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SAFEGUARDING LIFE ON EARTH

# Evaluation and Monitoring of Protected Areas Management Effectiveness Using Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (METT): A South African Journey from Baseline to a Modern Web-Based Tool

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# Introduction:- Why do assessments?

- Meet South Africa's obligations for CBD **Target 11** & **PoWPA**, specifically goal 4.2 which requires Parties to evaluate management effectiveness of their PAs
- South Africa **adapted the international METT** for relevance to its situations
- Determined **baseline** and continue to monitor implementation by management authorities on annual basis
- **Integrated into strategic** planning of the sector and set ambitious annual targets
- Management interventions implemented to improve the scores
- The tool **evolved over time to suit different kinds of PAs**, ie. **MPA**, WHS, Ramsar Sites, Stewardship Sites Private Nature Reserves, National Parks & Nature reserves

## MANAGEMENT EFFECTIVENESS

of South Africa's Terrestrial Protected Areas

managed by national and provincial conservation authorities



2013-2014

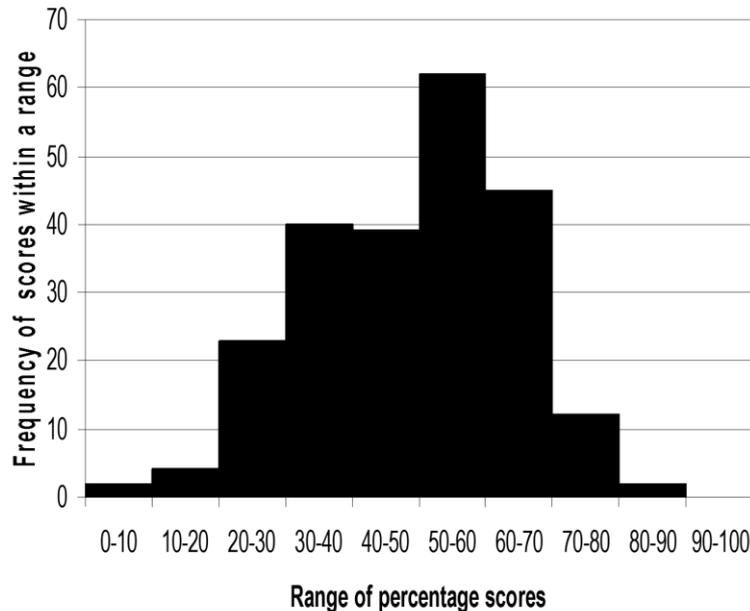
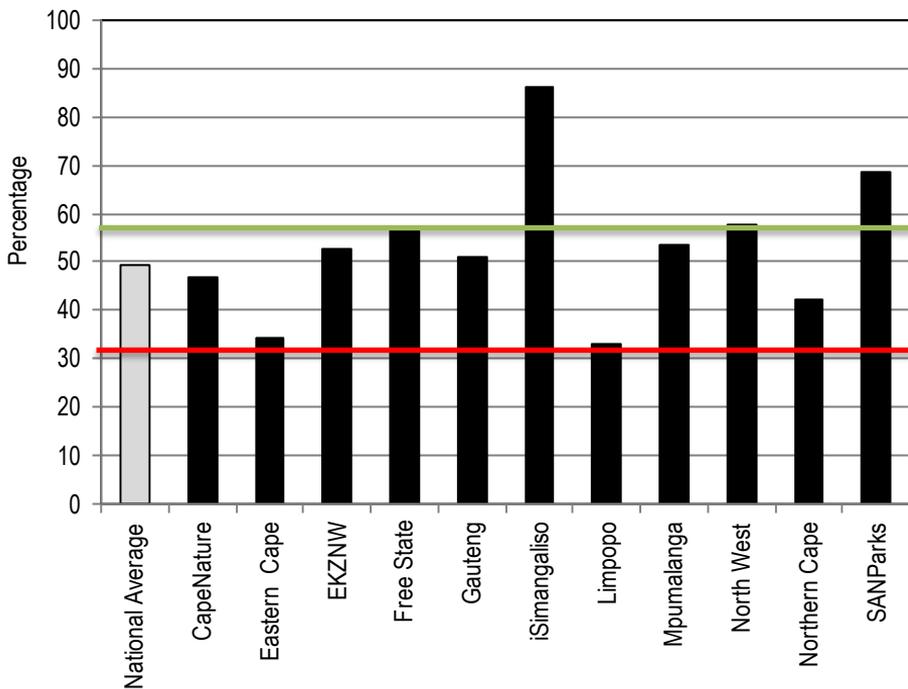
OCTOBER 2014



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# Baseline Study Results

0-33%=ineffective mngnt, 33-67%=basic mngnt with significant deficiencies &  $\geq 67\%$ =sound mngnt



Average effectiveness = 49% & only 52% PA with  $\geq 67\%$  (effective). Semi-normal distribution = problem!!

