as well as invasive plant assessments for the selected sites; and
4. **Phase 4:** Development of an Invasive Species Eradication Plan for the selected sites within IDM.

EWT has completed Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the project and is currently undertaking the final ecological goods and services as well as the invasive species plant assessments (Phase 3). The outcome of the assessments will influence the development of the Invasive Species Eradication Plan (Phase 4 of the project).

Two blog posts have been posted to the LAB: Wetlands SA home page which provide detailed updates on the progress of the iLembe implementation project. The links for these blogs are provided below:

- <http://cbc.iclei.org/assessing-coastal-wetland-ecology-alien-vegetation-risk-ilembe-district-local-community-citizen-science/>
- <http://cbc.iclei.org/empowerment-knowledge-ilembe-district-municipality/>

The project is scheduled for completion towards the end of April. A close out report, including the outcomes of all phases of the project, will be included in the next Quarterly Report.



Figure 3: Raising awareness of the value of wetlands whilst simultaneously developing skills to support human livelihoods in iLembe District Municipality (Phase 1 of the project).

West Rand District Municipality

Prime Africa was appointed to undertake a pilot project titled “Gap Analysis, Baseline Resource Assessment and High-Level Mapping of Wetlands in the West Rand District Municipality”

The main objectives of the project are to (1) undertake a gap analysis to determine the data requirements; (2) development of a high level spatial wetland output; (3) undertake a desktop level of wetland resource units; (4) undertake a high level valuation of wetland resource units and (5) undertake capacity transfer.

To achieve these objectives, the project is divided into four phases which are outlined below:

1. **Phase 1:** Gap Analysis Report
2. **Phase 2:** Data Inventory and Wetland Spatial Output (Map)
3. **Phase 3:** Valuation Report

Prime Africa has completed Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the project and is currently in the process of finalising the final Valuation Report (Phase 3). Following the completion of this report, training will be undertaken within West Rand District Municipality to facilitate the transfer of skills and guide the municipal staff members on how to use the map and other related spatial data developed as part of the project.

One blog post has been posted to the LAB: Wetlands SA home page which provides a detailed update on the progress of the West Rand implementation project. The link for this blog is provided: <http://cbc.iclei.org/mapping-improved-wetland-management/>

The project is scheduled for completion in early April. A close out report, including the outcomes of all phases of the project, will be included in the next Quarterly Report.

vii. Wetland Management Guidelines for Local Governments

As noted in the previous Quarterly Report, Eco-Pulse Consulting was selected to develop the Wetland Management Guidelines.

A first draft of the guidelines was developed and sent to ICLEI for comment on 9th March 2018. ICLEI had substantive comments regarding the density, length and structure of the document and advised Eco-Pulse to restructure and condense the Guidelines in order to make the document more accessible and user friendly for the project municipalities. A second, considerably re-worked, draft of the guidelines was then sent to ICLEI on the 26th March 2018. This has been sent to all the LAB: Wetlands SA project municipalities for comment, as well as the project steering committee members and other relevant stakeholders who have provided input into the project. ICLEI will also provide a second round of comments for Eco-Pulse to address.

Following the public comment period, Eco-Pulse will develop a final version of the guidelines and send the content to ICLEI to finalise. ICLEI has appointed Ink Design (the same service provider

who designed the Wetland Reports) who will be responsible for proof reading and designing the guidelines. It is anticipated that the guidelines will be finalised, uploaded to the website and rolled out to the project municipalities by mid-May.

viii. Guidelines on Finance Mechanisms

As noted in the previous Quarterly Report, the guideline on finance mechanism is intended to be a toolkit to support municipalities access funding in order to implement bankable projects developed as part of the LAB: Wetlands SA project, as well as the other bankable projects they may develop in the future to address municipal needs.

The guideline on finance mechanisms is currently being developed by ICLEI in-house, drawing on the considerable expertise from ICLEI staff members, the LAB: Wetlands SA project partners, particularly SALGA, as well as ICLEI's involvement with other projects. The guidelines on finance mechanisms are being designed in such a way as to support project municipalities with developing small projects (such as those developed for the implementation project competition); as well as sourcing funding to implement these projects. It is envisioned that the toolkit will include a list of all sources of funding (e.g. government funding, donor funding, corporate social initiatives as well as private sector partnerships) which the municipalities are able to tap into as well as instructions on how to access funds.

The guidelines on finance mechanisms are currently in a second draft form and it is anticipated that these will be completed and uploaded to the LAB: Wetlands SA webpage by the end of May 2018.

ix. GIS mapping of wetlands

The ICLEI developed map and spatial data were submitted to SANBI and CSIR in November 2017. These are currently being reviewed and merged with the remaining data developed by SANBI throughout the course of 2016 and 2017.

ICLEI has contacted SANBI for an update on when the final national map will be launched and is currently awaiting feedback.

x. Project Steering Committee meeting

The final project steering committee meeting was held on 16th March 2018. Ryan Fisher from ICLEI presented on the project and highlighted the deliverables that have been completed to date as well as those that are scheduled for completion by the end of May when the project comes to an end.

Please refer to the meeting minutes contained as part of **Annex 4**.

xi. Meetings with external stakeholders

Throughout the project, the LAB: Wetlands SA team aim to participate in a number of meetings to develop partnerships with external organisations; bring further attention to the project; build on stakeholder mapping conducted; and to better support implementation of the project. The stakeholder engagements held during this quarter are summarised below:

Celebrating World Wetlands Day with the Water Research Commission

On **1 February 2018**, as part of the global commemoration of World Wetlands Day, ICLEI joined forces with Water Research Commission (WRC), South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI), Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) and Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (GDARD) to celebrate the “birthday” of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands. The event was hosted by City of Tshwane (COT) and took place at Sammy Marks Square Auditorium in Pretoria Central. It formed part of the COT’s plan to create awareness and advocate for the importance of wetlands in the metro. Mr. Ryan Fisher of ICLEI presented on the LAB: Wetlands SA project, highlighting how the project methodology can be adopted by cities to improve the management and protection of wetlands, ensuring a sustainable urban future.

For further detail, please refer to the ICLEI news pieces on the above which was posted on the LAB: Wetlands SA webpage on 20th February 2018.

<http://cbc.iclei.org/wetlands-sustainable-future-city-tshwane/>

Showcasing the LAB: Wetlands SA Project at the Cities IPCC Cities and Climate Change Science Conference

On **6th March 2018**, Ernita van Wyk from ICLEI presented the lessons learnt from the LAB: Wetlands SA project at the Cities IPCC Cities and Climate Change Science Conference which was held in Edmonton, Canada from 5th – 7th March. The aim of the conference was to inspire the next frontier of research focused on the science of cities and climate change. The presentation was included as part of the ‘*Nature-based Solutions*’ session and the outcomes and lessons learnt from the LAB: Wetlands SA project were shared with a number of key stakeholders from various international organisations from both the Global North and South. Approx. **60 people were in attendance** at the session.

For further detail, please refer to **Annex 5** which includes the trip report detailing the outcomes of the trip as the conference website: <https://citiesipcc.org/>

Other

In addition to the above, the LAB: Wetlands SA team also undertook a number of local meetings with the three pilot project service providers as well as the wetland management guideline service providers to ensure (1) that these outsourced projects remained on track throughout the last Quarter and (2) the appointed service providers received the support they required from ICLEI throughout the last Quarter to develop high quality outputs.

xii. LAB: Wetlands SA Wetland Awareness Raising Video

Both the long and the short version of the video are available on the ICLEI website and YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rpBCTn1Rge4>

The short video has been viewed a total of **541 times** on YouTube since its launch on the 22nd March 2017 and **359 times** through ICLEI-led local and national workshops. A total of **900 times**.

The long version of the video is over 17 minutes long and was released on the 25th of April 2017 and is also available on the website and YouTube. To date, the long video has been viewed **263 times** on YouTube and **18 times** through ICLEI- led local workshops. A total of **254 times**.

xiii. Website

Four blogs and three news articles were posted during this quarter. The below image is a screenshot of the website activity for this quarter, indicating that **2514 individual users** have visited the website during the Year 4, Quarter 2 reporting period (January – March 2018).

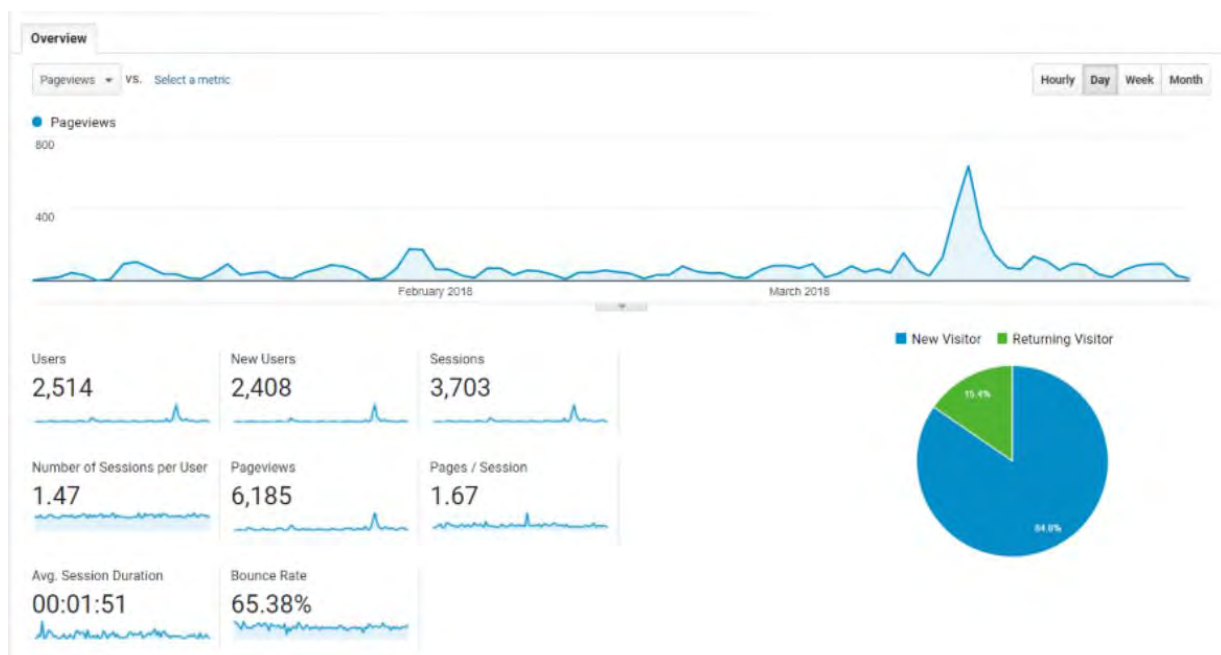


Figure 4: Screenshot of the website tracking screen.

Completed Case Studies, Wetland Reports, Wetland Profiles as well as the draft Wetland Strategy and Action Plans have been uploaded onto the website. Furthermore, for ease of reference and sharing lessons learnt, all previous workshop reports have been uploaded onto the website.

