

## CEPF FINAL PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT

<b>Organization Legal Name:</b>	Zinkwazi Beach Residents and Ratepayers Association
<b>Project Title:</b>	Lower Tugela Biodiversity Protection Project
<b>Date of Report:</b>	September 1, 2011-May 31, 2014
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**CEPF Region: Maputaland-Pondoland-Albany (South Africa)**

**Strategic Direction: 2. Conservation and land use in 22 KBAs**

**Grant Amount: \$167,335**

**Project Dates: September 1, 2011-May 31, 2014**

**Implementation Partners for this Project (please explain the level of involvement for each partner):**

- Zinkwazi Beach Residents and Ratepayers Association: Financial Administrator of the LTBPP.
- Zinkwazi Blythedale Conservancy: Management Administrator of the LTBPP and the body the LTBPP operates under to complete all the project components.
- Wildlands Conservation Trust: Aids in administration, planning and reviewing progress on the project. WCT have provided funding for the Invasive Alien Plant management program in Nonoti Community.

### Conservation Impacts

*Please explain/describe how your project has contributed to the implementation of the CEPF ecosystem profile.*

The LTBPP has helped to work towards improving land management as well as improved land protection. The work that LTBPP has worked consistently towards the identification of suitable properties for stewardship, improved management of local estuaries, proposed a portion of the Thukela Marine Protected Area, and identification of sustainable community projects. Biodiversity corridors have been identified, some of which need specific partners to be brought on board such as the N2 Corridor. This has been communicated to WCT as it is beyond the current capacity of the LTBPP. The stewardship sites are working to substantially improve the coastal corridor linking to the Thukela River Corridor.

Numerous partnerships and business opportunities have been created to grow the strength of the ZBC and improve sustainability as a recognized conservation orientated organization. The ZBC is in the process of registering as a Non-Profit Organization, which will improve the ZBC's ability to seek funding. These partnerships have been successful in getting the ZBC recognized within the region as a conservation and effective local government support organization. The LTBPP has worked to identify

potential sources of funding for the ZBC as well as community projects which supports the project and progressive future conservation within this region thus bolstering the CEPF funded effort.

*Please summarize the overall results/impact of your project.*

**Planned Long-term Impacts - 3+ years (as stated in the approved proposal):**

The development of funding sources to ensure the sustainability of an enhanced, professionally managed conservancy is essential if the project components and plans are to continue and be replicated. We are confident that if we are able to achieve our objectives using the processes outlined in this proposal the conservancy will gain a greatly enhanced reputation and be able to raise these funds through increased membership and through additional project funding. To ensure sustainability the net result of all project activities will be compiled into a comprehensive business plan and set of Standard Operating Procedures that will guide conservation management and inform the ongoing role of the ZBC and Staff.

**Actual Progress toward Long-term Impacts at Completion:**

The LTBPP is working towards greater sustainability for the ZBC to allow the ZBC to grow into a recognized support mechanism for the I Lembe District. Steps have taken place for this through the Stewardship Project as well as the Estuary Work and our continued work on various committees. Through the ongoing networking and partnership building our role has become more significant as potential funders have approached the LTBPP to aid in growing our conservation work. This includes private and government funding towards the Mdlatane Estuary Management Plan and ongoing management support for this. A restoration project on the Dolphin Coast Landfill Management site converting cane into a small reserve, as well as improve environmental procedures and “Best Practice” as well as identifying relevant conservation projects that DCLM are able to fund. Prince's Grant Golf Estate is seeking our services to improve the environmental running of the entire estate not only the stewardship site. I Lembe Municipality has expressed an interest and more detailed partnership to obtaining their own stewardship goals beyond what the LTBPP is working towards. Although these projects are still to come about, there are still more detailed projects in line with the current stewardship projects, including the community development projects for the Mabengu Forest and Blythedale sites through the Dube Clan, the Nonoti Community site and the Otimati Community. By working with these communities the LTBPP has been able to identify suitable projects that will be sustainable from a conservation and economic aspect. Specific projects have been earmarked for specific sites and more detailed plans are being developed currently. This is allowing the LTBPP to play a greater role in the region as well as ensuring local conservation target can be met.

