



CapeNature

# Towards building a Conservation Economy in the Western Cape Province, South Africa

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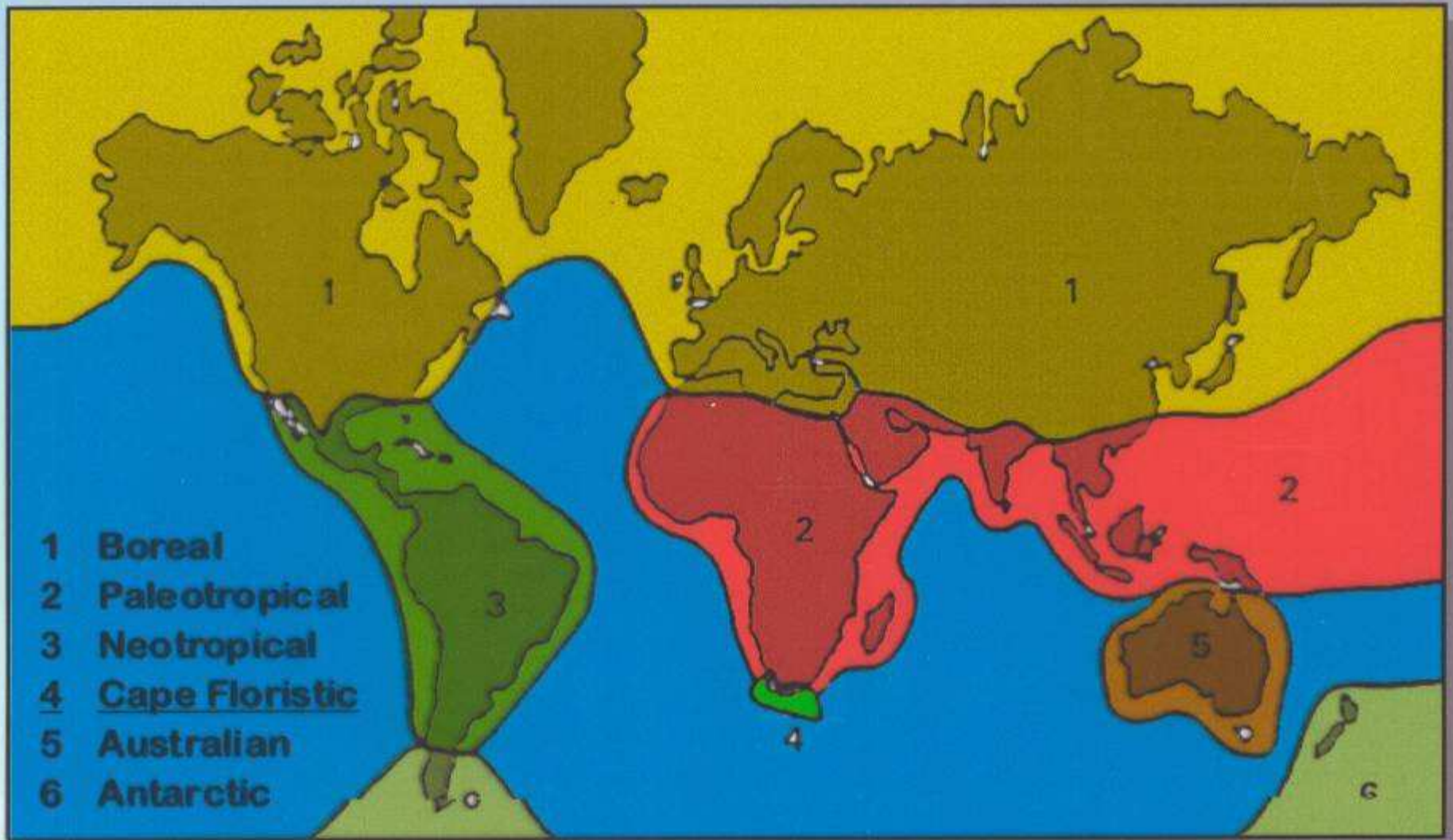
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# Structure of presentation