The page housing the LAB Wetlands SA project has had **247 views** during this quarter, an **increase of 44 views** compared to the last quarter.

LAB Wetlands SA page: <http://cbc.iclei.org/project/lab-wetlands-sa/>

3. Planned activities for 3rd Quarter of Year 4

i. Wetland Strategy and Action Plans (WSAPs)

3 WSAPs still outstanding to be included/ referred to in the IDPs (Eden, Frances Baard and Bojanala). Eden have indicated that the WSAP will be accepted and incorporated into the IDP at a closed Councillor meeting on 19th April 2018. During the next quarter, the ICLEI staff will support the remaining two municipalities with getting the outstanding WSAPs adopted in/ referred to in the municipal IDPs.

ii. Political Leader Workshops

2 Political Leader Workshops are still outstanding (Ekurhuleni and Buffalo City). Ekurhuleni has confirmed the date for their workshop as the 13th April 2018. Buffalo City has confirmed the date for their workshop as 17th May 2018.

iii. Durban Commitment

5 Durban Commitments still need to be signed (Amathole, Buffalo City, Ekurhuleni, Ehlanzeni and Frances Baard). Amathole have indicated that the Durban Commitment will be signed during the week of the Buffalo City workshop (17th May). Buffalo City and Ekurhuleni have indicated that the Durban Commitment possibly will be signed during the Political Leader workshops, depending on whether the Mayors are in attendance. No updates have been received from Ehlanzeni or Frances Baard, it is unlikely that these will be signed.

iv. Case Studies

9 case studies are still outstanding. These will be developed throughout the course of April and early May and uploaded to the project website by the end of May. Detail thereof will also be included in the next Quarterly Report.

v. Implementation Projects

The three implementation projects are scheduled to come to an end by early May. Detail on the outcome of the three implementation projects will be included in the next Quarterly Report.

vi. Wetland Management Guidelines

Following the public participation period (current phase), the Wetland Management Guidelines will be finalised and sent to ICLEI for final approval. Thereafter, the guidelines will be sent to a designer for proof reading and further development into a user friendly online document.

It is anticipated that the Guidelines will be finalised by mid-May, launched on 24th May 2018 at the close out meeting (see detail below) and uploaded to the LAB: Wetlands SA webpage shortly thereafter.

vii. Guidelines on Finance Mechanisms

The finance mechanism is currently being developed in-house by the LAB: Wetlands SA team and is currently in a second draft form. Throughout the course of April, the finance mechanisms will be refined until a concise and user friendly document has been developed.

It is anticipated that the finance mechanisms will be completed and uploaded to the LAB: Wetlands SA webpage by the end of May 2018.

viii. Close Out Workshop

The project is scheduled to come to an end on the 31st May 2018. Throughout the project, a significant number of tools and guidelines have been developed to support the project municipalities with their planning around wetlands and day to day wetland management. In order to enhance the impact of these tools and guidelines, the LAB: Wetlands SA project team intends to host a close out workshop with the LAB: Wetlands SA project municipalities. During this workshop the outcomes (and impacts) of the LAB: Wetlands SA project will be shared, training will be provided on how to use the various tools and guidelines and the municipalities will have a final opportunity to showcase the wetlands work within their own municipalities as well as their challenges and solutions in terms of wetlands management within their own municipality.

It is anticipated that the meeting will be held on the **24th May 2018** at the Century City Conference Centre in Cape Town. Details regarding the meeting will be shared with USAID in due course as planning gets underway.

4. Project evaluation

Progress against the Monitoring & Evaluation plan is shown in **Annex 6**.

List of Annexes

Annex 1 – World Wetlands Day Statistical Report

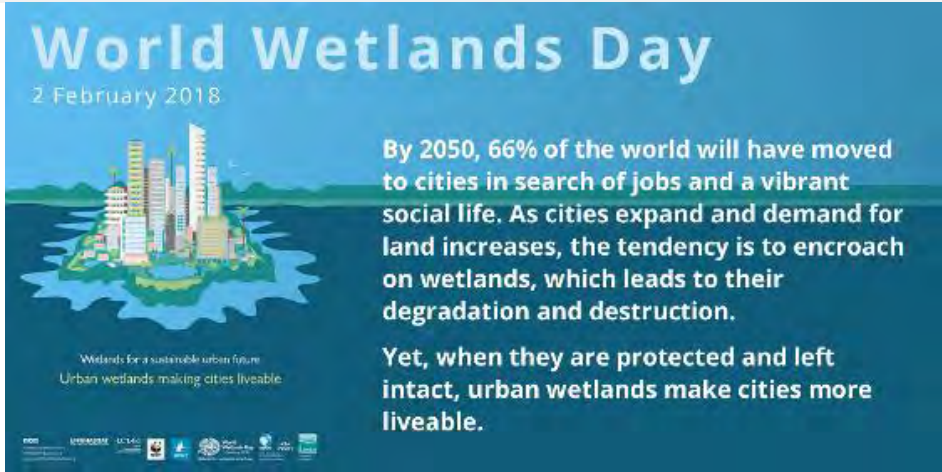

Annex 2 – Amathole Political Leader Workshop Report

Annex 3 –Eden Political Leader Workshop Report

Annex 4 – Project Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

Annex 5 – Cities IPPC Trip Report

Annex 6 - Monitoring and Evaluation Plan

Tweet	Stats (as of 7 Feb)
<p data-bbox="108 255 204 293">15 Jan</p>  <p data-bbox="108 797 1082 835">With rapid urbanization, #nature is becoming increasingly important in our cities.</p> <p data-bbox="108 871 1136 943">Celebrate #WorldWetlandsDay on 2 Feb & learn how #urban #wetlands make #cities more liveable here: http://www.worldwetlandsday.org/</p> <p data-bbox="108 978 379 1016">#KeepUrbanWetlands</p>	<p data-bbox="1225 297 1485 336">Impressions: 5 337</p> <p data-bbox="1225 376 1481 414">Engagements: 100</p> <p data-bbox="1225 454 1406 492">Retweets: 24</p> <p data-bbox="1225 533 1347 571">Likes: 30</p>
<p data-bbox="108 1055 204 1093">16 Jan</p>  <p data-bbox="108 1599 775 1637">How do #urban #wetlands make #cities more liveable?</p> <p data-bbox="108 1673 453 1711">They provide these benefits:</p> <ul data-bbox="108 1711 459 1928" style="list-style-type: none">Reduce floodingReplenish drinking waterFilter wasteImprove water & air qualityPromote human well-beingEnable people 2 earn a living <p data-bbox="108 1964 533 2002">http://www.worldwetlandsday.org/</p> <p data-bbox="108 2002 363 2040">#WorldWetlandsDay</p> <p data-bbox="108 2040 379 2078">#KeepUrbanWetlands</p>	<p data-bbox="1225 1097 1506 1135">Impressions: 14 714</p> <p data-bbox="1225 1176 1481 1214">Engagements: 243</p> <p data-bbox="1225 1254 1406 1292">Retweets: 63</p> <p data-bbox="1225 1332 1347 1370">Likes: 58</p>



With [#WorldWetlandsDay](#) coming up on 2nd Feb, [@RamsarConv](#) invites you to add your wetland related event to their event map here: <http://www.worldwetlandsday.org/map>

Visit the link to explore over 300 events that have already been added worldwide.

[#KeepUrbanWetlands](#)

19 Jan



Learn more about the benefits of [#wetlands](#) in our [#cities](#) 1/2

Urban wetlands make cities more liveable through [#floodreduction](#), providing drinking [#water](#), filtering waste & improving [#waterquality](#)



Download [#WorldWetlandsDay](#) resources: <http://www.worldwetlandsday.org/documents>
[#KeepUrbanWetlands](#)



Impressions: 743

Engagements: 15

Retweets: 2

Likes: 6

Impressions: 3658

Engagements: 94

Retweets: 18

Likes: 16

World Wetlands Day

2 February 2018

How do urban wetlands make cities more liveable?

They improve urban air quality

Wetlands radiate moist air thanks to their high water levels and lush plant life. This naturally cools the air in the local surroundings; a relief both in tropical cities and in extremely dry climates.



World Wetlands Day

2 February 2018

How do urban wetlands make cities more liveable?

They promote human well-being

When preserved as green spaces in cities, wetlands offer residents a space for recreation and access to diversity of plant and animal life. Studies confirm that interacting with nature reduces stress and improves our health.



World Wetlands Day

2 February 2018

How do urban wetlands make cities more liveable?

They enable people to earn a living

Many types of fish spawn and breed in wetlands, making them popular fishing grounds. Wetlands provide reeds and grasses for weaving, medicinal plants and fruits; all valuable goods for local residents. Wetlands also attract tourism, another important source of jobs.



Learn more about the benefits of [#wetlands](#) in our [#cities](#) 2/2

Urban wetlands make cities more liveable by improving [#airquality](#), promoting human well-being & enabling people to earn a living

Download [#WorldWetlandsDay](#) resources: http://www.worldwetlandsday.org/documents_#KeepUrbanWetlands

Impressions: 232

Engagements: 2

Retweets: 1

Likes: 1

21 Jan



Urban wetlands: prized land, not wasteland.

Retain, restore & preserve [#urban #wetlands](#)- they are essential for [#sustainable](#) urbanization. [#sustainablecities](#) [#WorldWetlandsDay](#) [#KeepUrbanWetlands](#)

24 Jan

Impressions: 1 016

Engagements: 25

Retweets: 4

Likes: 3

World Wetlands Day

2 February 2018

Retain & restore: Practical ways cities can manage & preserve urban wetlands

Involve local residents in wetland planning

The Stung Treng Ramsar Site covers 14,600 hectares of river wetland & islands along the Mekong River. Its 21 villages and 10,000 people depend heavily on fishing, and the Site is home to the critically endangered Siamese crocodile. An assessment in 2007 led by the IUCN helped inspire a community-led movement to restrict fishing in critical zones of the Site, as well during spawning season, resulting in larger fish returning.



Wetlands for a sustainable urban future
Urban wetlands making cities liveable



How can [#cities](#) manage & preserve their [#urban](#) [#wetlands](#)?

The [#StungTreng](#) Ramsar Site involves local residents in wetland planning, including a community-led conservation movement.

[#KeepUrbanWetlands](#) to create [#sustainablecities](#)

[#WorldWetlandsDay](#)

[@IUCN](#) [@RamsarConv](#) [#Cambodia](#)

Impressions: 1 816

Engagements: 35

Retweets: 6

Likes: 5

World Wetlands Day

2 February 2018

Retain & restore: Practical ways cities can manage & preserve urban wetlands

Integrate wetlands into policy and planning

Accra is Ghana's capital and largest city, located on a coastal plain where wetlands provide natural flood control, water filtering and fishing.

As growth threatens its wetlands, the city has responded by mainstreaming wetlands into policy and planning. It is strictly enforcing building regulations and pollution controls, has defined clear greenbelts to limit sprawl, created programs that encourage residents to help conserve local wetlands, and designated two of them as Ramsar Sites.