The LTBPP has worked steadily towards meeting the targets and even though we have not met all our targets set out in the LTBPP project, the project has been successful in building important relationships with the government sector and identifying projects that

need to take place into the future. The LTBPP has been instrumental in the proposal for the Thukela Marine Protected Area which is proposed to be approximately 2.6million hectares. We have received funding from CEPF for the work we have proposed on this project. The LTBPP working with the Darnall Farmers Environmental Committee has helped to place 6000ha of farmland under improved management through SUSFarms and this amount should increase substantially over the coming years. Currently SUSFarms is a voluntary management system. Work is underway to bring all farmers in this area onto SUSFarms before it becomes compulsory.

The Volunteer program currently being planned will further benefit the management of this region in terms of adding support and capacity building. This program is also being planned to operate in other locations and partners including Wilderness Leadership School have committed their support to building this project.

The long term impacts are more substantial than initially anticipated and through the LTBPP TMPA project the long term impacts will be further set in place.

**Planned Short-term Impacts - 1 to 3 years (as stated in the approved proposal):**

- 1) The establishment of benchmarks against which the management of the conservancy estuarine environments can be measured.
- 2) The establishment of a management plan for the Zinkwazi estuary and agreement of responsibilities for its implementation.
- 3) Formal conservation plans will be in place with landowners to cover a further 1000 hectares of land.
- 4) The ZBC will be a strong organization well respected in the community with the capacity to engage with potential developers to ensure sustainable development of the area.
- 5) Further projects will have funding approved, including the development of a community conservation area in the Otomati Gorge and an active Environmental Management Plan for the Lower Tugela estuary.

**Actual Progress Toward Short-term Impacts at Completion:**

The LTBPP is currently supporting to students undertaking research in this area, a Masters and Honours Degrees. This short term impact for the honours degree allows for the information to be used locally to identify environmental education gaps relating to tourism and climate change with local home and property owners and government. The master's degree can be used to identify important coastal wetland sites that need rehabilitation and improved management especially as many of these areas have been lost through sugar cane farming.

The work being undertaken on Stewardship has allowed the LTBPP to identify short term projects that may play a long term role through creating employment opportunities and sustainable projects as well as working towards restoration of coastal grassland and to further protect the area as a conservation important area while allowing sustainable tourism to be developed.

The work the LTBPP is now undertaking on the Mdlatane Estuary and the Thukela MPA has short term impacts that will have long lasting impacts. The improved management of the estuaries namely the Zinkwazi, Nonoti and Mdlatane comprise the northern estuaries of the KDM and their management as a cluster will improve their status in their coming years and add benefits to the Thukela MPA. The work identified to be carried out in the LTBPP TSPA project outlines the ZBC's commitment to play an integral role in the process of achieving a sustainable and well managed marine reserve. The ZBC is an active stakeholder on the development of the Thukela Estuary Management Plan being undertaken by NRI through the Mandeni Municipality.

The LTBPP has further created various social media profiles including Facebook and Twitter Accounts with specific objectives for each profile. These will help to grow awareness for the work we undertake as well as promoting local and global stewardship. The Stewardship profiles are there to promote improved awareness and information sharing amongst stewardship actors.

The LTBPP has identified the need to promote stewardship through improved visual aspects and is currently exploring an opportunity to create a Stewardship Documentary to increase awareness of Stewardship and attract potential funders and landowners interested in stewardship. This has been discussed with various parties and the short term potential is to undertake this project and take it further if possible. The short term benefits would be to aid projects needing funding/awareness/capacity creation through a visual documentary styled display.

The LTBPP has been working towards improved environmental education at the local schools and has been researching the opportunity to get the schools under the ECO-School banner; however funding has been lacking to fully develop this aspect. Further to this the LTBPP has formed a good partnership with Education Supplies Freedom to help train the local teachers of Grade R on use of clean waste products for use in a classroom situation to improve the child's learning capacity. The LTBPP is also working towards compiling educational material on marine aspects. This has the short term potential to bring in income as well as to improve the LTBPP's role in the greater community.

Various conservation and interest groups have expressed an interest in improving biodiversity knowledge in the region through species identification and have become actively involved in the area. These groups include CREW, Birdlife, Dolphin Coast Birding Group, and the Bird Ringers Association. Working for Water has also released a Bio-Control Agent (Phenrica beetle) on the highly invasive Pereskia creeper. They also supply the herbicide for the Alien Invasive control on the Nonoti Community site. The LTBPP is working towards an agreement with Working for Water and the Darnall Farmers Environmental Committee on an effective control strategy and improved farmer support. CREW has further expressed interest in developing an environmental education program with selected schools in the Nonoti Community to improve the community's knowledge of their own natural resources.

The ZBC has effectively commented on numerous developments proposed for this region as part of its due diligence and active involvement to promote sustainable developments. This has allowed the ZBC to gain greater recognition in the region.