- Introduction to region
- Overview of mainstreaming activities
  - Cape Action for People and the Environment
  - CBNRM & LED
  - EPWP
  - Youth Development
- Summary





## THE SIX FLORAL KINGDOMS OF THE WORLD

# Cape Floristic Region (CFR)

- One of 6 plant Kingdoms of the World
- Smallest (90,000 km<sup>2</sup>), yet most diverse, and only one within one country
- 9,600 plant species; 70% endemic; 1,400+ plants threatened
- Threatened by indiscriminate agricultural and urban development, fragmentation, invasive alien plants, unsustainable use of resources, pollution, climate

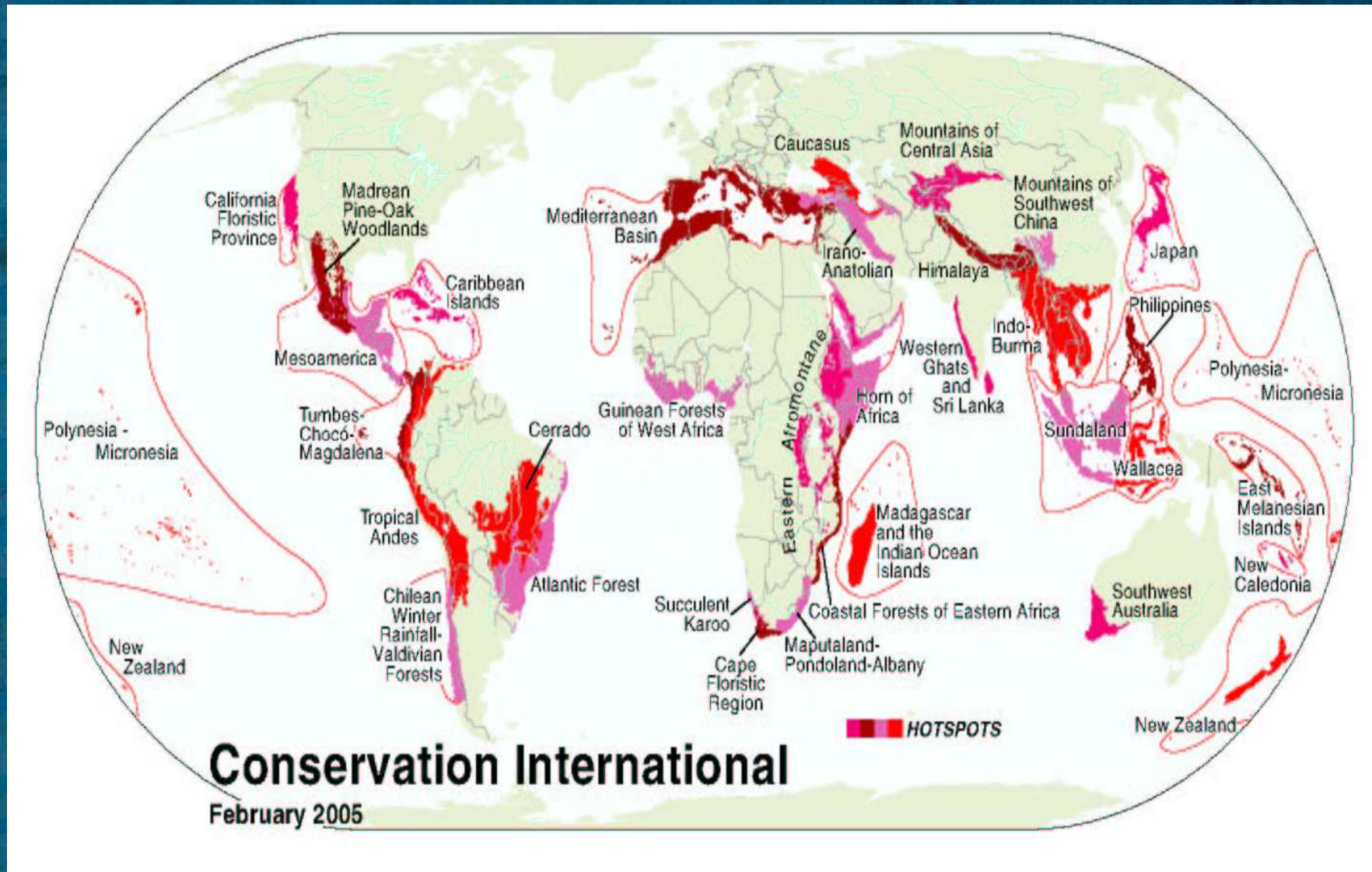
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# Succulent Karoo Ecoregion