Wetlands for a sustainable urban future
Urban wetlands making cities liveable



How can [#cities](#) manage & preserve their [#urban](#) [#wetlands](#)?

In [#Accra](#), they integrate wetlands into [#policy](#) & [#planning](#) and have 2 designated Ramsar Sites.

[#KeepUrbanWetlands](#) to create [#sustainablecities](#) [#WorldWetlandsDay](#)

[@IUCN](#) [@RamsarConv](#) [#Ghana](#)

Impressions: 1 118

Engagements: 13

Retweets: 5

Likes: 2

26 Jan

World Wetlands Day

2 February 2018

Retain & restore: Practical ways cities can manage & preserve urban wetlands

Organize community wetland clean-ups

Bolsa Chica is a 356-hectare (880-acre) protected coastal wetland in Huntington Beach, a suburb of Los Angeles. The Bolsa Chica Conservancy holds two public service days each month. Volunteers remove an estimated 10 tons of trash and debris from the site's waterways and trails annually.



Wetlands for a sustainable urban future
Urban wetlands making cities liveable



How can [#cities](#) manage & preserve their [#urban](#) [#wetlands](#)?

Organize community wetland clean-ups, like in [#LosAngeles](#), where the [#BolsaChica](#) Conservancy holds 2 clean-up days per month.

[#KeepUrbanWetlands](#) to create [#sustainablecities](#)

[#WorldWetlandsDay](#) [@RamsarConv](#) [@BolsaChicaCon](#)

29 Jan

World Wetlands Day

2 February 2018

Walking the talk: Urban wetlands, making cities liveable

Restored Xin'an River waterfront, Huangshan City, China

The Xin'an River flows through the middle of Huangshan City, an urban center of 1.4 million people, named after the distinctive Yellow Mountains that dominate the area. A 7.5 km stretch of the southern edge of the river has been restored to natural wetland, bringing natural flood control together with a new green belt that includes a wetland park, botanical gardens and defined housing developments.



Wetlands for a sustainable urban future
Urban wetlands making cities liveable



Restored

Xin'an River waterfront
Huangshan City, [#China](#):

An example of how [#urban](#) [#wetlands](#) make [#cities](#) more liveable & in turn, create [#sustainablecities](#)

[#KeepUrbanWetlands](#) [#WorldWetlandsDay](#)

31 Jan

Impressions: 260

Engagements: 8

Retweets: 2

Likes: 1

Impressions: 392

Engagements: 13

Retweets: 1

Likes: 3

Did you know there are **2,293** Ramsar sites, which have a total surface area of **225,418,823 ha**?

Vision of the Ramsar list:

"To develop and maintain an international network of wetlands which are important for the conservation of global biological diversity and for sustaining human life through the maintenance of their ecosystem components, processes and benefits/services."

Only 2 days to go until [#WorldWetlandsDay](#)!

This year's theme is "Wetlands for a [#sustainable](#) urban future." [#KeepUrbanWetlands](#)

DYK: The [@RamsarConv](#) list, with over 2200 Ramsar sites, is the world's largest network of protected areas?

Read more here:
<https://www.ramsar.org/>

Impressions: 2 323

Engagements: 56

Retweets: 12

Likes: 12

World Wetlands Day
2 February 2018

Walking the talk: Urban wetlands, making cities liveable

Nakivubo Swamp, Kampala, Uganda

Rapidly growing Kampala is the capital of Uganda. The Nakivubo Swamp covers some 550 hectares (1,360 acres), stretching from the city's industrial heart through residential areas with around 100,000 households. A 2003 estimate put the value of its natural water treatment services at \$US2 million per year. Wetlands naturally filter and reduce the contaminants that drain into natural and man-made water systems.

Wetlands for a sustainable urban future
Urban wetlands making cities liveable

#WWD #Wetlands #UrbanWetlands #Sustainable #WetlandsDay

Nakivubo Swamp, [#Kampala](#), [#Uganda](#): An example of how [#urban](#) [#wetlands](#) make [#cities](#) more liveable & create [#sustainablecities](#)

[#KeepUrbanWetlands](#) [#WorldWetlandsDay](#)

Impressions: 476

Engagements: 5

Retweets: 2

Likes: 1

1 Feb



[#WorldWetlandsDay](#) 2018 is tomorrow, how will you be celebrating?

This year we're looking at how urban wetlands make our [#cities](#) more liveable: [#Wetlands](#) for a [#sustainable](#) [#urban](#) future

[#KeepUrbanWetlands](#) Learn more in the short video by [@RamsarConv](#) below:



Văcărești Nature Park, [#Bucharest](#), [#Romania](#): An example of how [#urban](#) [#wetlands](#) make [#cities](#) more liveable & create [#sustainablecities](#)

[#KeepUrbanWetlands](#) [#WorldWetlandsDay](#)



That Luang Marsh, Vientiane Lao PDR: An example of how [#urban](#) [#wetlands](#) make [#cities](#) more liveable & create [#sustainablecities](#)

Impressions: 2 444

Engagements: 54

Retweets: 17

Likes: 13

Impressions: 287

Engagements: 2

Retweets: 1

Likes: 1

Impressions: 212

Engagements: 1

Retweets: 1

Likes: 0

[#KeepUrbanWetlands](#) [#WorldWetlandsDay](#)

2 Feb

"Urban wetlands help to make **cities** and their surrounding regions **liveable and resilient**, and protecting and restoring these valuable ecosystems is essential to ensuring a **sustainable urban future**. ICLEI works with cities and subnational governments across the globe to integrate nature-based solutions into their core functions, with gains for both biodiversity and our growing urban communities."

~ Gino Van Begin, ICLEI Secretary-General, on World Wetlands Day 2018

It's [#WorldWetlandsDay](#)! [#KeepUrbanWetlands](#)

"Urban [#wetlands](#) help to make [#cities](#) & their surrounding regions liveable & [#resilient](#). Protecting & restoring these valuable ecosystems is essential to ensuring a [#sustainable](#) urban future." - [@ICLEI_SG](#)

[http://cbc.iclei.org/world-wetlands-day-2018/...](http://cbc.iclei.org/world-wetlands-day-2018/)



Happy [#WorldWetlandsDay](#) everyone!

Urban [#wetlands](#) make our cities more liveable.

DYK: There are over 2000 [@RamsarConv](#) [#wetland](#) Sites which are NB for the conservation of global [#biodiversity](#) & sustaining human life through the benefits we derive from them.

Impressions: 3 546

Engagements: 49

Retweets: 13

Likes: 19

Impressions: 519

Engagements: 15

Retweets: 2

Likes: 7

Local Action for Biodiversity (LAB): Wetlands SA Political Leader Workshop Amathole District Municipality

Date: 7th February 2018

Venue: Mpekweni Resort, R72 Coastal Road between Port Alfred and East London

Workshop Report

SUMMARY

On **7th February 2017**, ICLEI- Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI) was invited to present on the LAB: Wetlands SA Project at the annual Amathole District Municipality (ADM) Technical Strategic Session held at Mpekweni Resort located on the R72 Coastal Road between Port Alfred and East London in the Eastern Cape.

The session aimed to bring together both councilors and senior technical staff members to strategically plan the year ahead in such a way as to meet the objectives laid out in the Integrated Development Plan (IDP) review (2018/19).

The Wetland Strategy and Action Plan was formally adopted into the ADM IDP towards the end of 2017. ICLEI was invited to present on three main objectives at the technical strategic session: (1) raise awareness of the value of biodiversity and the services that natural resources provide; (2) introduce the LAB: Wetlands SA Project to the councilors specifically, highlighting the key outputs of the project to date including the Amathole District Municipality Wetland Report, the Amathole Wetland Profile, the Amathole Wetland Strategy and Action Plan and the progress of the pilot wetland project being implemented by Eco-Pulse Consulting CC; (3) to provide input into the council discussion on the Amathole Westland Strategy and Action Plan and it's inclusion in the IDP.

Attendants included a mix of numerous councilors as well as senior technical staff from Amathole District Municipality.



WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES

The overall aim of the Technical Strategic Session was for Amathole District Municipality's councilors and senior technical staff members to meet together and strategically plan the year ahead in such a way as to meet the objectives laid out in the Integrated Development Plan (IDP) review (2018/19) in a streamlined and coordinated manner.

Due to the presence of numerous key decision makers (Councilors and Portfolio Committee members) as well as senior technical staff members, Amathole District Municipality invited ICLEI to present to the attendees of the Technical Strategic Session. This session served as the political leader workshop for the municipality, one of the key outputs of the LAB: Wetlands SA project (for background, see **Annex 1**). These workshops are intended to build upon the 'Wetland Awareness Raising' Workshops held during 2015 and 2016 with the project municipalities; however these awareness raising workshops are aimed specifically at the political leaders and decision makers.

Given the decision-making role of the political leaders, a lack of understanding and valuing of biodiversity, and why it is important in a municipal context, is hampering the ability of local governments to play a more proactive role in this area, and sees decisions being made that discount environmental considerations. The objective of this session was to improve the key political leaders' knowledge and understanding of the value of biodiversity to facilitate better decision making around natural resource management.

Based on previous discussions with ADM and the internal requirements of the municipality, ICLEI was invited to undertake the following in the Technical Strategic Session:

1. To raise awareness of the value of biodiversity and the services that natural resources provide;
2. To introduce the LAB: Wetlands SA Project to the councilors specifically, highlighting the key outputs of the project to date including the Amathole District Municipality Wetland Report, the Amathole Wetland Profile, the Amathole Wetland Strategy and Action Plan and the progress of the pilot wetland project being implemented by Eco-Pulse Consulting CC; and
3. To provide input into the council discussion on the Amathole Westland Strategy and Action Plan and it's inclusion in the IDP.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Mr. Mnwebe from Amathole District Municipality opened the Technical Strategic Session with a short speech to welcome all councilors and the senior technical staff members to the technical strategic session. The councilors and senior technical staff members were reminded that the session was specifically to strategically plan the year ahead in such a way as to meet the objectives laid out in the Integrated Development Plan (IDP) review (2018/19) which is due to be released in the new finance year (July 2018). Thereafter Kirsty Robinson was introduced as a guest to 'enlighten and inform [us] on the value of biodiversity'. A total of 42 people were attendance at the session.

TECHNICAL STRATEGIC SESSION

Following the opening of the workshop, Kirsty Robinson of ICLEI gave the first presentation of the day on the LAB Wetlands SA project. The presentation initially introduced ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability as an organisation and highlighted some of the key focus areas of ICLEI Africa particularly, including current projects being implemented across the country.

Thereafter, Kirsty introduced the LAB: Wetlands SA project as ICLEI's flagship project. The presentation highlighted the key deliverables of the project to date, specifically focusing on the development of the Amathole District Wetland Report and Profile, and the Amathole Wetland Strategy and Action Plan, which were all developed during the course of 2017 and have subsequently been adopted into the IDP review 2018/19.