The LTBPP through interactions has identified two areas of critically endangered biodiversity in the Eastern Cape as potential stewardship sites. This information has been passed onto and communicated with WCT. The properties are St Francis Links Golf Estate with 120ha's of threatened coastal wetland that includes a number of threatened red data species. The 5000ha Thyspunt Nuclear Site owned by Eskom which is protecting the threatened Oyster Bay Dune Bypass system.

**Please provide the following information where relevant:**

**Hectares Protected:** 120ha Prince's Grant Golf Estate  
6000ha improved farmland management (Darnall Farmers through SUSFarms)  
188 to 600ha proposed (Mabengu Forest and restoration site)  
375ha Blythedale Coastal Resort (Proposed)  
250ha Peter Saville Property (Proposed)  
120ha St Francis Links Golf Estate (Potential and Proposed)  
5000ha Thyspunt nuclear Site (Potential)

**Species Conserved:** Blue Duiker, Crowned Crane, Spotted Ground Thrush, African Finfoot, Leatherback and Loggerhead Turtle nesting sites

**Corridors Created:**

*Describe the success or challenges of the project toward achieving its short-term and long-term impact objectives.*

The LTBPP has largely exceeded the long and short term impact objectives set out in the LTBPP. The design of the project even though an intense work related project has been able to identify future activities and has actively worked to achieve the proposed and identified objectives. The LTBPP is moving the ZBC towards a sustainable future, even with the few objectives not yet achieved. The positive outcomes to date far outweigh the non-achieved objectives.

*Were there any unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?*

Positive Impacts:

- The LTBPP has increased the research and management activities on three estuaries including the Zinkwazi Estuary.
- The LTBPP has been a lead role player in the Proposed Thukela MPA
- The LTBPP has identified and communicated potential stewardship sites beyond the boundaries of the ZBC and been asked to assist local government agencies to assist in further stewardship sites within the region.

- The LTBPP has been approached to expand its activities to aiding communities to identify and implement sustainable community projects, property management and removal of alien invasive plant species.
- The extensive networking and partnership creation

Negative impacts

- No major negative impacts have occurred besides not being able to meet a few of the set out components

## Project Components

**Project Components:** *Please report on results by project component. Reporting should reference specific products/deliverables from the approved project design and other relevant information.*

**Component 1 Planned:** Formation of a Project management Committee and develop Administrative capacity to handle CEPF funding

**Component 1 Actual at Completion:** All completed

**Component 2 Planned:** Appointment of suitably qualified and experienced Project manager and Project Assistant

**Component 2 Actual at Completion:** All Completed

**Component 3 Planned:** Agreed conservation benchmarks against which our progress will be measured for the Estuarine environments involved. Agreed management plan for the Zinkwazi estuary

3.1 and 3.2 Completed. 3.3 Incomplete

**Component 3 Actual at Completion:** 3.3: The Situation Assessments for the Zinkwazi and Nonoti will be completed by September 2014. The process has taken longer than thought. This is largely due to a capacity aspect as the development of an EMP is bigger than originally anticipated. However the LTBPP is working on the Mdlatane Estuary Situation Assessment Report as well and is now working more closely with National Government on all three estuaries. The Zinkwazi, Nonoti and Mdlatane Estuaries have been grouped together as a management cluster to improve management of the estuaries. Thereby increasing the LTBPP project scope, but complimenting the work already undertaken as well as the proposed Thukela MPA. Thus the delays have been beneficial to allow more knowledge on the systems as there is currently very little recent information on the estuaries currently.

**Component 4 Planned:** Agreement gained from landowners to embark on a level of formal conservation and to facilitate conservation corridor formation bringing a further 1000 hectares of land under conservation. The conservancy comprises approximately 15 major landowners who have land identified to have sufficient biodiversity to qualify for formal conservation/stewardship. In addition there are approximately 800 property

owners in the Blythedale and Zinkwazi villages. These are urban lots and not available for formal conservation. Our objective is to achieve the additional 1000 hectares under conservation by signing agreements with at least 4 of the identified landowners.

**Component 4 Actual at completion:**

**Components 4.1 to 4.4 have been completed**

**Component 4.5:** Prince's Grant: Finalizing formal stewardship agreement. To be signed in June/July on completion of the Estate Environmental Management Plan. Approximately 120ha. Prince's Grant has asked for a complete Environmental Management Plan to include the entire property and all aspects, and not only the Stewardship Area.