- World's most diverse arid environment
- More than 6 000 plant species, 250 species of birds, 78 mammals, 132 reptiles and amphibians; 40% endemism
- Only 27% remains in relatively pristine state; only 3.5% formally protected
- Threatened by indiscriminate agricultural development (ostrich farming), mining, unsustainable use of resources, esp. succulent plants, invasive alien plants and climate change

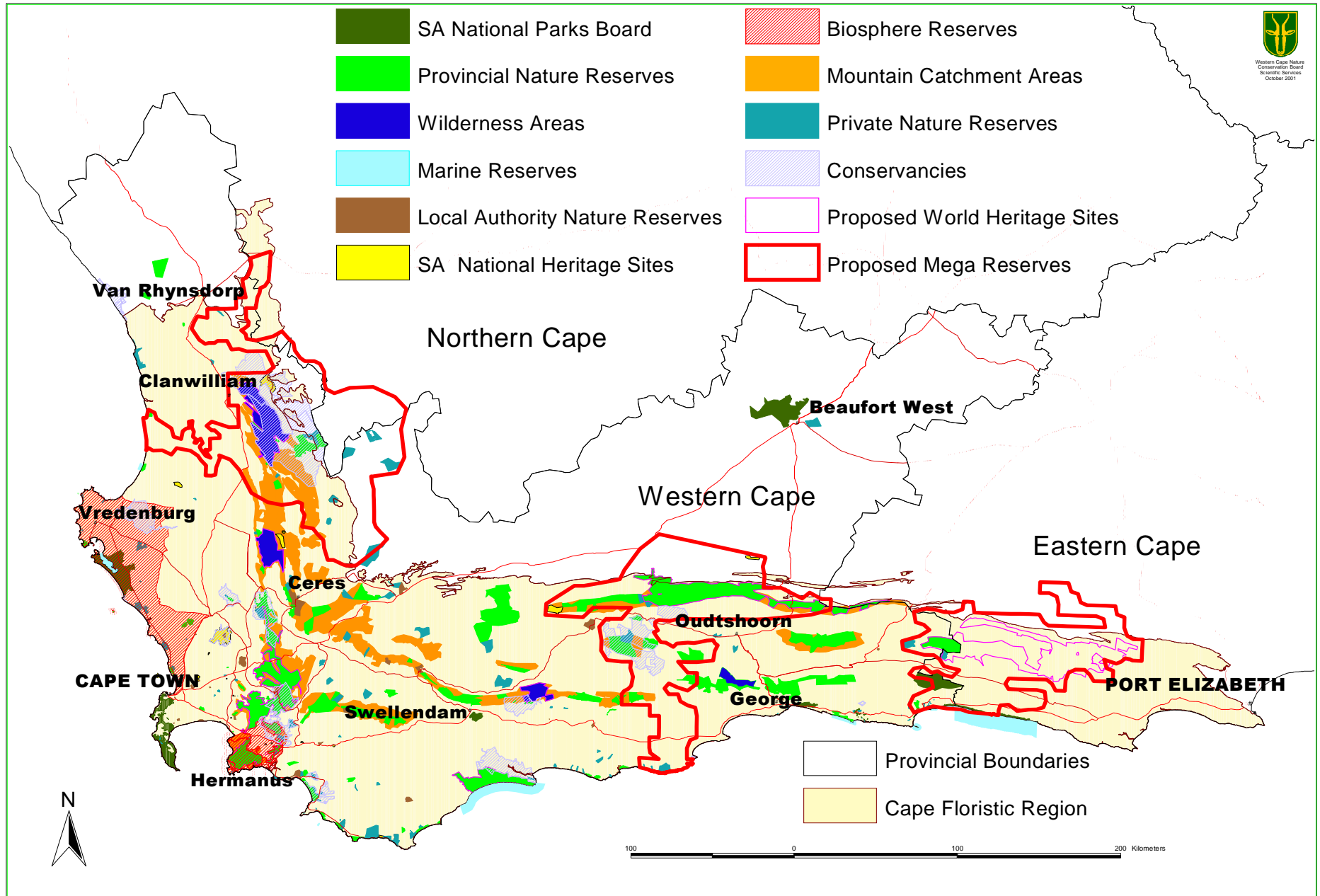
Photograph by V Loehr

# Two of the world's 34 biodiversity hotspots!

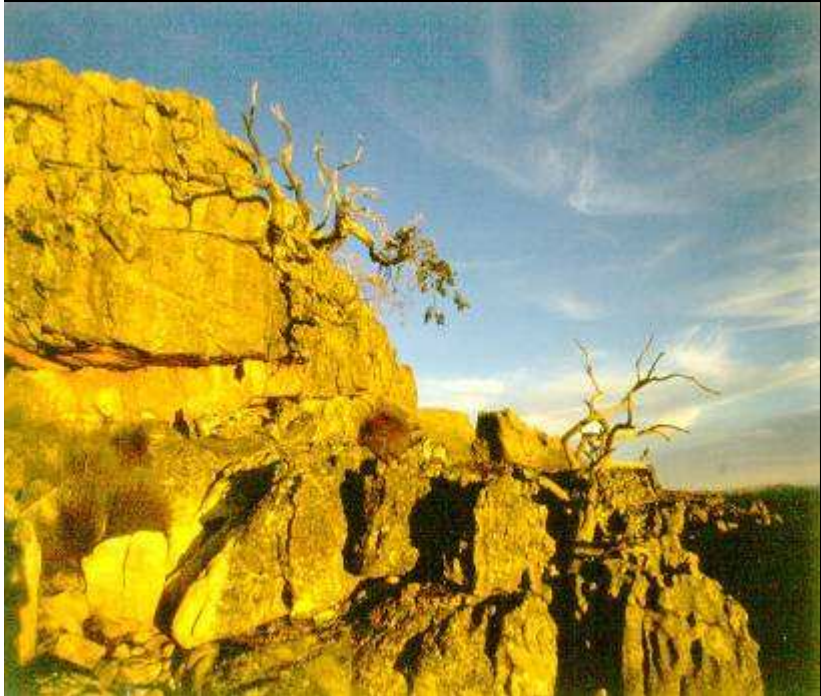
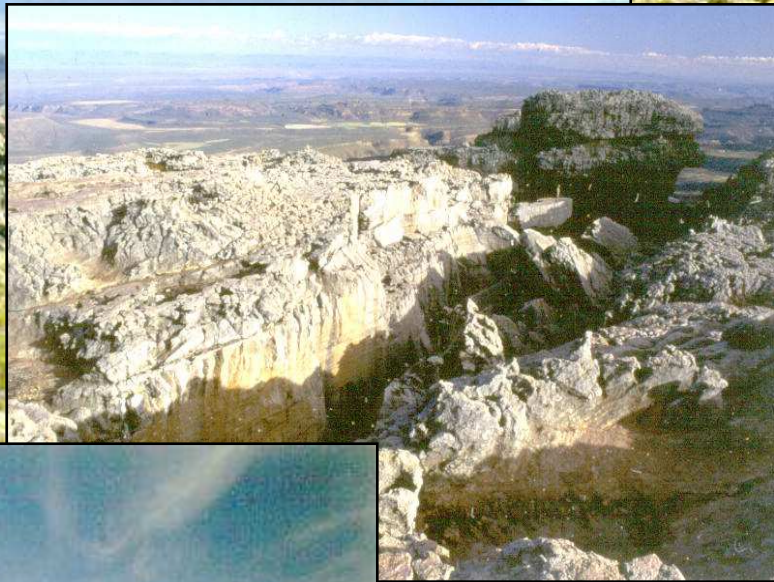
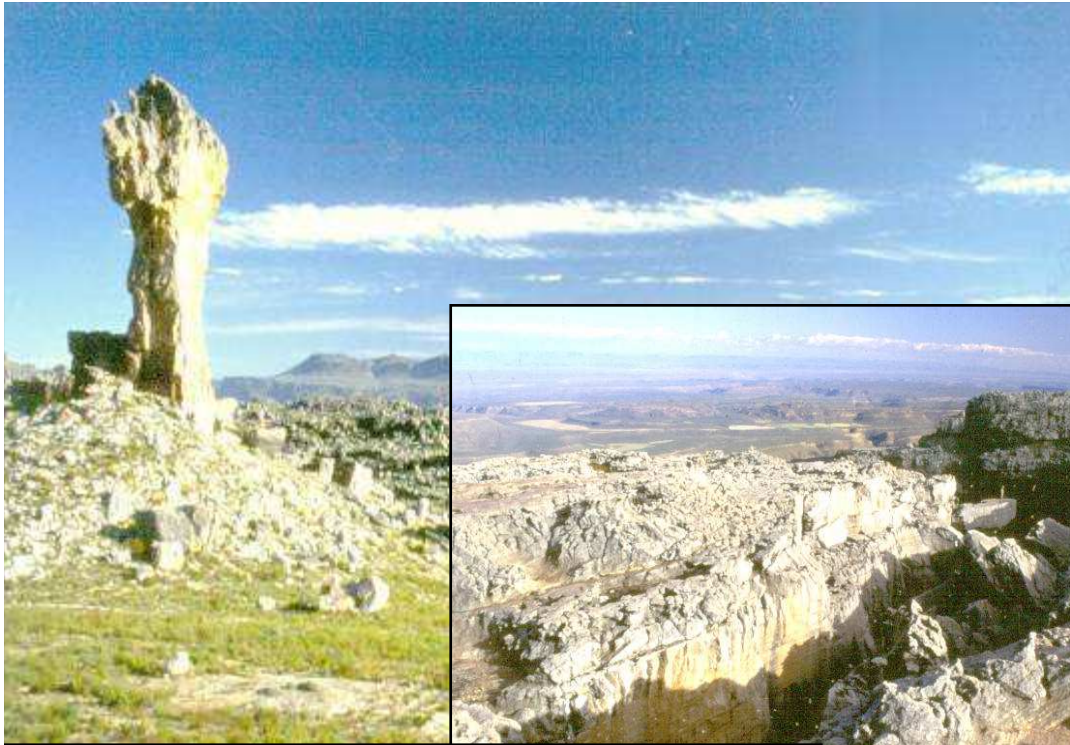


## The Western Cape conservation estate ...

- Statutory conservation areas conserve 14.2% of Western Cape land surface (1,840 M ha)\*
  - Serial World Heritage Site, wilderness areas, national parks, provincial and local authority nature reserves, state forest nature reserves, mountain catchments, island reserves and marine protected areas
- Conservation areas under voluntary arrangements in the Western Cape enlarge the statutory estate by a further 1,910 M ha\*
  - Includes 2 biosphere reserves, 1,28 M ha conservancies and 88 stewardship sites (contract reserves, biodiversity sites)