Kirsty then went on to explain the value of wetlands in terms of service delivery to municipalities, particularly in their ability to store water, making them critical natural infrastructure to support municipalities in times of drought. The presentation was used as an opportunity to inform the councilors particularly that Amathole District Municipality has been awarded funding through the LAB project to implement a pilot wetland project and noted that if the objectives of the project are reached, it will mean that the district will already have achieved one of the key goals included in the Amathole Wetland Strategy and Action Plan.

Lastly, the presentation highlighted the way forward for the project, particularly noting that the municipality would further benefit from the project by receiving Wetland Management Guidelines for local planners as well as a copy of the Finance Mechanism to support them with the implementation of future bankable projects.

The presentation was well received by the group and very positive feedback was received.

DURBAN COMMITMENT

During the ICLEI presentation, the Durban Commitment was introduced. The Amathole District Municipality Mayor was impressed by what the commitment aimed to achieve and, although did not sign it during the session due to time constraints, has committed to signing it in a separate signing ceremony in the coming weeks.

Annex 1: Project background

Wetlands are high-value ecological infrastructure, providing essential ecosystem services such as clean water, clean air, food, medicines, flood regulation, water storage and habitat for biodiversity. Wetlands also play a role in disaster risk reduction, and their effective governance could lessen the negative effects of climate change through, for example, flood risk reduction, temperature regulation and water and food security for communities.

However, wetlands are South Africa's most threatened ecosystems, with 48% of wetland ecosystems critically endangered, resulting in an urgent need to increase awareness of wetland importance; and to develop the capacity of local governments to incorporate natural wetland resource objectives into municipal governance mechanisms and Integrated Development Planning, as well as to implement and fund projects on the ground.

In South Africa, there is a wealth of national environmental policies, however, mechanisms for mainstreaming biodiversity through all spheres of government needs to be strengthened. Lack of staff capacity, budget constraints, absence of participatory governance, lack of political leadership and public awareness and support, as well as deficiencies in relevant guidance, tools and resources, make wetland biodiversity planning and management a neglected component of our country's municipal governance.

The Local Action for Biodiversity: Wetlands South Africa (LAB: Wetlands SA) programmes key goal is to protect priority natural wetland resources, thus enabling the supply of ecosystem services, and promoting resilient communities and sustainable local economies under a changing climate within South African local governments.

The key objectives of the LAB Wetlands SA programme are as follows:

1. To improve local government and citizen knowledge and understanding (at the individual, organisation and policy levels) of the value of biodiversity and wetlands.
2. To initiate the process of integrating ecosystem services and biodiversity into local government planning and decision-making in a coordinated, multi-sectoral, gender-sensitive and participatory way.
3. To implement and pilot on-the-ground wetland projects and promote the development of bankable project proposals.

The LAB: Wetlands SA programme is implemented by ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability – Africa Secretariat (ICLEI Africa), and funded by the USAID. This programme works in partnership with 9 District Municipalities and 2 Metropolitan Municipalities throughout South Africa. All project outputs, including the Municipality Wetland Report, Wetland Profile and Wetland Awareness Raising Short Film, can be downloaded from the project website:

<http://cbc.iclei.org/project/lab-wetlands-sa/>

Local Action for Biodiversity (LAB): Wetlands SA Political Leader Workshop Eden District Municipality

Date: 27 March 2018
Venue: Eden District Municipality Council Chambers, George

Workshop Report

SUMMARY

On **27 March 2018**, Eden District Municipality and ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI Africa) co-hosted the “LAB: Wetlands SA: Eden District Municipality Political Leader Workshop” at the Eden District Municipality Council Chambers, in George as part of Eden District Municipality’s ongoing involvement in the Local Action for Biodiversity: Wetlands South Africa (LAB: Wetlands SA) project.

The workshop aimed to improve key Eden District Municipality political leaders’ understanding of the value of biodiversity and wetlands. The workshop had three main objectives: (1) to raise awareness of what wetlands are as well as the services they provide; (2) to present the LAB: Wetlands SA project and highlight the key project outputs to date including the Eden District Municipality Wetland Report, the Eden Wetland Profile and the Wetland Strategy and Action Plan as well as showcase the LAB: Wetlands SA video and (3) to encourage the Eden District Municipality Executive Mayor to sign the Durban Commitment to cement Eden District Municipality’s commitment to protecting biodiversity and wetlands within the district.

The workshop entailed several presentations given by ICLEI Africa as well as a presentation from the Western Cape Wetlands forum. A number of questions were asked by the Councilors present throughout the workshop, in particular by the Executive Mayor of Eden District Municipality. This facilitated meaningful discussions around wetlands and wetland management.

Key attendants at the workshop included the Executive Mayor and Councilors from Eden District Municipality as well as Councilors from local municipalities within Eden District Municipalities. Also in attendance were technical staff from Eden District Municipality (specifically the Environmental Unit, Disaster Management, Researchers and the Communications unit).



WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES:

Political Leader Workshops are one of the key outputs of the LAB: Wetlands SA project (for background, see **Annex 1**). These workshops are intended to build upon the 'Wetland Awareness Raising' Workshops held during 2015 and 2016 with the project municipalities; however these awareness raising workshops are aimed specifically at the political leaders.

Given the decision-making role of the political leaders, a lack of understanding and valuing of biodiversity, and why it is important in a municipal context, is hampering the ability of local governments to play a more proactive role in this area, and sees decisions being made that discount environmental considerations. The objective of the political leader workshops is to improve the key political leaders' knowledge and understanding of the value of biodiversity, and wetlands in particular, to facilitate better decision making around biodiversity and wetlands. The workshops are also intended to facilitate the signing of the Durban Commitment by the district municipality Mayor.

Based on previous discussions with Eden District Municipality and the internal requirements of the municipality, the Eden Political Leader Workshop was aimed at the Eden District Municipal Executive Mayor, key political leaders within the District (specifically Councilors) as well as key political representatives from the local municipalities within the District Municipality. The key aims of the workshop were to:

1. To raise awareness of what wetlands are as well as the services they provide;
2. To present the LAB: Wetlands SA project and highlight the key outputs to date including the Eden District Municipality Wetland Report, the Eden Wetland Profile, the Eden Wetland Strategy and Action Plan and to showcase the LAB: Wetlands SA video; and
3. To encourage the Eden District Municipality Executive Mayor to sign the Durban Commitment to cement Eden District Municipality's commitment to protecting biodiversity within the district.

A copy of the workshop agenda is attached as **Annex 2**.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Cllr. Lose from Eden District Municipality opened the workshop with a speech wherein he thanked ICLEI for its assistance and support to the municipality. He explained the benefits which the municipality has so far derived from the project as well as the challenges the municipality is facing when it comes to the management of wetlands.

"Within the spirit of Ubuntu, wetlands can be enjoyed."

Cllr Lose, Eden District Municipality

This was followed by a round of introductions which allowed attendees to introduce themselves and share their expectations for the event. The most common expectation was to learn from the workshop with some participants noting specifically that they expect to find out more about the value of wetlands and discover the role wetlands play in impacting society positively.

A copy of the attendance register attached as **Annex 3**.

WHAT IS A WETLAND?

Ms. Kate Snaddon of the Western Cape Wetlands Forum gave a very interesting and detailed presentation on wetlands. The presentation aimed to both introduce and give an overview of wetlands, raise awareness of the value of wetlands and highlight the current situation pertaining to wetlands within Eden District Municipality.

Ms. Snaddon opened the presentation by asking participants to share their own understanding of what a wetland is. Each of the political leaders provided their own interpretation of their understanding of what a wetland is, with the Eden Executive Mayor specifically noting that he understood wetlands to be places where water naturally gathers. The Executive Mayor added that political mandates may sometimes result in politicians clashing with scientists and environmentalists.

The presentation went on to provide a detailed overview on what a wetland is, how wetlands can be identified and why wetlands are valuable to the municipality in terms of the ecosystem services that they provide. The presentation was highly interactive and throughout, and for some time afterwards, there were many questions asked and much discussion between the political leaders of the value of wetlands and how wetlands can support the politicians with achieving their political mandates.



Figure 1: Eden District Municipality Executive Mayor (foreground) discussing with Ms. Kate Snaddon the value of wetland rehabilitation for increasing water provision to the municipality

INTRODUCING THE LAB: WETLANDS SA PROJECT

Following Ms. Snaddon's presentation, Ms. Kirsty Robinson of ICLEI gave a presentation on the LAB: Wetlands SA project. The presentation aimed to highlight the aims and objectives of the project as well as the key deliverables to date which support Eden District Municipality.

During the presentation, in addition to highlighting the deliverables achieved to date, Ms. Robinson specifically introduced the Eden District Municipality Wetland Strategy and Action Plan, which is due to be presented to Council for adoption into the IDP on the 19th April. By introducing the WSAP in the presentation, Ms. Robinson was able to answer queries around the development and need of such a document and motivate why the strategy needs to be incorporated into the IDP and municipal legislature.

The presentation then went on to highlight the project deliverables still to be achieved as part of the project which will further support the municipality; namely the Wetland Management Guidelines, Finance Mechanism and the Eden Case Study, all of which will be finalised by the end of April 2018. Thereafter, the Wetland Video was shown and was very well received.

DEMONSTRATING A COMMITMENT TO BIODIVERSITY: SIGNING THE DURBAN COMMITMENT

Prior to the Executive Mayor's key note speech and signing of the Durban Commitment, Ms. Nachi Majoe of ICLEI set the scene and gave a presentation on the Durban Commitment.

Whilst the presentation was brief, it outlined what the Durban Commitment is and the purpose of such a document. The presentation also highlighted the importance of signing the commitment and how by signing it, Eden would become part of a broader global network dedicated to protecting biodiversity.



Figure 2: Ms. Nachi Majoe presenting on the Durban Commitment

KEY NOTE ADDRESS BY THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR OF EDEN DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

The final speech of the day, and key note address, was given by the Executive Mayor of Eden District Municipality, Councilor Memory Booysen. During the opening of the address the Executive Mayor stated that whilst a speech had been prepared for him, he would *“prefer to speak honestly as [he had] learned so much from this workshop.”*

The Executive Mayor noted that he was initially very sceptical about the workshop and could not see why there was a need for him to attend an awareness raising workshop around wetlands when there are so many other demands on his time. Having been offered the opportunity to learn and engage with experts however the Executive Mayor noted that the workshop was a major eye-opener for him. The Executive Mayor stated that he had never realised how important wetlands, and indeed all other ecological infrastructure, are in terms of providing critical services to the municipality such as water provision and filtration. The Executive Mayor also pointed out that there is a disconnect between researchers and technical staff within the municipality and the politicians, and as such Eden must strive to “close the gap” so that the politicians can make better, more informed decisions around wetlands, rivers, estuaries etc.