Mabengu and Blythedale Coastal Resort: Combined these properties will be in excess of 600ha, and potentially 1200ha including proposed restoration project.

Nonoti: approx 400ha Nonoti is a complicated property with the Nonoti Trust Committee in regular conflict with each other and other political forces especially through the long delays in the property development plan. Although still very much interested in signing a Stewardship Agreement, the fact that there is conflict, not only over leadership, but also through the 8 years that the housing development has taken and is still incomplete is creating further issues. There are increasing pressures on the proposed stewardship area as individuals are now claiming pieces of land for themselves. This is threatening the entire development, not only stewardship aspect. The ZBC is now working together with EKZNW, DEA, DEDTEA Compliance, ILembe Municipality, Kwa-Dukuza Municipality and the EIA consultants to attempt to get more commitment out of the community. This issue is now beyond the scope of this project, however the LTBPP will continue working towards reaching an agreement with the stakeholders. The LTBPP has a team of 6 staff undertaking invasive alien plant clearing currently. Funded through WCT and supported by working for water, thereby improving the current management of the 400ha.

The Mabengu and Blythedale Coastal resort Properties are still finalizing the court proceedings, even though the judgment has been made to restore the property rights to the Dube Clan. The LTBPP has been asked to identify projects far beyond the scope of the stewardship agreement in terms of sustainable projects to ensure the protection of the proposed stewardship areas by preventing major developments to take place. Thus the LTBPP will continue to work towards signing an agreement in the near future, once all legal issues have been sorted. The current proposal for the Mabengu Forest Site is to create a full tourist node that includes the creation of a nature reserve, indigenous butterfly dome, botanical garden, grassland restoration, volunteer program, research centre, displaced youth training program, fish farm and hydroponics, sustainable cane farming, nguni cattle breeding program, luxury tented camp development, medicinal plant nursery, recycling projects and related activities including staff training. A similar proposal is being developed for the Blythedale Site currently.

The Peter Saville Property still needs final assessment, however the owner still is unsure of the agreement, but would like to drop fences with the neighbouring Harold Johnson Nature Reserve to increase the management potential. The LTBPP is currently awaiting

the fence dropping procedure EKZNW is working on and will present this to Peter Saville once complete and the LTBPP should then be able to get a clear answer from him. All these properties combined at suggested sizes exceed the proposed 1200ha. However mechanisms beyond the LTBPP have prevented further agreements from being signed. The two other property owners with suitable land for stewardship in the ZBC area are not currently interested in signing agreements. One is in the process of selling the land and the other is currently opposed to stewardship, even though the LTBPP has a good relationship with the property manager.

The LTBPP while part of the DFEC has helped to bring 6000ha of farmland under the SUSFarms management program. This system improves management of all facets of the property including sustainability and long term conservation. The LTBPP is working with Working for Water on an agreement that may attract more farmers to join SUSFarms and bring more areas under improved sustainability.

**Component 4.6:** A draft of the Business plan has been completed, however due to the ongoing aspects and developing partnerships the scope of the ZBC has been changing over the last few months. As these aspects develop a modified business plan will be developed. This includes outsourcing the Project Manager to companies/landowners for contractual work, the creation of the volunteer program, an outside fund raiser to source funds from other funders and the application for interns from NRF and Groen Sebenza, As the application for NPO is still to be formalized the proposed amendments need to be brought in line.

**Component 5 Planned:** Completed evaluation of the potential to create a Community Based conservation Project for the Otimati Gorge.

**Component 5 Actual at Completion:**

5.1 to 5.4: Have been completed

5.5: A formal document presented to WCT: Informal meetings have been held discussing the opportunity for Stewardship in the Otimati Gorge area, however until such time that there is greater funding and a larger staff compliment or a team from various groups is brought together the ZBC will be unable to formally forward the Stewardship process. This still needs to be formalized for WCT. The LTBPP's growing relationship with I Lembe District Municipality is hoped to potentially source viable funds to formally propose stewardship to the nKosi. The nKosi have shown great interest in the proposal, however the inability to date to get funding to take on this project could potentially have some repercussions, even though it was made clear that the LTBPP was merely assessing the potential for stewardship and developing a community conservation project. The LTBPP has met with numerous groups regarding funding and project opportunities such as African Bank, the Skill Mill, Open Africa, Makana Meadery and Africa Ignite. These to date have not proven fruitful however Africa Ignite has of mid June 2014 come into funding to help promote eco/community tourism in the I Lembe area with the projects the LTBPP has proposed.