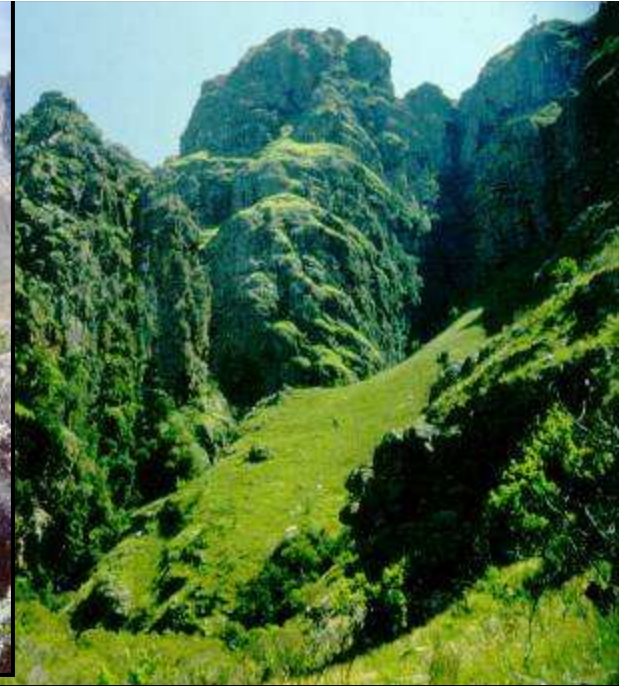




Cederberg



**Groot Winterhoek**

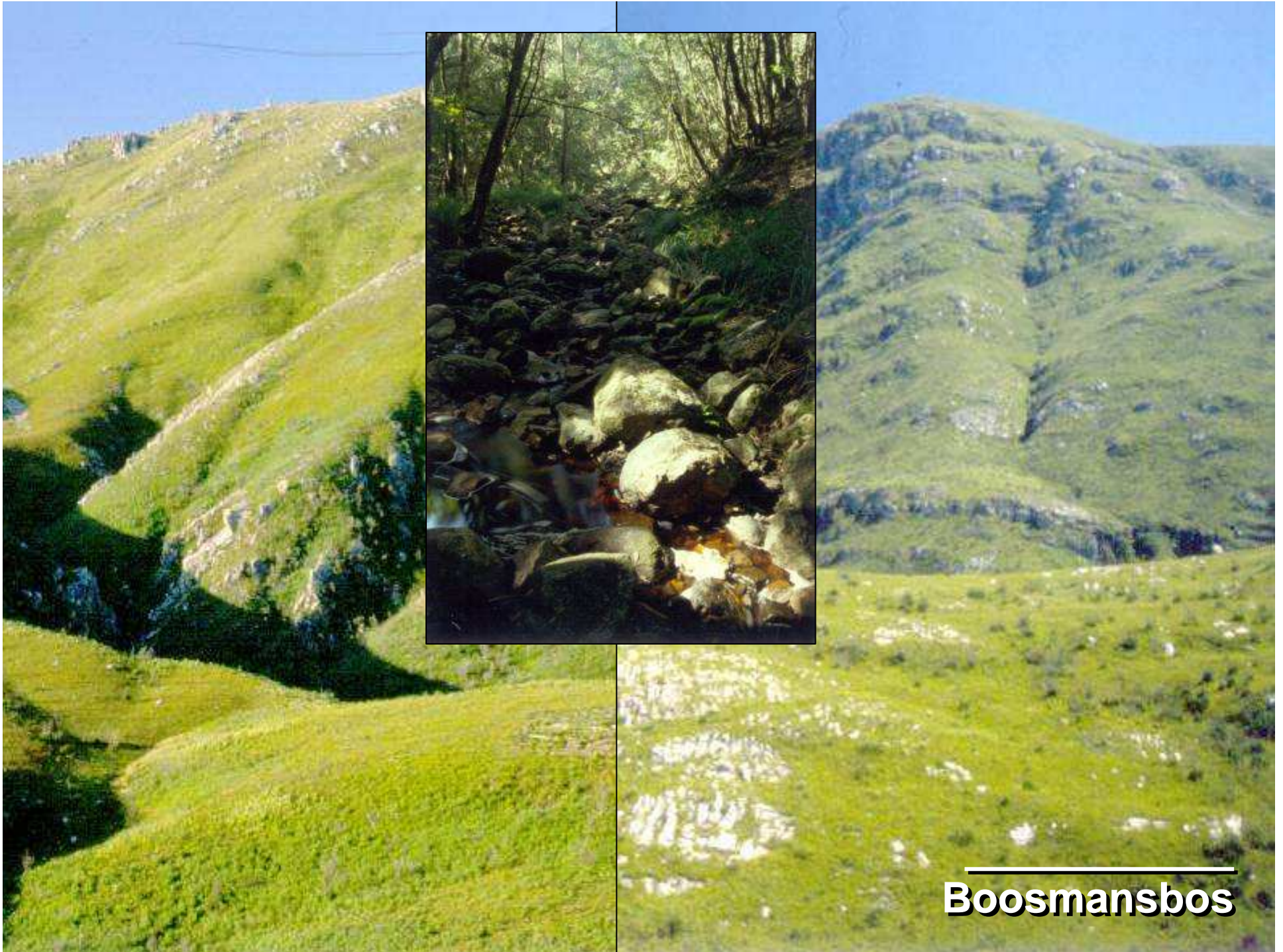


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**Boland**



**De Hoop**



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**Boosmansbos**



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**Swartberg**



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**Swartberg**

# Overview of mainstreaming activities





## *The Vision*

By the year 2020, the natural environment and biodiversity of the Cape Floral Kingdom

- will be effectively conserved
- will be restored wherever appropriate, and
- will deliver significant benefits to the people of the region in a way that is embraced by local communities, endorsed by government and recognised internationally
- US\$ 11 M WB/GEF funds for Phase I –2005 to Jun 2009



# Mainstreaming Biodiversity into Spatial Planning

**Guidelines for environmental assessment practitioners**



**Fine scale conservation planning: Identifying the priorities**



**Putting biodiversity plans to work: Influencing decision making**



**Integration into local authority plans & frameworks**



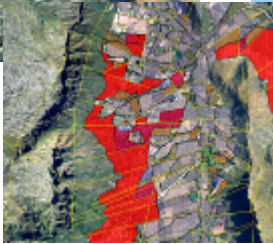