# Radical National Step to Improve PA Management Effectiveness

## National METT Score Targets

“**60%** of state managed protected areas to have a METT score above **67%** by the end of **2014 fiscal year**”

- To be achieved through ensuring incorporation of the target into:
  - Outcome 10,
  - Strategic plans &
  - Other subsidiary and appropriate plans across all spheres of government within the sector
- **On-going annual monitoring** of the implementation & trends determination



The image shows the cover page of the Department of Environmental Affairs Strategic Plan. The top section features the department's name, "Department of Environmental Affairs", in white text on a green background. Below this, there are two images: "Tyre Recycling" showing a pile of old tires, and "Zero Emission Car" showing a blue and green car. The middle section contains three smaller images: "Indigenous Plant" (a purple flower), "Green Building" (a modern building), and "Oceans & Coast" (a rocky coastline with waves). The title "Strategic Plan" is written in a large, elegant script font, with the dates "01 April 2014 - 31 March 2019" below it. At the bottom left is the South African coat of arms and the text "environmental affairs Department: Environmental Affairs REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA". At the bottom right is the "20 YEARS OF FREEDOM" logo.

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Tyre Recycling Zero Emission Car

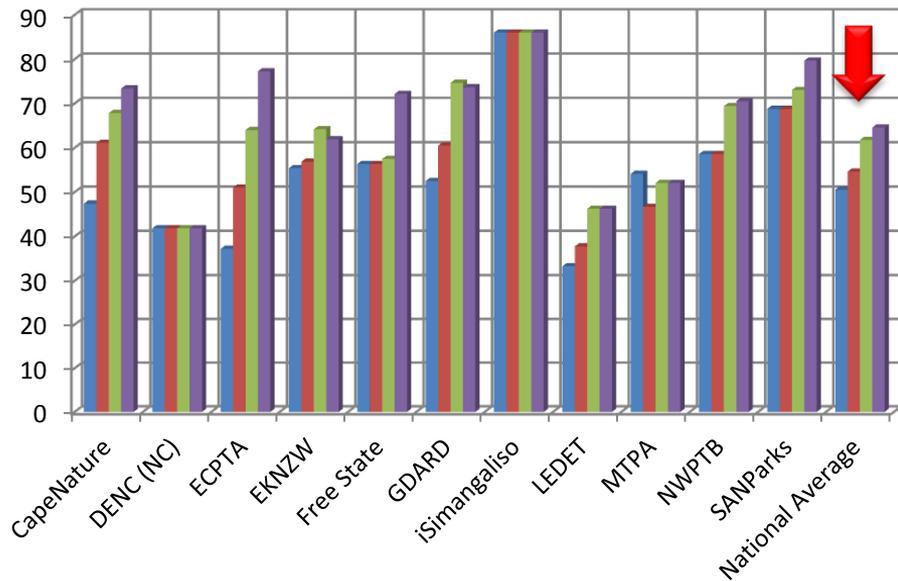
Indigenous Plant Green Building Oceans & Coast

*Strategic Plan*  
01 April 2014 - 31 March 2019

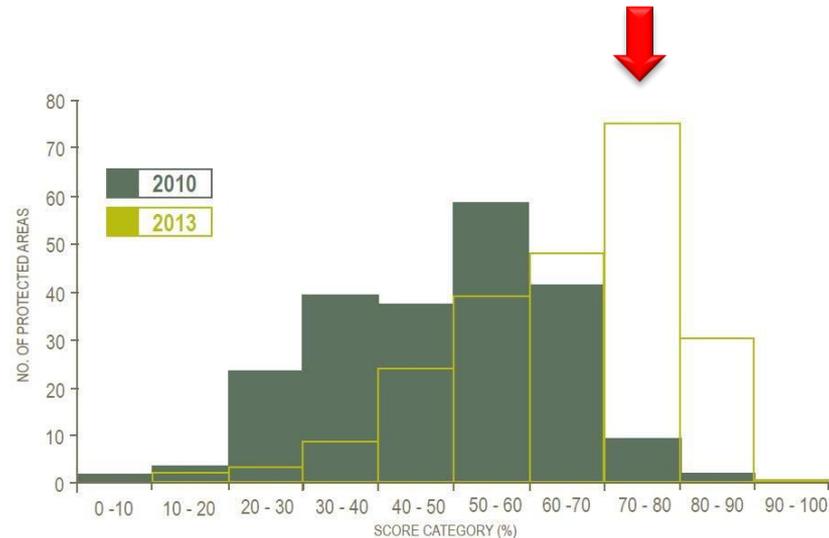
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20 YEARS OF FREEDOM