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

Even though some components have not been met, the project has not been negatively affected. This is largely due to the fact the LTBPP has been ongoing in its drive to create relationships, build partnerships and identify areas of concern that need input and future work. The workload for the LTBPP TMPA is thus increased and the project manager will continue to strive to meet all components and where possible exceed them.

The incomplete Stewardship components was out of the LTBPP's hands and therefore allowed the LTBPP to spend time researching other opportunities to grow the ZBC sustainably thus negating negative impacts in that manner. This includes the work undertaken to propose parts of the proposed Thukela Marine Protected Area and engage with stakeholders on this matter and be incorporated into the TMPA Task Team, which allowed the LTBPP to apply for further funding from CEPF for the LTBPP TMPA Project.

The incomplete work on the estuaries has impacted the project, however as the project has taken on two additional estuaries outlined in the project, this has increased the work load and has enabled the ZBC to adapt and help contribute to a greater level within the ZBC Area.

The LTBPP has potentially currently reached beyond its capacity, however with the current partnerships and future potential partnerships the LTBPP through the LTBPP TMPA project will aim to reach more than the recognized components.

***Please describe and submit (electronically if possible) any tools, products, or methodologies that resulted from this project or contributed to the results.***

The LTBPP has created three booklets, currently in draft form for locally indigenous plants, invasive alien plants and local medicinal plants that are both in English and Zulu. It is hoped that once these booklets are formalized they can be used in the local schools as well as with local farmers to educate their employees.

The LTBPP has developed a number of monitoring documents for the monitoring of the estuaries.

The LTBPP has established the LTBPP, Zinkwazi Blythedale Conservancy and We Are Stewardship Facebook Pages and the WeRStewardship and LowerTugela Twitter Accounts as part of its social media drive to improve knowledge of the area as well as garnish support for Stewardship Projects. These are regularly updated.

<b>Lessons Learned</b>
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*Describe any lessons learned during the design and implementation of the project, as well as any related to organizational development and capacity building. Consider lessons that would inform projects designed or implemented by your organization or others, as well as lessons that might be considered by the global conservation community.*

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

1: Capacity/funding is always an issue and therefore a true understanding of the necessary components in any project is important. The delays through outside influence cannot be helped, but did allow the project to investigate other aspects. A project of this scope should never be undertaken by only one suitably qualified person. As a component the project employed a project assistant that had very little understanding of the processes required and as this project is not a micro management type project his shortcomings were uncovered. His ability was far more suited to field work. And therefore I strongly recommend small multi faceted projects always have at least two suitably qualified staff.

2: Time Frames: This is always a difficult aspect to perfect. In multi faceted projects such as this there are many aspects that can cause delays or non-completion. Developing Estuary Management Plans do take time especially when there is limited recent knowledge on the said estuary. The LTBPP has been affective in working towards reaching the said goals however outside and internal factors have not allowed them to be completed to date.

3: The LTBPP has been successful in identifying partners and effectively networking to create a support base in the region. This is ongoing and important for any project.

4: Through the delays the LTBPP actively researched opportunities to build sustainable projects for the communities the project is involved with, as well as for the ZBC, which now need funding to commence. This has important to show the projects commitment to reaching its targets and beyond while serving the greater community where possible.

5: A start up project is a difficult task to undertake and there are broadly speaking two types of project managers suitable for this type of project. The first that is very task based and will strive to achieve all components within the project, the second being a project manager that can see beyond the initial scope of the project and work towards meeting the components, but also towards ensuring sustainability and creating opportunities that the project can lead into. The LTBPP Project Manager is the latter type. It is important for a project committee to identify the project manager type they wish to employ knowing that there are benefits and cons to both types.

6: Creating too many opportunities can increase pressure on reaching project components and learning when to stop on non project related activities is important. Failing this the project staff will have their capacity affected.

7: In a small project team capacity is always an issue and the projects staff personal lives may positively or negatively impact the project. It is important for the project staff to have the support of the project committee to help reduce any negative impacts and help manage the situation to ensure components are worked towards.

*Project Implementation: (aspects of the project execution that contributed to its success/shortcomings)*

- Management Effectiveness and Capacity: The initial idea of employing a project assistant was seen as positive with the opportunity to grow the assistant into the

ZBC Environmental Manager; however the lack of skills and the detailed tasks that were required from the assistant meant that the assistant did not meet the necessary requirements and the contract was not renewed. This did place unnecessary stress on the project and impacted the capacity of the project. However through continuous dedication the project has been able to go beyond the scope of the project in growth. Effective Management is effective and it is vital that all staff actively seek to further themselves and the project through dedication and hard work. In a small project staff wise, the individual's capacity will impact the project as a larger team would be less impacted as such. This is both viewed in a negative and positive light.