**Biodiversity GIS: Serving biodiversity information**



**Provincial Spatial Development Framework (PSDF)**



# Mainstreaming Biodiversity into Agriculture



**Slanghoek Valley: Farmers mapping critical biodiversity**

**CRITICAL ECOSYSTEM PARTNERSHIP FUND**

Supporting stewardship of natural resources through access to information and incentives

**Stewardship programme: working with landowners**

**CRITICAL ECOSYSTEM PARTNERSHIP FUND**



**Area wide planning: Mainstreaming biodiversity priorities into agriculture's farm plans**



**Cooperative management:**

- A cultivation MOU for the Sandveld
- An integrated service centre on the Agulhas Plain



**Biodiversity and wine initiative launched in London**



**Biodiversity and Wine Initiative**

**CRITICAL ECOSYSTEM PARTNERSHIP FUND**

# Mainstreaming Biodiversity into Local Economic Development

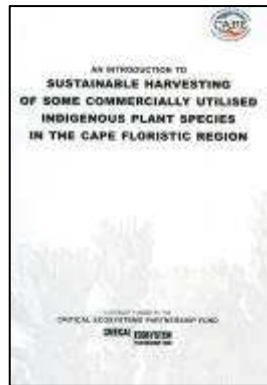
“Building the Biodiversity Economy...”