The Executive Mayor noted that going forward, based on what had been learned throughout the course of the day, that:

“From now on I will be very respectful towards wetlands and I will use my position as Executive Mayor of Eden District Municipality to influence other politicians. I will also strive to learn more so I can make better decisions going forward”

Executive Mayor Cllr Memory Booyesen of Eden District Municipality

In closing, the Executive Mayor then went on to sign the Durban Commitment and noted that he will encourage the neighboring districts to do the same.



Figure 3: Eden District Municipality signs the Durban Commitment.

WRAP-UP

In closing, the Executive Mayor thanked the ICLEI staff and Ms. Snaddon for their presentations and noted to the municipal officials that moving forward he will be working more closely with them to achieve the sustainable management of wetlands.

Prior to lunch, a photograph was taken of all the workshop attendees. Please refer to **Figure 4** below.



Figure 4: Attendees of the Eden Political Leader Workshop.

Annex 1: Project background

Wetlands are high-value ecological infrastructure, providing essential ecosystem services such as clean water, clean air, food, medicines, flood regulation, water storage and habitat for biodiversity. Wetlands also play a role in disaster risk reduction, and their effective governance could lessen the negative effects of climate change through, for example, flood risk reduction, temperature regulation and water and food security for communities.

However, wetlands are South Africa's most threatened ecosystems, with 48% of wetland ecosystems critically endangered, resulting in an urgent need to increase awareness of wetland importance; and to develop the capacity of local governments to incorporate natural wetland resource objectives into municipal governance mechanisms and Integrated Development Planning, as well as to implement and fund projects on the ground.

In South Africa, there is a wealth of national environmental policies, however, mechanisms for mainstreaming biodiversity through all spheres of government needs to be strengthened. Lack of staff capacity, budget constraints, absence of participatory governance, lack of political leadership and public awareness and support, as well as deficiencies in relevant guidance, tools and resources, make wetland biodiversity planning and management a neglected component of our country's municipal governance.

The Local Action for Biodiversity: Wetlands South Africa (LAB: Wetlands SA) programme's key goal is to protect priority natural wetland resources, thus enabling the supply of ecosystem services, and promoting resilient communities and sustainable local economies under a changing climate within South African local governments.

The key objectives of the LAB Wetlands SA programme are as follows:

1. To improve local government and citizen knowledge and understanding (at the individual, organisation and policy levels) of the value of biodiversity and wetlands.
2. To initiate the process of integrating ecosystem services and biodiversity into local government planning and decision-making in a coordinated, multi-sectoral, gender-sensitive and participatory way.
3. To implement and pilot on-the-ground wetland projects and promote the development of bankable project proposals.

The LAB: Wetlands SA programme is implemented by ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability – Africa Secretariat (ICLEI Africa), and funded by the USAID. This programme works in partnership with 9 District Municipalities and 2 Metropolitan Municipalities throughout South Africa. All project outputs, including the Municipality Wetland Report, Wetland Profile and Wetland Awareness Raising Short Film, can be downloaded from the project website:

<http://cbc.iclei.org/project/lab-wetlands-sa/>

Annex 2: Workshop Agenda

EDEN DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

POLITICAL LEADER WETLANDS AWARENESS RAISING WORKSHOP


AGENDA

Date: 27th March 2018
Venue: Eden District Municipality Head Office, Council Chambers, 54 York Street, George
Facilitator: Kirsty Robinson, ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability

10.00 – 10.30	<i>Welcome Tea & Registration</i>	
Opening of the Workshop		
10:30 – 10:45	Welcome by Eden District Municipality	Cllr. Khayaletu Lose Eden District Municipality
10.45 – 11.00	Workshop Introductions & Expectations	Facilitator
Wetland Training for Political Leaders		
11.00- 11.30	What are Wetlands and why are they valuable?	Kate Snaddon Western Cape Wetlands Forum
11.30- 12.00	Introducing the LAB: Wetlands South Africa Project	Kirsty Robinson ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability
Pledging Commitment to the Environment		
12.00 – 12.15	Introducing the Durban Commitment	Nachi Majoe ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability
12.15 – 12.30	Key Note Address	Executive Mayor, Cllr Memory Booysen Eden District Municipality
12.30- 12.45	Signing the Durban Commitment	Facilitator
12.45- 13.00	Photo Opportunity & Workshop Closure	Facilitator
13.00	<i>Lunch</i>	



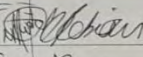
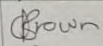
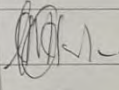


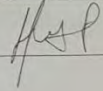
Annex 3: Attendance Register



**EDEN DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY
POLITICAL LEADER WORKSHOP**

Date: 27th March 2018
Venue: Eden District Municipality Head Office, Council Chambers, 54 York Street, George
Facilitator: Kirsty Robinson, ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability

ATTENDANCE REGISTER

Name & Surname	Department/ Company	Position	Email Address	Contact Number	Gender (M/F)	Signature
Kirsty Robinson NOVITIANE Muntzi	ICLEI Outshop	Professional Officer	kirsty.robinson@ckr.org NMuntzi@gmail.com	076 609 9953 0737374119	F	
Crystal Brown	Eden DM	Researcher	crystal@edendm.gov.za	078 177 9811	F	
Charlotte Clarke George Muntzi	George Municip. Municip.	Mayor	charlotte@george.gov.za	079509995	F	
NINA VILJOEN	EDEN DM	DRR and CC	nina@edendm.gov.za	083 344 6883	F	
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Lee-Ann Joubert	Eden DM	Researcher	lee@edendm.gov.za	031 265 11808	F	

Name & Surname	Department/ Company	Position	Email Address	Contact Number	Gender (M/F)	Signature
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Nachi Majoe	ICLEI	SPO	nachimajoe@iclei.org	082 442 3082	F	<i>Nachi</i>
Khayaletshu Lase	Eden DM	CLIK	khayaletshulase2016@gmail.com	0797689443	M	<i>Khayaletshu</i>
Kate Snaddon	W Cape Wetlands Forum	Steer. Comm	kate.snaddon@telkom.net	0722327709	F	<i>Kate</i>
ADELLEMJW	MOSELBAY MUNICIPALITY	MAYCO MEMBER	ADELLEMJW@MOSELBAY.CO.ZA	0715015823	M	<i>Adelle</i>
D Watci	Mosel Bay Municipality	Deputy Mayor	dwatci@moselbay.gov.za	083 275 0035	M	<i>D Watci</i>
Wouter Jacobs	EDEN DM MDMC	DISASTER MANAGEMENT OFFICER	wouter@edendm.gov.za	0835304307	M.	<i>Wouter</i>
Tippie Beuer	Eden DM MDMC	Centre Sup	tippie@edendm.co.za	0839410885	F	<i>Tippie</i>

Name & Surname	Department/ Company	Position	Email Address	Contact Number	Gender (M/F)	Signature
Grail Bekeer	EDEN DM	Administrator Assistant Disaster Man.	grailbekeer@edendm.gov.za	0670550643	F	<i>Grail</i>
Siphiso Dladla	Eden DM	Manager	siphiso@edendm.gov.za	0614726688	M	<i>Siphiso</i>

Local Action for Biodiversity (LAB): Wetlands South Africa

Project Steering Committee Meeting

Friday 16 March 2018
10:00 – 12:00
Aloe Lodge, SANBI, Pretoria



environmental affairs
Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



USAID
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Participants

Name	Affiliation
Ryan Fisher (RF)	ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability
Sagwata Manyike (SM)	SANBI
Piet-Louis Grundling (PLG)	Working for Wetlands
Kensani Mangana (KM)	SANBI
Apologies	
Intelligent Chauke	SALGA
Ingrid Coetzee	ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability
Kirsty Robinson	ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability

Agenda

10:00 – 10:10	Welcome and Apologies	Ryan Fisher
10:10 – 10:30	Update on LAB: Wetlands SA <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Achievements- Currently underway- Project remainder	Ryan Fisher
10:30 – 10:50	Other matters <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Implementation projects- Wetland Management Guidelines- Project close-out workshop	Ryan Fisher
10:50 – close	Update from PSC on their current work/focus	PSC Members

Minutes

Welcome

RF welcomed all to the meeting and noted all apologies from absent members.

Update on LAB: Wetlands SA

Achievements

The project has been a major success and has been embraced by the South African wetlands community at large. The project has delivered incredible results, from winning two awards 2017 (Eco-Logic Biodiversity and Education & Awareness), enhancing municipal representation at the annual wetlands indabas, to be profiled on the international stage at the recent IPCC conference in Montreal, Canada.

Other key project achievements and deliverables presented to the PSC include:

Wetland Reports and Profiles

RF gave the PSC an update on the status of the Wetland Reports and municipal profiles.

All 11 reports have been completely finalised and are available on <http://cbc.iclei.org/project/lab-wetlands-sa/>.

Profiles, in the form of brochures, have been developed for all 11 project municipalities. These profiles offer a snap-shot of the information contained in the wetland reports and can be used as profiling/awareness raising/information sharing tools re wetlands. The profiles are also available on the <http://cbc.iclei.org/project/lab-wetlands-sa/#1493813909529-a3dff9f4-a01f>.

Wetland Strategy and Action Plans

WSAPs have now been developed for all 11 project municipalities through multi-sectoral, multi-stakeholder collaboration processes. This ensures that municipality and their relevant

stakeholders feel and take ownership of the documents and ensure proactive mainstreaming and implementation.

ICLEI is currently working awaiting confirmation of only 2 municipalities who are in the process of incorporating the WSAPs into their IDPs.

Political Leader Workshops

RF informed the meeting about the plan to facilitate political awareness raising workshops in the project municipalities. All but three (Eden, Buffalo City and Ekurhuleni) are yet to occur.

Currently underway

Currently we are drafting **case studies** for each of the municipalities, capturing lessons learnt and how the project has made an impact. In addition, the 3 funded implementation projects are underway in ILembe, West Rand and Amathole, together with the development of **Wetland Management Guidelines** and **Finance Mechanism Guidelines**.

Next steps

RF noted that there will be a project **close-out meeting**, scheduled for **24 May**. The meeting will act as the formal closing of the project with all the project municipalities and partners to be involved.

Updates from PSC members

No updates currently

MEETING CLOSED

Local Action for Biodiversity (LAB): Wetlands South Africa
Final Project Steering Committee meeting

Friday 16 March 2018
10:00 – 11:00

Aloe Lodge, SANBI, Pretoria

Attendance register

Name & Surname	Department/ Company	Position	Email Address	Contact Number	Gender (M/F)	Signature
Pretorius Gwatho	NISA	DD - Environmental Governance	gwatho@environment.gov.za	072 79 58268	w	
KENSAKI MANGENA	SANBI	PROJECT OFFICER	k.mangena@sanbi.org.za	012 843 5121	F	
Rogers Fisher	ICLLEI	Prot. Officer	rogers.fisher@iclle.org	0212020000	M	
Sagwata Manyike	SANBI		S.manyike@sanbi.org.za		M	Joined the meeting via telephonic

TRIP REPORT

Dr Ernita van Wyk

Conference: IPPC Edmonton, Canada

To view the full Programme, go to: <https://citiesipcc.org/>

Arrival and check-in, Sunday 4 March:



Left: Youth Hostel stay, Edmonton. Middle: Vertical garden at the Shaw Conference Centre. Right: Snowy Edmonton City (background).