- **Unforeseen Time Delays:** With many outside influences the time delays experience during the project allowed the LTBPP to identify numerous growth points and set new targets to grow the ZBC to grow. It is important with time delays that research and increased networking takes place to continually create new targets that are attainable, even if they are long term objectives. Such as the LTBPP's ability to propose the Thukela Marine Protected Area, Identify potential stewardship sites outside of the ZBC area, develop larger integrated land management plans with communities through the stewardship program, and take on more estuary management plans than initially assessed.
- **Understanding the Project:** Understanding the core ideals of the project can make or break a project. If the project staff do not understand or believe in the core ideals of the project and their own ability to make a positive impact, the project will never be successful. The LTBPP is largely a stand alone project within the MPAH region with more projects being grouped in the KZN Midlands, The Pondoland region and Zululand region. As such the ability for the LTBPP to network closely with related projects has been difficult. Therefore only through the dedication of the staff and project committee has the project been able to effectively grow and produce results, whereby the ZBC is now know at a national level as a key role player in this region and is increasingly brought on board development projects and support for local government. Had this commitment and understanding not been there, the project would have failed.
- **Dedicated Staff:** In a committee based environment it was determined that to achieve the best results dedicated staff members would be contracted to undertake the necessary work. This would avoid the many issues committees face when attempting to implement projects. This has been one of the key successes of the LTBPP and the reason why the ZBC is now making positive contributions to the conservation of this diverse area.

***Other lessons learned relevant to conservation community:***

- **Capacity and Time Frames:** These aspects are always difficult to accurately in a project of this sphere that has many outside influences. It is therefore important to plan effectively and where situations are out of the projects hands to identify other areas to work in to ensure continued growth.
- **Budgets:** One of the aspects that was lacking within the LTBPP was a small project fund as such, where small projects could have been started at the

discretion of the LTBPP in order to create a larger capacity or to promote the project in a positive light.

- Partnerships and Networking are again key ingredients to building a long lasting relationship and ongoing sustainability. Without these many potential future projects will never come to fruition and could make the initial foundation work undertaken in the project radically reduced if there is no continuation.
- Looking Beyond the Scope of the Project: Depending on the scope of the project it is always key to identify a contingency plan in order to grow the project further. The project in future may change substantially if the project needs to continually seek outside funding. It is therefore important that the project like the LTBPP that promotes an organization like the ZBC aims to create a fund that can financially maintain the organization in its primary objectives and not those necessarily of funders. The ZBC is aiming to create such a fund to become more sustainable once the NPO status is finalized. Having key partners to help with this process is also key.

### Additional Funding

*Provide details of any additional funding that supported this project and any funding secured for the project, organization, or the region, as a result of the CEPF investment in this project.*

Donor	Type of Funding*	Amount	Notes
CEPF	(A) Estuary Small Grant	R135 880.00	Biophysical Estuary Assessment

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

- A Project co-financing (Other donors or your organization contribute to the direct costs of this project)*
- B Grantee and Partner leveraging (Other donors contribute to your organization or a partner organization as a direct result of successes with this CEPF funded project.)*
- C Regional/Portfolio leveraging (Other donors make large investments in a region because of CEPF investment or successes related to this project.)*

### Sustainability/Replicability

*Summarize the success or challenge in achieving planned sustainability or replicability of project components or results.*

Sustainability of the ZBC at its current capacity including the current CEPF funded projects still remains a major issue even though measures are being researched and the NPO Registration is still taking place and should be completed in the near future whereby the ZBC will then be able to apply for ongoing funding.

Even under the current capacity it is very evident that the ZBC lacks the capacity to fully reach its potential as a major role player in the greater KwaDukuza and ILembe Municipality regions. Even if extra staff are employed there are some capital issues, including that of the need for a vehicle to undertake site visits beyond what the current project managers capacity is. Even with these shortcomings, the ZBC through the LTBPP has positively contributed to conservation in this area and has provided support to the various Government Departments when needed. The LTBPP has further contributed effectively to aiding the collection of Data through the estuary monitoring program as well as other monitoring activities.

During this time the LTBPP has investigated numerous projects that will help build capacity, not only in the ZBC, but also in the different communities. The majority of these projects are on hold and are difficult to measure, however planning is still taking place and funding is being sort after.