## Setting standards...

**SAPPEX and Flower Valley: Sustainable Flower Harvesting Methods**

**Guidelines for off road recreational vehicles**

**Mainstreaming of biodiversity into IPW standards**



## Developing markets...

**Flower Valley: Developing markets for certified flowers**

**“Variety is in our nature”: SA Wine marketing strategy**

**Small scale Cederberg farmers: Wild Rooibos marketing strategy**



## Creating jobs...

**ECPB: Baviaanskloof tourism route**

**Pakhuis Conservancy: Donkey Trail Ecotourism**

**Natures Valley Trust: Salt River Ecoguides**

**Duineveld Coastal Assn: Small business development for alien clearing**

**SANParks: Table Mountain Hoerikwaggo guides**

**Jobs and life skills from the Extended Public Works Programme: Working for Water, Working for Wetlands, Working on Fire, Working for Fynbos....**



**In the pipeline:**

**Rooibos, Citrus, Potatoes, Ostriches, Predator Friendly meat....**

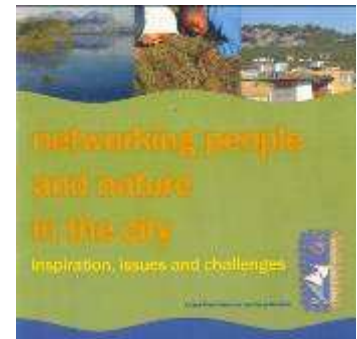
# Mainstreaming Biodiversity into Community Development and Capacity Building

**Conservation Education: Mainstreaming biodiversity into secondary and tertiary curricula**



**Cape Flats Nature: Networking people and nature**

CRITICAL ECOSYSTEM PARTNERSHIP FUND



**Custodians of rare and endangered wildflowers**

CRITICAL ECOSYSTEM PARTNERSHIP FUND



**CEPF – TMF Capacity Building Programme**

CRITICAL ECOSYSTEM PARTNERSHIP FUND



## Community-based Natural Resource Management projects

- CBNRM strategy developed
- People & Parks Framework developed
- Participation in national People & Parks programme
- Logframes for 10 livelihoods projects developed
- Close collaboration with W-Cape Dept Env Aff & Dev Plan
- Developed draft policy on consumptive utilization of natural resources in and around protected areas
- Protocol on access to protected areas for cultural, spiritual and traditional purposes drafted



## Local Economic Development projects

- Development of accredited field guides
- Employment through Whale Trail Project I and II
- Buchu anti-poaching project
- Witfontein medicinal plant nursery
- Baboon monitors
- Fire-break clearing and hiking trail maintenance projects
- *etc.*





## Expanded Public Works Programme

- **Working for Water** – training and using economically inactive people for the clearing of invasive alien plants to improve biodiversity and run-off and promote social upliftment
- **Working on Fire** – training and using economically inactive people to establish strategically-placed rapid response teams to manage fire
- **Working for Wetlands** - training and using economically inactive people to rehabilitate invaded and transformed wetlands to function properly
- Training and using economically inactive people to become contractors for infrastructure maintenance, e.g. roads, buildings, *etc.*



## Youth Development Programme

- Nature-based experiences for school-going youth using protected areas
- Exposing youth-at-risk to life-skills training and targeting secondary school graduates from previously-disadvantaged communities to enter into environmental workforce



## Summary

- Western Cape a special place
- Unique floral and faunal assemblage
- Environmental pressure on natural resources and ecosystem services severe
- Mainstreaming biodiversity into people's lives and livelihoods, and into economic activities only way to ensure sustainability

*"If biodiversity conservation fails in the Western Cape, the socio-economic consequences will be catastrophic for all citizens..."* Mr SF Bekker Acting CEO, CapeNature



thank you...