Monday: 5 March 2018

Keynote: Aromar Revi

- Emphasis on informality: much employment in informal sector in cities
- Can cities be central to climate change?
- Consumption (energy) population growth, poverty (3 major drivers).. have to address all three together to make a change
- 'Stranded assets', coal fired power stations and cities

Google definition of 'stranded assets': **Stranded assets** are "assets that have suffered from unanticipated or premature write-downs, devaluations or conversion to liabilities". ... In this context, **stranded assets** are also **defined** as an **asset** that has become obsolete or non-performing, but must be recorded on the balance sheet as a loss of profit.

- Can we reach our NDCs? Will we experience an overshoot? (Considering locked in cities)
- Need urgent transformative action. But what does this involve?
- Transform energy systems, land-use, transform cities and regions, transform governance and financing, cultural and behavioural change.

Responses to this talk:

- ✓ Q: what do we do as we are part of the economy and lifestyles that promote growth without limits? (This became a major recurring theme of the conference. As long as we strive for lavish lifestyles, we are part of the problem)
- ✓ Bottom up and top-down interventions – to link these very NB and the sciences must engage with this. Action research NB for bottom up research.
- ✓ Interference of political games?
- ✓ Need to turn data into wisdom
- ✓ Informal poor should not be seen as ‘beneficiaries’ – informality must be recognised and included. Youth must be emphasised and youth must join the process. Youth and women must change their self-image as being active in process. Science must produce simple actionable choices for people. Poor all aspire to ‘bad’ consumption practices.
- ✓ Behavioural sciences to support transformative change.
- ✓ What mechanisms can help support smaller cities that often lack the capacity and social capital to adopt and implement change interventions?
- ✓ Can cities have a chief (climate?) scientist and even chief social scientist? (Harriet Bulkeley)

Informality session

- Risks associated with formalising informality – unforeseen effects e.g. outpricing the area
- See paper by David Dodman: responding to climate change in cities and informal settlements
- Nairobi talk: often in fast growing African cities risk is seen from a response perspective, not as the need for a long-term process and planning.
- Public space strategy and how this can be used to reduce risk.
- Daily migrants who live outside city (1 million of Nairobi’s population of 5 million – during the day, migrate from outside for jobs.
- Climate migrants (Bangladesh talk). Source of migration to cities (within country, i.e. no international migrants): floods, droughts, riverbank erosion, cyclones, etc.
- Informal climate capacity contributes towards urban adaptive capacity (Alexei Trundle’s talk, Melbourne, based on his PhD)
- Sheila Patel (comment): Need more projections of what will happen in future in the context of the crisis of informality and intra-city conflicts.

Air Quality session

- Greenhouse gas emission reduction, improved air quality and human health (much evidence for co-benefits among these). Also further co-benefits related to crops (avoiding staple crop losses) and reduced sea level rise, avoiding premature deaths. (‘air quality is the gateway drug to climate change’)
- Effects are immediate and local (easy to sell from a political viewpoint). But despite this, reduced GHGs have been difficult to achieve
- In some cases co-benefits can outweigh the costs associated with reduced emissions
- Urban Health Initiative: Breathe Life campaign <http://breathelife2030.org/>
- See: Rapidair model – based on open source software > it helps with pollution source apportionment.
- IPCC guidelines for national greenhouse Gas Inventories

- Air pollution as an effective engagement tool (more immediate and real for people vs greenhouse gas conversations)
- Citizens now have more access to air quality information, mayors and cities have to respond.
- Urban Climate Impact Framework (C40): facilitates cities to tell their story of climate change mitigation.
- Conversation around the links between air quality and climate change is context-specific, particular to each city.
- Opportunity: use of remote sensing (NASA) to monitor air quality? (Rio looking into this). Response from Malcolm Sheldon (C40): no evidence of any cities using this approach effectively. Vancouver uses citizen science and stations – how to reconcile two sources of info..? Being used as an engagement and educational programme. Another problem: uncertainty associated with air quality data. One solution: have double stations in each locality and compare the data.
- How do we use data to make an impact vs focus on just the data collection? What will cities do with the information?

Plenary Tuesday morning: 6 March 2018

- Creating transformation (UK case). Centre for Climate Change Economics and Policy.
- “Coalition for Urban transitions” (Andrew..)
- Jurgen Kropp (Germany) Potsdam Inst for Climate Impact Research. Title: Trade-offs and benefits for urban transitions
- How to construct new cities?
- Densify? Is this the right vision? Can reduce emissions, but Also negative consequences of densification therefore trade-offs and benefits. Example: if city is stretched then less heat vs densification argument
- Heat island effects discovered – 7 types identified
- Importance of scenarios
- Shobhakar Dhakal: Rapid transition to low carbon cities
- Speaker: 2 areas / needs for further research – infrastructure to be built
- Speaker: (1) Big Q how do we move from words to actions? Our key innovation currently is in our Carbon budget. To operationalise our climate goals (Lan Marie Nguyen Berg) Vice mayor of Env and transportation Oslo. But this also bring accountability.. so pressure is on!
- Transformation for whom and by whom?
- Combine experimentation with evaluation
- We hardly think about human habitats for people to thrive.. need people-centred approach to decision-making
- “Human health and well-being should be central to decision-making for policy and action towards climate change transitions” (Mehrnaz Ghojeh, Buro Happold)
- William Cobbett – Cities Alliance. We cannot make progress because Municipal Councils have capacity problems and they cannot achieve the targets for climate change. This has to be addressed. Where is the next generation coming from of city managers and scientists? (Professional development).
- Best learning is learning between cities. In our experience, this is the best way of learning to change mind sets and changing the narrative. But need to change our patterns of development assistance.

Session: Research Priorities and multi-sectoral collaborations needed to support the most vulnerable people in cities

- Need to build capacity so that communities can participate in decision-making
- Vulnerability info is NB
- Need to document case studies: successes and failure

*Note: Worked on Belmont proposal for rest of the session

Nature-based solutions session 1

- NATURVATION project co-ordinated by Harriet Bulkeley (Durham)
- The Urban Nature Atlas, provides detailed info on NBS in various cities across Europe (it is available online). Evidence-based.
- How can NBS be more integral part of the solution for solving challenges of urban development?
- Perception that engineering solutions are good (grey infrastructure) – challenge to change perceptions
- ARUP (Newcastle): NBS from catchment and river basin perspective.
- Rewilding; retrofitting
- NBS design is iterative
- Good examples of savings made using NBSs in urban settings
- Added values difficult to measure – e.g. impact on learning, relationships, biophilia, etc

Nature-based solutions session 2

This session was very well attended. Sandra Gagnon (IDRC, was a guest at ICLEI offices a few weeks ago) was also there to support our session.

Brief presentations by panel: Thomas Elmqvist, Marcus Collier, Timon McPhearson, Niki Frantzeskaki, Dave Kendal, Kate Noble, (Dave Maddox: absent). Others in the group but not presenting: Anne-Hélène Prieur-Richard, Adina Claudia Dumitru and Brenna Walsh.

Ernita's brief presentation: Co-production Lessons from LAB: wetlands South Africa

- Municipal councils want/need implementation
- Importance of dynamic roles
- Facilitate relationships

Key Research gap:

Evolution of community of practice (co-production) not documented, including the role of actors who serve as connectors in the process.

Breakaway tables x 6: Notes from this session will be collated and will contribute towards the IPCC research agenda on Nature-based Solutions. Within our group, we also agreed that there will be 2 further outputs: (1) a report and possibly a peer-reviewed article led by Niki Frantzeskaki and (2) something for use by cities to be drafted by Ernita van Wyk, Kate Noble and David Maddox.

IPCC NBS session: notes from Ernita's table

Possible key words for conversation: Nature-based solutions (NBSs); co-benefits; co-creation, motivation

Stories/responses/comments	Ernita's notes and interpretations & possible research needs
<p>Canberra City has a large parks system and wetlands are considered important in this nature-based city network of green spaces. Also, much emphasis on restoration (concrete waterways have been restored to a less concrete state) and all water in the system is reused. But, Canberra is prone to drought and bush fire and these green belts can be a fire risk too.</p>	<p>Important to consider the costs and benefits associated with NBSs.</p>
<p>What is a great help is that Canberra has a mostly educated population.</p>	<p>Maybe points to usefulness of creating city profiles which may influence co-production.</p>
<p>Another tip for co-creation: some people on the Canberra Council also serve in the University of Canberra, so that one person has to wear both hats. This helps to appreciate both the practitioner and research perspective.</p>	<p>Could we think of a suite of mechanisms like this one to stimulate co-production? Others include secondments and city-to-city learning exchanges.</p>
<p>Park planners are involved in environmental education and promote indigenous plantings, promoting the ecological and cultural benefits of indigenous planting. But the local council might also regard this as a source of risk. How to balance the two perspectives: risk and ecological/biodiversity/cultural perspectives? The key is building trust and relationships. Use tools to help show that all parties actually have the same objectives</p>	<p>Need research to understand relational and behavioural aspects of co-production. As well as tools for joint visioning, shared goals? Maybe this material exists but has to be brought into the City-researcher-public co-production domain.</p>
<p>New York example: material vs non-material benefits of NBSs and the costs of NBS. But increasingly there is more recognition of the non-material values especially as people are finding ways to quantify the revenue associated with nature in cities. For example the City now has pride in these places.</p>	<p>Interesting point. Are non-material benefits of NBSs only valued once they are proven to create revenue? This might be an interesting avenue for research?</p>
<p>When arguing for the value of green space, it is sometimes useful to ask the question: 'what is the grey infrastructure doing for citizens?'</p>	<p>Interesting point about framing NBS and associated benefits. I think more research is needed around framing/motivation for NBS</p>

Due to budget cuts, many UK cities can't afford green space. As a result in Newcastle, for example, the Health Authority took over the management of the parks and this created a new financial model (a community Trust). Ironically this shift reminded people of the original purpose of these parks.	Research need about novel finance mechanisms to sustain Green Space and NBSs in cities.
In Australia, the city centres are green but in the outer suburbs, there is no greening and there is no room for landscaping; these communities are neglected. Q: who is responsible, developers or the City? This varies but in Australia the Developers have more influence. There is also a significant influence of the financial institutions, for example a Bank would prefer to push developers and buyers to build a big house on a small plot to reduce risk, in case the buyer defaults, the Bank can recuperate the costs.	Research needs around per-urban/suburban areas and the drivers of green space success or neglect in these areas, in particular actors such as banks, insurance companies and developers.
In France: in the suburbs, people are encouraged to subdivide property under pressure to densify. Therefore people speculate and there is much less room for landscaping.	Need research into drivers of land use change which in turn impacts on green space and NBSs.
We need to also understand much better the role of insurance companies in this.	See point above.
Insurance can also drive certain perceptions. For example, people in the US who buy coastal properties are not worried about sea level rise or coastal erosion damage to property because they are covered by insurance.	Sometimes risk perception (or compensation for risk realisation) might discourage NBSs that can mitigate risk. Opportunity for research around public risk perception and the possibility for insurance companies to invest in NBSs (risk mitigation) instead of asking the public to insure for risk realisation?
NBS in cities: oftentimes the benefits are enjoyed at the community scale but individuals bear the cost (e.g. insurance)	Very interesting research question about common good and who pays (or should pay) for the achievement of community-level benefits? Benefit-sharing question.
France: co-benefits as part of landscape multi-functionality. There are always trade-offs and this needs more research.	Research on trade-offs and perhaps trade-off typologies?
NBS is fashionable now but negative consequences must be anticipated.	Also see points above about this. What tools do we have to anticipate negative and positive effects? How do we deal with these uncertainties in complex dynamic systems?