# Results of the Monitoring of METT-SA Application



■ Average of 2010 
 ■ Average of 2011 
 ■ Average of 2012 
 ■ Average of 2013

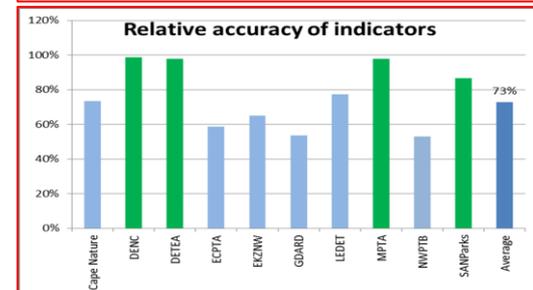
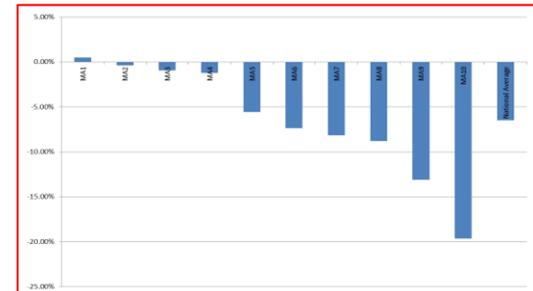
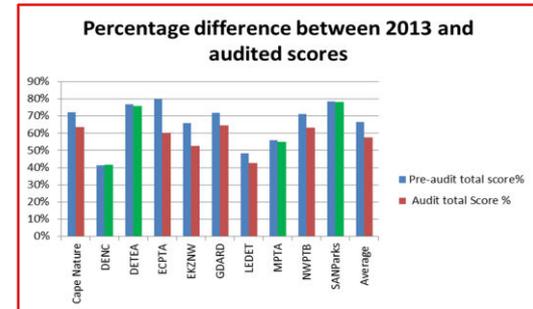


Distribution of scores per score category for the protected areas assessed between 2010 and 2013.

# South Africa's Response to the Increase of the Scores

## Auditing/Verification of Self-Assessed METT Scores Submitted to DEA to Determine Accuracy

Conservation Management Authority	Number of protected areas in sample	Pre-audit (2013) total score% of sample	Average audit total score %	Difference between pre-audit score 2013 and audit score
Cape Nature	11	72.29%	63.48%	-8.81%
DENC	2	41.21%	41.71%	0.50%
DETEA	4	76.96%	76.01%	-0.95%
ECPTA	4	79.93%	60.28%	-19.65%
EKZNW	16	65.84%	52.74%	-13.10%
GDARD	2	72.02%	64.68%	-7.34%
LEDET	9	48.29%	42.74%	-5.55%
MPTA	4	56.10%	54.88%	-1.22%
NWPTB	4	71.36%	63.19%	-8.17%
SANParks	4	78.67%	78.29%	-0.38%
	National Average	66.61%	57.79%	-8.83%



# South Africa Strengthens its Tool for Accurate Assessments

## What is in the new developed tool which makes it robust & more reliable?

- Improved on Outcomes
- More indicators (30 to over 70)
- More specific questions with more specific answers: relinquished ambiguity
- Verification for a full score of 3
- Documentation required
- Requires signatures of assessors
- Identifies priorities and follow up steps
- Highlights problems beyond the control of the manager.
- Highlights potential areas requiring external funding.

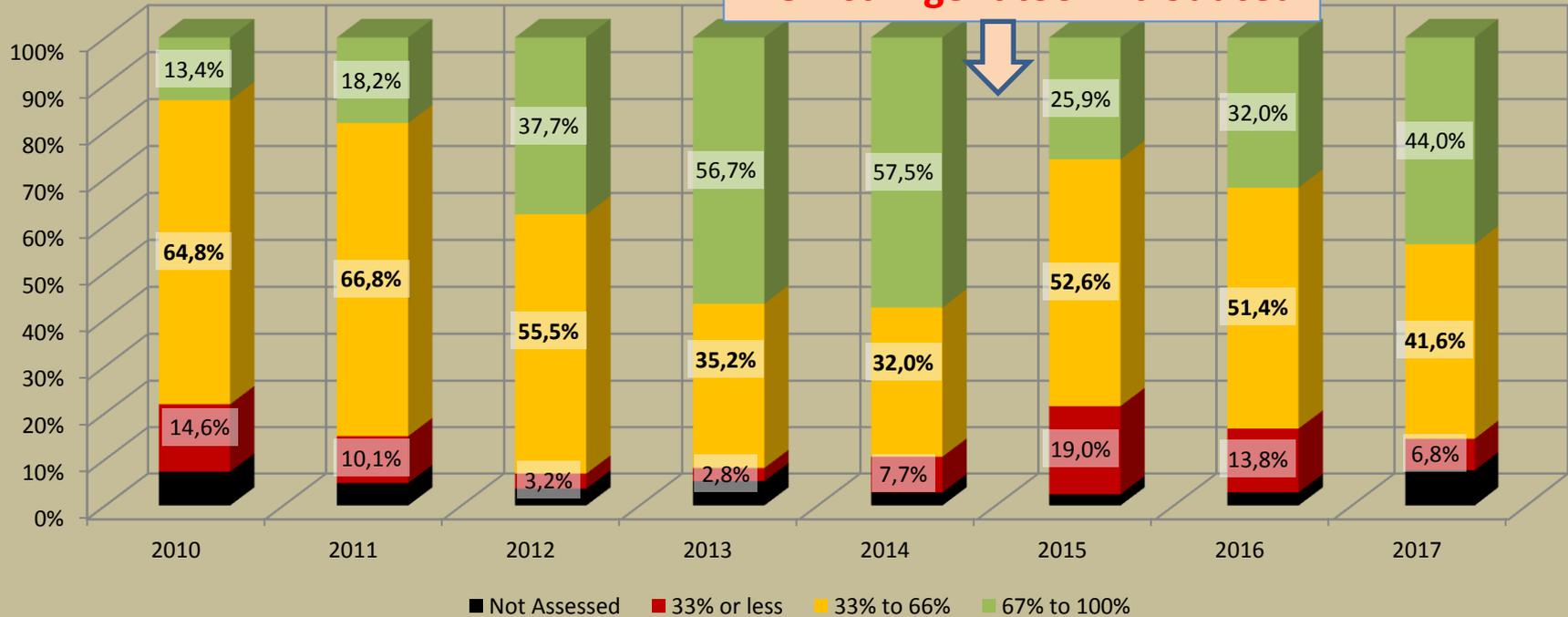
Indicator score	Pre-METT 3	METT 3
0	No management	No Management
1	Inadequate management	Inadequate management
2	Basic management with significant deficiencies	Sound management
3	Sound management	Best practice

# Results of the Monitoring of Management Effectiveness

## National Pooled Data Trends Over Years

Management effectiveness scores from 2010 to 2017 as per number of protected areas

New stringent tool introduced



# South Africa Modernizes the Tool into Web-Based

Development of the web-based METT tool for streamlined data input, analysis and reporting

- **Web-Based METT Tool is:**
  - **USABLE:** Functionality focused on simplicity and user friendly design.
  - **ACCESSIBLE:** Available through a web browser whilst an offline version can be completed in areas without connectivity.
  - **REPEATABLE:** Can be used across all protected and conservation areas in South Africa regardless of legal designation or ownership status.
  - **STREAMLINED:** Allows for streamlined data collection, reporting and analysis
- **MUST CONTRIBUTE TO IMPROVING MANAGEMENT EFFECTIVENESS!**

The image displays two screenshots of the METT Online Web Platform. The top screenshot shows the login page, which features the South African coat of arms at the top. Below it, the text reads "METT Online Web Platform Log In" and "Please enter your user name and password". There are input fields for "Username" and "Password", and buttons for "Log In" and "Forgot Password". The background of the login page shows silhouettes of elephants against a sunset sky.

The bottom screenshot shows the main interface of the "Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool-South Africa". The page has a header with the South African coat of arms and the title "Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool-South Africa". A navigation menu on the left includes "Home", "Protected Areas / Sites", "Organisations", "METT Assessment", "Search", and "About". The main content area is divided into tabs: "Overview", "Threats", "Assessment", "Summary", and "Results". The "Assessment" tab is active, showing a process flow diagram with steps: Context, Planning, Inputs, Process, Outputs, and Outcomes. Below the diagram, there is a table of assessment items, including "1.1 Legal status", "1.2 Internal rules", "1.3 Boundary demarcation", "1.3.1 Boundary deviations", "1.3.2 Servitude register", and "1.4 Biodiversity knowledge an...". The "1.1 Legal status" section is expanded, showing a question: "Does the site have secure permanent conservation / heritage legal status in terms of relevant legislation?" and a list of properties with their status.