The ZBC is finalizing the NPO Registration and this should be completed within the next few months. This will allow the ZBC to apply for more funding. One of the desired

opportunities will be that the ZBC will be able to host interns from the Groen Sebenza and NRF into the coming years.

The LTBPP has identified a potential revenue flow that will increase capacity and this is currently being researched and has potential partners in place. This is a Gap Year/Volunteer program. The Wilderness Leadership School is very interested in partnering with the ZBC in this program. We have further identified other African partners to potentially offer the program in Malawi as well as Zambia and Botswana. This will offer a unique experience for Volunteers to explore different areas of Africa as well as learning skills and putting back into the conservation and community world.

Working together with the Dube Community that owns the Blythedale Coastal Resort and Mabengu on stewardship has grown to a much larger project with the identification of projects that can support the community. The LTBPP has been working on creating a Business/management proposal not only to include the areas identified for stewardship but to grow the area as a tourist destination and improve the communities sustainability. This includes improved agricultural practices, tourism opportunities, land restoration from marginal sugar cane, etc. This has been informally presented to the community nKosi and we are now waiting for the finalization of the court proceedings to formally present to the community. Both properties have been returned to the community after a lengthy court case which has seriously impeded the LTBPP's ability to meet its targets.

In terms of time frames and capacity it is evident that the LTBPP can complete the necessary steps to finalizing the two Estuary Management Plans, although not in the allocated time frames for the LTBPP. The LTBPP has identified the need to include the Mdlatane Estuary to create a cluster estuary management plan. This has been presented to National, Provincial, the District and Local Municipalities as an effective way forward. This will increase the needed time to complete the EMP's, although there will be greater work covered and this ties well in with the Proposed Thukela Marine Protected Area that the ZBC has additional funding for. There is now also increased support from the National Department and there will be potentially funds made available for the ongoing procedures as well as support in completing the tasks.

It is still critical that the number of salaried staff be increased so that projects can be more timeously completed as well as expanded upon, Conservancies are largely voluntary organizations and as such work takes longer to complete. The LTBPP has aided the identification of work needed as well as the partnerships that need to be secured into the future and has raised the level of awareness within the community by working closely with the ZBRRA and other groups. However as described above this project can only be identified as a positive beginning and needs to be built on substantially before permanent impacts are seen and felt.

*Summarize any unplanned sustainability or replicability achieved.*

- The grouping of the Zinkwazi, Nonoti and Mdlatane Estuaries has been a key success to replicability. For most part the stakeholders information is now being used to create the stakeholder lists for the Thukela MPA. The estuary work has

- further allowed greater discussions to take work forward and will potentially include more work on estuaries in the future.
- ILembe District Municipality has asked the LTBPP to assist in the Stewardship processes they need to embark on to reach their required targets.

### **Safeguard Policy Assessment**

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

- 1: The identification of potential ways to improve sustainability through social media and through the application to become an NPO to apply for further funding.
- 2: The identification of potential partnerships such as the Wilderness Leadership School to create an ongoing project that can help fund and drive the ZBC into the future while creating greater baseline to do work from.
- 3: Meeting with potential fund raisers will happen by early July to discuss a way forward and allow the ZBC to continue its work on the ground rather than having to spend great amounts of time looking for funding, which has impacted the LTBPP project in terms of meeting targets.

### **Additional Comments/Recommendations**

- The LTBPP PM has identified what we believe is an important gap that needs to be filled, not only through social media, but through the creation of a stewardship documentary. This would cover aspects of stewardship in SA. But can be replicated and taken to all parts of the world. The main objectives would be to create increased awareness of what stewardship is amongst civil society and governments, the needs for stewardship, potential stewardship sites and potential funders looking to support stewardship projects. The LTBPP has created a rough draft of the desired documentary series and has been looking for potential funders to fund at least an initial documentary on stewardship in SA. This has been communicated with SANBI and other groups as well as some staff members from CEPF and WCT.
- The initial two years that the LTBPP was planned for was always viewed as an initial project period with the goal of building positively into the future. CEPF has now funded the LTBPP TMPA project and is seen as a positive step in the right direction to allow the ZBC to continue to grow and reach its desired objectives.
- Two year seeding projects such as the ZBC should have always been created with a contingency plan to extend. i.e create a five year project with achievable and assess the project accordingly with the option by the funder to withdraw the funding after negotiated time periods if achievable are not met. The format of funding in the initial LTBPP does not necessarily promote sustainability, especially where many outside influences affect such a project type. Identifying the need for such a project with longer term funding built would allow the project