<p>What about the interactions between green and grey infrastructure? Experiments, e.g. green roof top gardens combined with solar panels? Need to keep these experiments small to reduce risks.</p>	<p>Research needed on the co-benefits of combined green and grey infrastructure.</p>
<p>But in some cases, e.g. recovered wetlands > no flooding in these areas; no time for planning, here we can make urgent policy recommendations without research.</p>	<p>Are there opportunities to communicate clear wins to cities?</p>
<p>City of Salzburg (Austria): Since the 1980s, the Greenland Declaration requires the protection of remaining agricultural areas in the city. You can apply to build in the Greenland but then you have to compensate and extend the Greenland elsewhere. This tool is strictly enforced and highly effective but the benefits of keeping the landscape in the city are not evaluated.</p>	<p>Research to uncover why this model is successful and to describe the benefits. Suggests a particular mode of enforcing policies.</p>
<p>Similar idea as above: example from Singapore: high density achieved but at the same time they have achieved an increase in landscape in the city. In this case, all development is approved by the Head of Parks. This is a dictatorship model which seems to be effective.</p>	<p>This example also suggests that a particular way of governing the rule system promotes a certain outcome. Maybe need to research typologies of different styles of governing the rules for greening and NBS in cities.</p>

Plenary Tuesday afternoon

- Climate change is a powerful motivator for action
- Informal sector needs voice, acknowledgement and identity

*Note: Worked on Belmont proposal for rest of the session

Plenary Wednesday morning: 7 March 2018

- Theme: transformation
- See Simon and Solecki references on urban transformation & climate change
- Emphasis on fostering partnerships between research and local governments.
- Global Climate Justice: important theme
- Messages to action: find the link to sciences, join the networks, it may help savings, decarbonise, address carbon emissions from existing buildings, can we retrofit in time? Embark on a variety of strategies, address efficiency of resource use: biodiversity, nature, water, waste.

Session: From Science to Action

- Climate Change action for equity, health and prosperity: need awareness of synergies, scale of impact and synergy and evidence.
- Retrofitting needs to be faster and deeper
- Need enhanced bus networks
- Health benefits and co-benefits of climate mitigation policies and technologies (Jack and Kinney 2010)
- Health benefits can be seen/measured far before climate impact benefits (powerful public health message) (Kristie Ebi Uni of Washington)
- Andrew Gouldson (See his work on co-benefits of urban climate action) Uni of Leeds
- Problem diagnosis is lacking – social science can help here ..do not approach cities without diagnostics (Aspasia Camargo)
- Need to link this to land use as a driver of movement and consumption and production.

Session: action research

- Importance of social science and co-production in climate change efforts
- Maps = NB communication tool, especially simplifying issues for city mayors
- Urban Climate Maps

Discussions with various delegates:

- Mark Ojal: Nairobi and UN-Habitat platform for open space planning. E-mail: mark.ojal@un.org (Global Public Space Program; UN-Habitat) (Useful link for INTERACT-Bio). See: <https://unhabitat.org/urban-initiatives/initiatives-programmes/global-public-space-programme/>
- Lumari Pardo-Rodríguez. University of California, Santa Barbara. Study on social vulnerability (useful layer in Thematic Atlas? INTERACT-Bio?). E-mail: lumari@geog.ucsb.edu

- Emma Terämä. Director: Sustainable Urbanisation Programme. Finnish Environment Institute. E-mail: emma.terama@ymparisto.fi
- Elsona van Huyssteen, CSIR, Built Environment. Principal Urban and Regional Planner. E-mail: evhuyssteen@csir.co.za
- Bettina Wanschura. Public participation & stakeholder involvement. Research and Development. Ramboll Liveable Cities Lab. www.ramboll.com/lcl. E-mail: bettina.wanschura@ramboll.com
- Chantal Pacteau. Co-director Urban Climate Change Research Network. European Hub, Paris. See: uccrn.org & E-mail: Chantal.pacteau@gisclimat.fr or Chantal.pacteau@upmc.fr
- Meian Chen. Innovative Green Development Program. See: www.igdp.cn or www.gdtpchina.cn

Also during this week: Belmont proposal finalisation (led by Thomas Elmqvist) and submission on 8 March 2018. Belmont team at the IPCC conference: Thomas Elmqvist (SRC), José Antônio Puppim de Oliveira (Getulio Vargas Foundation), M'Lisa Colbert (FutureEarth). Proposal title: *Biodiversity change in rapidly urbanizing regions*. Please ask if you would like to view the full proposal.



Thomas, Jose and Ernita in final proposal discussions.

Annexure 1

NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS: SESSION ABSTRACT

Promise of Green Infrastructure and nature-based solutions to combat Climate Change in Cities

Aim: To share knowledge between researchers and practitioners about strategies and key learnings from successful research-practice partnerships around nature-based solutions and how society measure the impacts (positive, negative or otherwise) of these nature-based solutions.

The recent push to incorporate green infrastructure and now nature-based solutions into city-making has resulted in a plethora of research and demonstration projects in cities globally. The responses are proving to be a useful catalyst of research-practice partnerships as knowledge and expertise is rapidly evolving, and there is demand for innovation and experimentation that off-the-shelf or best-practice approaches cannot satisfy. However, there are many challenges for these partnerships – green infrastructure and nature-based solutions are inherently transdisciplinary with social, political, ecological and technical dimensions, while both research and municipalities/agencies are heavily siloed organisations. The reward systems for research and practice are often poorly aligned, meaning the success of partnerships is often based on individual relationships rather than institutionalised processes. The timeframes that research and practice operate are often very different – research often takes years while practice demand responses within months. Nature-based solutions are co-created and co-produced solutions. The nature-based solution approach is a new concept and the phrase is not widely used, but this will change in the coming years, as society seeks to effectively tackle environmental issues through and for innovation. Nature-based solutions and green infrastructure can provide an entry point to addressing all urban challenges. This session will bring a range of researchers and city practitioners to share their experiences and learnings of fostering research-practice partnerships from successful (and perhaps unsuccessful) nature-based climate adaptation projects together to present a framework for measuring the impacts of nature-based solutions. It will be of interest to practitioners, scientists and early career researchers who can contribute to the discussion, meet the key actors in nature-based solution research and innovation. It will also be of interest to practitioners, designers and planners who will get an opportunity to meet the early adopters of the concept. There will be a robust participatory discussion, inviting audience participation, to identify key challenges and opportunities for researchers and cities using green infrastructure and nature-based solutions for climate adaptation.

LAB WETLANDS SOUTH AFRICA



Generously funded by USAID

REPORT ON INTERNAL CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT – STAFF PERSONAL AND TEAM EFFECTIVENESS

15 & 16 February 2018

Century City Convention Center



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ICD – soft skills development	20 February 2018	Final

1. INTRODUCTION

The Cooperative Agreement AID-674-A-14-00014, provides for internal capacity development of ICLEI Africa staff. One of the capacity development activities submitted to, and approved by, the AR relates to improving ICLEI Africa's organizational and technical capacity by focussing on soft skills development.

With this in mind a service provider, BPG Consulting, was appointed to undertake an assessment of individual staff members' interpersonal communication and relationships building strengths and weaknesses; and to provide a soft skills intervention designed to address interpersonal relationships, individual and team productivity and effectiveness, and interpersonal and team communication and relationship building skills.

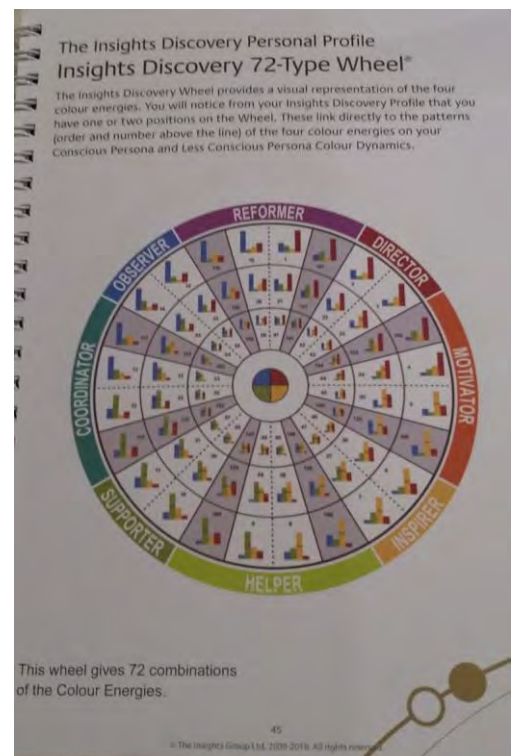
BPG Consulting is a small consulting firm who specialises in Organisational Development, Leadership Skills Development and Strategic Facilitation services with the aim to unlock untapped potential within individuals and teams. BPG Consulting is a 100% black owned and managed firm with Owen Henderson as sole owner. The firm specialises in bringing people into alignment with company vision, mission, values and strategy and uses tools such as Insights Discovery® and Navigate®, Participlan™ to facilitate transformative dialogue that lifts performance of individuals and teams.

2. TRAINING METHODOLOGY

The capacity development intervention two day **Personal Effectiveness** session using the **Insights Discovery** methodology.

Insights Discovery is a powerful, fun learning methodology which uses colour energies (Fiery Red, Cool Blue, Earth Green and Sunshine Yellow) to describe different behavioural styles. It focuses on building a groups awareness of self and others in how we show up and behave through our inter-personal interactions. It is a preference based tool that explores our unique perceptions and how our perceptions drive our behaviour. The methodology is based on Carl Jung's three pairs of psychological preferences and the uniqueness of each person, building on recognizing others, and adapting and connecting to get best out of our relationships and interactions.

The Insights Discovery methodology is supported with a personal and unique **Insights Discovery Profile**, which supports individuals by creating awareness of their behavioral impact on others. This awareness creates and builds their skills to ultimately improve team performance creating a positive work environment and culture. Because it easy to understand and recall it makes long term application and change far more possible.



3. TRAINING INTERVENTION

The training intervention was divided into two components: An individual assessment and a two day team facilitated personal and team effectiveness intervention session.

Prior to attending the two day team intervention session, all staff completed an online evaluator questionnaire, to generate their comprehensive (23 page) individual Insights Discovery Personal Profiles. This was done towards the end of 2017 and early 2018.

The two day team intervention session took place on 15 and 16 February 2018. The Personal Profiles were shared with each staff member person at the training session.

On day one staff were introduced to the basis of the Personal Profile, and developed a comprehensive understanding of the Insights colour language to understand differences in behavioral style. This covered the **power of perception, Yung's psychological preferences, the four colour energies**, their unique profiles, as well as some personal development aspects. On day two staff were taught how to use their understanding of the Insights Learning model to team work and interaction, and unpack their ability to adapt and connect.



All 23 staff members, including the senior management team, professional staff and finance and administration staff underwent the Insights Discovery Personal Profile and Effectiveness training. The attendance register is appended in Annex 1.

4. TRAINING OUTCOMES

Each staff member received an individual and comprehensive Personal Profile which sets out their communication and behavioural preferences and an Insights Discovery Workbook. The Workbook explains the steps to personal effectiveness; how perception shapes communication and interpersonal relations; the Discovery personality colour energies and Jungian preferences; how to apply these in everyday and workplace communication and relationship building; and provides guidance on how to put learnings into practice and commit to action.

The training intervention session also included exercises in how to adapt personal communication and behavior patterns in interacting with others and in a team situation to improve personal and team effectiveness and reduce conflict.

The individual team personality and communication preference types were plotted on the Insights Discovery colour wheel which was provided to the senior management team.

The skills acquired through the training have helped staff identify individual skills development needs for their performance agreements and contributed to a better understanding of each other's' individual communication and behavioural preferences in team context.



INGRID COETZEE

SENIOR MANAGER: BIODIVERSITY & NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS

Delegate attendance register ... ICLEI

Programme : Insights Discovery Beginning the Journey

Venue : Century City Conference Centre

Facilitator(s) : Owen Henderson

Date(s) : 15 & 16 February 2018



consulting

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Delegate attendance register ... ICLEI

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Programme : Insights Discovery Beginning the Journey

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Indicator	Unit of measure	Method of verification	Data Source	Disaggregation	Data collection frequency	Baseline	Annual target 2015	Achieved to date (30 Sept 2015)	Annual target 2016	Achieved to date (30 Sept 2016)	Annual target 2017	Achieved to date (30 Sept 2017)	Annual target 2018	Achieved to date (31 March 2018)	Overall Project target	Overall achieved to date	Responsibility for measurement	Comments for Targets to date
GOAL: To protect priority natural wetland resources, thus enabling the supply of ecosystem services, and promoting resilient communities and sustainable local economies under a changing climate within South African Local Governments.																		
Number of hectares of biological and/ or natural resource significance under improved natural resource management as a result of USG assistance.	Hectares	Delineation of areas i) under natural resource management in the LBSAP, and ii) where project proposals are approved.	LBSAPs, project proposals (including approval).	Protected Areas, managed areas	End of project	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	500	0	500	0	Municipalities and/ or ICLEI Africa	To be reported on at the end of the project
Number of municipalities that promote wetland conservation and management for enhanced resilience to climate change and/ or the green economy.	No. of municipalities	Report based on municipal policy documents and narrative reports from decision-makers and local partners.	Integrated Development Plans (IDPs), Disaster Risk Management Plans, narrative reports from decision-makers and local partners, LBSAP published.		Annually	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	8	6	8	8	ICLEI Africa	8 of the project municipalities have presented the LBSAPs to Council. The LBSAPs have then either been officially adopted/ referred to in the IDP. Outstanding municipalities include Bojanala Platinum, Eden and
Allocation of funds for wetland project proposals developed during the programme.	Rands	Value of funds secured from private and public sources for wetland projects.	Council meeting minutes, Service Delivery and Budget Implementation Plans (SDBIP), other documentation and the LBSAP.	Private sector, national/ provincial/ local government funds, donor funding	End of project	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	R 1 million	R 1 133 200 allocated for three projects	R 1 million	R 1 133 200 allocated for three projects	Municipalities and/ or ICLEI	
Objective 1: To improve local government and citizen knowledge and understanding (at the individual, organisation and policy levels) of the value of biodiversity and wetlands																		
Number and range of stakeholders receiving USG training in natural resources management and/ or biodiversity and climate change.	No. of people, no. of organisations	Workshop attendance registers, conference attendance.	Attendance registers	Organisation, gender.	Annually	0	300	81	250	206	10	463	0	233	560	983	ICLEI Africa	Year 4 figures include: Attendance at the Indaba; attendance at Constructed Wetlands Training; Biodiversity and Strategy and Action Plan training in Moshi, Arush and Dar es Salaam; Amathole and Eden Political Leader Workshops
Increased knowledge of biodiversity, wetlands and climate change.	% of participants with increased knowledge	Workshop surveys of participant understanding.	Workshop survey of participant understanding.	Organisation/ association, gender.	At awareness-raising workshop	0	80%	77%	80%	89%	80%	81%	0	0	80%	82% average	ICLEI Africa	
Number of Mayors demonstrating awareness of the value biodiversity and ecosystem services, and knowledge of climate change issues.	No. of Mayors	Mayors demonstrate awareness of the value of biodiversity and improving climate change resilience through oral or written questionnaire.	Number of signed DCs in hardcopy/register; Questionnaire	Gender	At signing ceremony	0	0	3	0	0	3	8	7	1	10	12	ICLEI Africa	Durban Commitments Signed by: Y1: Waterberg; Mogalakwena LM; Modimolle LM Y3: Overberg DM, Aghulas LM; iLembe DM, West Rand DM, Merafong City LM, Rand West LM, Lim 368 LM, Mookgopong LM Y4:Eden DM Durban Commitments are still due to be signed by Amathole, Buffalo City, Bojanala Platinum, Ehlanzeni, Ekurhuleni and Frances Baard
Number of awareness-raising workshops.	No. of workshops	Tracking attendance registers and workshop reports	Attendance registers and workshop report		Annually	0	2	2	8	10	0	16	0	2	10	30	ICLEI Africa	10/ 11 original awareness raising workshops completed (Ekurhuleni still outstanding) 11/ 11 x LBSAP development and awareness raising workshops completed 9/ 11 Political Leader awareness raising Workshops complete (Ekurhuleni and Buffalo City outstanding) The Awareness Raising, LBSAP and Political Leader Workshop Reports have been uploaded to the LAB: Wetlands SA webpage
Number of Durban Commitments signed.	No. of Durban Commitments	Signed copies of the Durban Commitment; Photographs of the signing ceremony	Number of signed DCs in hardcopy/register	Metropolitan; District; Local Municipality	After signing ceremony	0	0	3	0	0	3	8	7	1	10	12	ICLEI Africa	Durban Commitments Signed by: Y1: Waterberg; Mogalakwena LM; Modimolle LM Y3: Overberg DM, Aghulas LM; iLembe DM, West Rand DM, Merafong City LM, Rand West LM, Lim 368 LM, Mookgopong LM
Number of case studies.	No. of case studies	Case studies uploaded to the LAB: Wetlands SA webpage.	Check website		End of the programme	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	0	2	10	2	ICLEI Africa	Completed case studies have been uploaded to the LAB: Wetlands SA
Increased viewership and 'hits' on the website	No. hits	Hits on website	Check website counter		3-monthly	0	30	0	100	0	100	5242	100	5705	330	10947	ICLEI Africa	Y3: Q1-4 5242 sessions Y4Q1 - 2: 5705 sessions
Number of events where video is shown	No. of events	Report on no. and type of events	Municipalities	Community events; other events	End of programme	0	0	0	0	0	5	11	5	2	10	13	Municipalities, ICLEI Africa	
Objective 2: To initiate the process of integrating ecosystem services and biodiversity into local government planning and decision-making in a coordinated, multi-sectoral, gender-sensitive and participatory way.																		
Number of sub-national laws, policies, strategies, plans, agreements or regulations addressing climate change and/ or biodiversity conservation officially adopted as a result of USG assistance.	No. of plans	Council meeting minutes or signed LBSAP approvals	Minutes of Council meetings or signed LBSAP approvals		End of programme	0	0	0	0	0	10	2	0	6	10	8	ICLEI Africa	8 of the project municipalities have presented the LBSAPs to Council. The LBSAPs have then either been officially adopted/ referred to in the IDP. Outstanding municipalities include Bojanala Platinum, Eden and Frances Baard District Municipalities.
Multi-sectoral co-operation (across municipal departments, between government spheres, and including external stakeholders) in the development of LBSAPs.	No. of organisations	Report detailing the range of stakeholders and partnerships represented at the LBSAP workshops.	Attendance registers	Organisation/ department, gender.	End of programme	0	0	0	0	0	10	11	0	0	10	11	ICLEI Africa	A 2 day workshop was held with each project municipality with all spheres of government (national, provincial, district and local (where relevant and appropriate) as well as with external stakeholders working with wetlands in each district. The workshop reports, including the attendance registers, have been uploaded to the LAB: Wetlands SA webpage
Enhanced understanding, documentation and mapping of local wetland areas	No. of Wetland Assessment reports	Published Wetland Assessment reports	Published reports placed on the LAB: Wetlands SA webpage		Annually	0	0	0	0	0	10	11	0	0	10	11	ICLEI Africa	All reports have been printed and have been uploaded onto the website
Number of LBSAP workshops.	No. of workshops	Tracking attendance registers and workshop reports	Attendance registers and workshop reports		Annually	0	0	0	0	1	10	10	0	0	10	11	ICLEI Africa	Final LBSAP documents have been uploaded to the LAB: Wetlands SA website and incorporated into the project municipalities IDPs
Local Government Wetland Management Guidelines developed, published and disseminated.	No. of guidelines	Number of guidelines disseminated and downloaded from the website.	Report on where distributed. Website download information.	Printed, downloaded	End of project	0	0	0	0	0	200	0	0	0	200	0	ICLEI Africa & partners	Will be reported on at the end of the project
Objective 3: To implement and pilot on-the-ground wetland projects and promote the development of bankable project proposals.																		
Local pilot wetland projects for resilience and community benefit approved by council and initiated.	No. of projects	Council approval of wetland projects.	Council approval of projects. Municipal reports and photos.			0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	3	3	ICLEI Africa	Acceptance letters of all three projects have been received. Projects are well underway and are scheduled for completion in April 2018
Number and quality of bankable project proposals/ business plans developed.	No. of proposals	Review of proposals/ business plans.	Electronic copies of proposals are analysed against criteria given.		At end of project	0	0	0	0	0	10	31	0	0	10	31	ICLEI Africa	A total of 31 proposals have been received following the call for applications to the value of ZAR 12.46 million