to have had less “future funding stress” and be able to concentrate on reaching the required targets. It is well known that signing a stewardship agreement takes time and is merely only the first step in the long process of true stewardship and the necessary support many land owners and communities need beyond the initial scope of the project. This also applies for the management of estuaries and the ZBC’s ability to play a long term role in assisting government to manage the estuaries. This would also allow a more detailed understanding of where the ZBC wants to grow to and what are the real achievables for the ZBC. It is therefore strongly hoped that at the end of the LTBPP TMPA funded effort the ZBC will be in a much stronger position and have the financial backing of other funders, other than that of CEPF. It is also hoped that the CEPF will once again grant funds to the MPAH region to continue funding projects such as the LTBPP, LTBPP TMPA and other CEPF funded projects that are achieving results.



## Information Sharing and CEPF Policy

CEPF is committed to transparent operations and to helping civil society groups share experiences, lessons learned, and results. Final project completion reports are made available on our Web site, [www.cepf.net](http://www.cepf.net), and publicized in our newsletter and other communications.

**Please include your full contact details below:**

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**\*\*\*If your grant has an end date other than JUNE 30, please complete the tables on the following pages\*\*\***

**Performance Tracking Report Addendum**

**CEPF Global Targets**

**(Enter Grant Term)**

Provide a numerical amount and brief description of the results achieved by your grant.  
Please respond to only those questions that are relevant to your project.

<b>Project Results</b>	<b>Is this question relevant?</b>	<b>If yes, provide your numerical response for results achieved during the annual period.</b>	<b>Provide your numerical response for project from inception of CEPF support to date.</b>	<b>Describe the principal results achieved from July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008. (Attach annexes if necessary)</b>
1. Did your project strengthen management of a protected area guided by a sustainable management plan? Please indicate number of hectares improved.	Yes	120ha	520ha	Please also include name of the protected area(s). If more than one, please include the number of hectares strengthened for each one. Nonoti 400ha Prince's Grant Gold Estate 120ha
2. How many hectares of new and/or expanded protected areas did your project help establish through a legal declaration or community agreement?	Yes	120ha	120ha	Please also include name of the protected area. If more than one, please include the number of hectares strengthened for each one. Prince's Grant Golf Estate 120ha
3. Did your project strengthen biodiversity conservation and/or natural resources management inside a key biodiversity area identified in the CEPF ecosystem profile? If so, please indicate how many hectares.	Yes	120ha	520ha	Prince's Grant Golf Estate 120ha Nonoti 400 Ha
4. Did your project effectively introduce or strengthen biodiversity conservation in management practices outside protected areas? If so, please indicate how many hectares.	Yes	120	6500ha	The Nonoti Community, Prince's Grant (520ha) and local sugar farmers (6000ha)
5. If your project promotes the sustainable use of natural resources, how many local communities accrued tangible socioeconomic benefits? Please complete Table 1 below.	Yes	1	1	Nonoti Currently the only site, although Mabengu and Blythedale Coastal should be included in the near future as well as Otimati Gorge

**If you answered yes to question 5, please complete the following table**

**Table 1. Socioeconomic Benefits to Target Communities**

Please complete this table if your project provided concrete socioeconomic benefits to local communities. List the name of each community in column one. In the subsequent columns under Community Characteristics and Nature of Socioeconomic Benefit, place an X in all relevant boxes. In the bottom row, provide the totals of the Xs for each column.

Name of Community	Community Characteristics							Nature of Socioeconomic Benefit														
	Small landowners	Subsistence economy	Indigenous/ ethnic peoples	Pastoralists/nomadic peoples	Recent migrants	Urban communities	Communities falling below the poverty rate	Other	Increased Income due to:				Increased food security due to the adoption of sustainable fishing, hunting, or agricultural practices	More secure access to water resources	Improved tenure in land or other natural resource due to titling, reduction of colonization, etc.	Reduced risk of natural disasters (fires, landslides, flooding, etc)	More secure sources of energy	Increased access to public services, such as education, health, or credit	Improved use of traditional knowledge for environmental management	More participatory decision-making due to strengthened civil society and governance.	Other	
									Adoption of sustainable natural resources management practices	Ecotourism revenues	Park management activities	Payment for environmental services										
Nonoti Community		X					X			X					X				X			
<b>Total</b>																						

If you marked "Other", please provide detail on the nature of the Community Characteristic and Socioeconomic Benefit:

