

CEPF FINAL PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT

Organization Legal Name:	Endangered Wildlife Trust
Project Title:	Development of Methodology to Measure Change in Environmental Goods and Services
Date of Report:	November 2015
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CEPF Region: Maputaland – Pondoland - Albany

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

Grant Amount: \$48.834.00

Project Dates: January 2014 – September 2015

Important Project Note:

The words “tool” and “methodology” as used in the original project proposal and subsequently duplicated in this reporting template has been used incorrectly and / or interchangeably.

Please read the report below assigning the following meanings to the words below:

“Methodology” - the approach used to develop a plan to measure changes in Ecosystem Goods and Services (EGS) through the combined use of tools (see below) at a particular site.

“Tools” – refers to developed and accepted methods for the testing and analysis of various environmental parameters. These have typically been around for a long time and had been devised and tested extensively by others. An example would be a tool that tests basal cover or a tool that tests water turbidity.

EGS – Refers to environmental goods and services.

Please note that the use of the words has been corrected in the entire template below.

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

The project recognized from the beginning, the need to involve partners and stakeholders. Buy-in for a new concept and methodology could only be achieved if partners themselves were involved in the development and testing thereof. An additional factor that favored the development of the

methodology was the fact that the type of thinking developed for the methodology speaks to the needs of all the partners in terms of their daily work in the field. The methodology thus fills a real gap in the assessment of management interventions undertaken by partners and is able to provide answers to questions asked in evaluating the impact of all our work.

The following partners participated in the development and testing of the methodology:

Environmental & Rural Solutions (ERS), LIMA, Conservation South Africa (CSA) and The Wildlife and Environmental Society of South Africa (WESSA).

Their participation resulted in:

- Increased awareness of Ecosystem Goods and Services among their staff.
- Inputs that guided the further development of the concept of measuring change in Ecosystem Goods and Services.
- Inputs that assisted in the development and refinement of the methodology.
- Opportunities for partners staff to receive training in the methodology.
- Implementation of the methodology on partner sites.
- Shared learning experience for all.
- Training of four Endangered Wildlife EcoRangers in using and implementing the methodology.



Above – Phumlani Maqashalala from Conservation South Africa assisting to teach concepts contained in the methodology to participants in the WESSA Environmental Practices course.

Inputs were also made by Kevan Zunckel of Zunckel Ecological & Environmental Services (ZEES). Some aspects of the methodology are based on concepts and thinking that was originally developed by Kevan Zunckel in the Umgeni Catchment of the KwaZulu-Natal midlands. Meetings with him enabled us to incorporate and adapt some concepts, ideas and confirm the use and legitimacy of some fundamental underlying assumptions made by the methodology.

Assistance for the development of the methodology also came from expertise within The Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT) with contributions made by Dr. Ian Little, Dr. Lizanne Roxburg, Dr. Jeanne Tarrant, Kerryn Morison, Christine Coppinger, Tanya Smith, Patsy Hampson and Cobus Theron.

Conservation Impacts

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

The development of a methodology to measure changes in ecosystem goods and services forms part of a broader strategy by The Endangered Wildlife Trust to support sites declared under the Biodiversity Stewardship Programme, funded under CEFP 59784.

It is based on the premise that the effectiveness of management actions will need to be assessed in respect of their impact on the environment. It is further proposed that positive or negative impacts will eventually filter through to the ecosystem goods and services emanating from a site. These “results” will be identified and analyzed by applying the methodology.

If successful, the methodology will allow a holistic approach to assess management and rehabilitation actions, and the impacts of such interventions on any site.

The two pronged approach of citizen science monitoring combined with a more robust monitoring protocol, will allow for the participation of community members and landowners in monitoring Ecosystem Goods and Services (EGS) parameters and empower them to experience the success or failure of management actions on certain environmental parameters. It is hoped that such personal experiences will be more effective in changing behavior, abandoning poor practices and encourage management actions with tangible effects.

An additional outcome would be the ability to use the methodology to demonstrate the impact of investment by government or private donors in rehabilitation or supporting better management

practices. Improvement in EGS results, as measured by the methodology, could be used to report on successes and verify / quantify the impact of the investment.

The methodology will contribute to Strategic Direction 2 in that it will:

- Allow the establishment of a baseline from which to measure changes in ecosystem goods and services.
- Allow for a better, more in-depth understanding of the receiving environment and the effect of human actions on it.
- Shed light on the effectiveness and impact of management practices.
- Empower communities and landowners to do their own monitoring.
- Generate valuable long term data for each site.
- Enable the development of better management plans, management actions and identify trouble areas in need of intervention.

It has also been found that the application of the methodology in itself assists in the development of more informed management plans and in the identification of environmental issues that need attention.

Please summarize the overall results/impact of your project.

- Observed increased awareness of Ecosystem Goods and Services among project partners.
- The development of an easy to understand and practical methodology that can be applied in the Highland Grassland biome but that is flexible enough to be modified for other biomes.
- Training of 14 individuals from partner organizations in the application of the methodology.
- Practical training workshops for demonstrating selected tools.
- Implementation and testing of the methodology on four Endangered Wildlife Trust sites and three partner sites.
- Incorporation of the methodology to measure EGS into the 'Environmental Practices' course offered by the Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa.

- Development of a cell phone based application to capture data in the field, greatly improved the ease of data recording.
- Use of the methodology to facilitate environmental education.



Above – The EWT EcoRangers complete a Mini-SASS assessment, one of the tools used in the methodology - Uitkomst, Kokstad.

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

Objective of the overall project:

Secure and improve the ecological integrity of grasslands and wetlands important to cranes and other biodiversity, across the Highland Grasslands in the Southern Drakensberg Foothills.

A tool that measures changes in ecosystem services will allow for the monitoring of the quality of ecosystem services and the effectiveness of management practices, providing a baseline for adaptive management that ultimately improves and then maintains ecosystem services at an optimum.

Actual Progress Toward Long-term Impacts at Completion:

A practical, intuitive methodology has been developed that can be applied to measure changes in ecosystem goods and services for the same site over time. It is envisaged that if used

consistently, the methodology will be able to detect improvement or deterioration in indicators as a result of management practices or the lack of management practices. This information will allow for the evaluation of the effectiveness of a site based management plan and inform adaptations or changes. Testing of the methodology over time will ensure the selection of the most appropriate tools and will produce results that can be interrogated and analyzed.

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

The development of a replicable, robust and sensitive tool that measures changes in a variety of ecosystem services, for an integrated, holistic understanding of the impact of current management practices, providing guidance towards adaptive management as required. As an opportunity to measure conservation impact and provide objective science based information for investments for ecosystem services, this tool will be used extensively by partners and stakeholders across the Highland Grasslands and more broadly in South Africa. More specifically, an EU funded project will make use of the finalized tool as a means to measure conservation and management impact on the Highland Grasslands.

Actual Progress Toward Short-term Impacts at Completion:

The methodology has been developed and is suitable for use across a variety of habitats. Basic ecosystem goods and services to be monitored have been identified for each habitat type in the Highlands Grasslands (excluding forests at this stage).

The methodology has been tested and / or implemented on four of our sites and three of the partner sites. While much of the current focus has been to ensure the development of the correct approach to each site coupled with the most appropriate tools for each site, continued sampling will provide the information required to assess the effectiveness of management interventions over time at a particular site. These results will be generated over a longer time period for these sites enabled by European Union Funding that will support this project to mid-2017. The citizen science aspect allows landowners and communities to become involved in monitoring their own sites and is an opportunity to build capacity among people.

How does the Methodology work?

This process is explained in greater detail in the “MEASURING CHANGES IN ECOSYSTEM GOODS AND SERVICES - A HOW TO GUIDE” .

- The methodology was developed to measure changes the quality of ecosystem goods and services (EGS) in different habitats on the same site (it promotes holistic assessment of a site).
- The changes would be observed through the use of accepted tools, the results of which can be likened to proxies used determine the quality of certain ecosystem goods and services.
- The methodology utilizes Stage 1 and Stage 2 tools. Stage 1 deals with tools used by citizen scientists , for example Mini SASS, while stage 2 proposes a more robust approach and uses more advanced / in-depth tools, for example WET-Health Assessments. It is essential to implement both Stages at a particular site. The results can be compared and will in all likelihood show a degree of correlation in findings. The “MEASURING CHANGES IN ECOSYSTEM GOODS AND SERVICES - A HOW TO GUIDE” deals more with the application of Stage 1 tools.

The methodology consists of seven steps that are implemented once the site is identified.

Step 1 - Having the tool box ready

This step is really about understanding the basic starter tools that have been suggested and having the knowledge and equipment to use them in the field. It is also possible for people using the methodology to add additional tools.

Step 2 - Capturing externalities

In order to contextualize results of the methodology, it is important to record external inputs such as rainfall and temperature. Part of the methodology is to set up a simple weather station to record some of these externalities. The ideally enlisting farmers or community members to record these.

Step 3 - Defining the site boundary

It is important to create a boundary for the site in which you will do the measuring / monitoring. Boundaries can be drawn along farm boundaries, catchment boundaries or areas where management activities are taking place.

Step 4 - creating Land Characterization Units (LCU)

Within the boundary, the next step involves a desktop assessment of the site followed by classifying it in terms of its condition. A map is then created that reflects the different Land Characterization Units (LCU's). The classification is based on a work done by Kevan Zunckle in which landscapes are categorized according to their ability to deliver ecosystem goods and

services. This exercise is verified by actually going into the field to see if the correct LCU's have been assigned.

Step 5 - Positioning the monitoring points

Using the LCU's as a guide monitoring / sampling points are selected.

Step 6 –Selecting and using tools

This step requires selecting tools from the tool box to use for measuring changes in ecosystem goods and services and then implementing them at the monitoring sites.

Step 7 - Recording data

This step deals with the capturing of data and converting results to a radial diagram. This allows for a holistic (that reflects all the results at once) visual assessment of results for the site. Comparing these radial diagrams, generated at different times, provides an indication of changes in the quality of ecosystems goods and services.

Ideally the Methodology should be taught to others by a person that has had practical experience in the implementation of it.

The methodology promotes holistic thinking around the sites you are working on. It also creates the context for monitoring to take place in more meaningful manner. This is a departure from the normal use of tools which are mostly applied in isolation on an ad hoc basis.

Please provide the following information where relevant:

Hectares Protected: N/A
Species Conserved: N/A
Corridors Created: N/A

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

Successes:

- 1) The enthusiastic participation and contributions by partners for the development of the methodology assisted in the realization of the methodology.
- 2) Developing a product for which a need exists provided motivation for all the stakeholders involved.

- 3) Ability and intellectual resources within The Endangered Wildlife Trust to find creative solutions to stumbling blocks that presented themselves during the project ensured that a way forward was always found.

Challenges:

- 1) The ecosystem goods and services field is contentious and characterized by disagreement by many experts. This makes it a difficult space to work in and different approaches are often over analyzed. This makes changes from the norm difficult.
- 2) Confronting the reality of putting a theoretical concept to work in a practical environment. The basic concept of the methodology seemed very easy to implement at the project conception stage but proved harder in reality to develop due to Ecosystem Goods and Services being fraught with many contradicting realities.
- 3) Accepting that there are unknowns that can only be answered through practical implementation. Trial and error was required and so was the ability to accept criticism and incorporate it into finding solutions.

Were there any unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?

An unexpected positive impact has been the usefulness of the methodology, not only in measuring ecosystem goods and services but also as a useful tool to use in environmental education or to develop management plans with communities and landowners. This was not foreseen as an outcome at the conception of the project.

The development of a literature study and tables detailing available tools done in preparation for the development of the methodology has also created a useful reference for other organizations, especially when it comes to obtaining a list of citizen science based tools that can be utilized for monitoring. This list has already been used by some of the partners.



Above: Using aspects of the Methodology to do environmental education, in this case showing how to use a clarity tube to measure turbidity of a river.

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 (as stated in the approved proposal):

A literature review and background document, outlining the ecosystem services in grasslands, and assessing accepted monitoring methodologies and proxies as relevant for inclusion in the tool is completed.

Component 1 Actual at Completion:

A literature review was produced detailing tools available for measuring various ecosystem parameters. As part of this research, comprehensive tables outlining each of the tools available for each habitat type in the project area, including a list of recommended tools, was developed.

Tables assessed each tool in respect of: its ease of use, whether it is suitable for robust scientific analysis or whether more orientated towards citizen science, the accuracy of results, the cost and the equipment required.

As part of the literature review , Dr. Jeanne Tarrant, from The Endangered Wildlife Trust compiled an additional literature report and identified methods for using amphibian diversity as a tool to measure ecosystem health. This can be used as one of the tools for the EGS methodology.

The basic entry level tools selected for wetlands, grasslands and riparian areas provide a solid introduction to the use of the methodology and have been found to be easily adopted by partners. We are satisfied that these represent a good and practical introduction to the methodology.

We have listed and described relevant and easy to use starter tools in three documents, each dealing with tools most suitable to each habitat type.

New tools have also been suggested by partner organisations which will form part of the envisaged evolution and customization of the methodology. This must be encouraged. The methodology is designed so that any useful tool can be incorporated in the approach.

Component 2 Planned (as stated in the approved proposal):

A draft model of the tool, together with its methodology and standard operating protocol, is completed for testing in the field.

Component 2 Actual at Completion:

During the proposal generating phase the importance of inputs by partner organizations to developing a methodology were recognized. However, due to the complexity required to put the concept into practice and required understanding of how to go about it, it became apparent that more meetings would be needed than originally planned.

Below a list of meetings held in the development of the methodology.

Date	Meeting	Number of participants	Venue
May 2014	Internal EWT Meeting to discuss the concept	7	Johannesburg
July 2014	Discussion with candidate PhD students at the Nelson Mandela Metropole University - (this was not planned as part of the approach but when the opportunity arose it was utilized).	12	George
August 2014	Meeting with Nicky McLeod to brain storm some ideas for developing the methodology.	2	Matatiele
September 2014	First meeting with Partners to explore the concept	15	Matatiele
November 2014	second meeting with Partners to further refine the concept and present the proposed	20	Howick
December 2014	report back meeting with partners	15	Matatiele
February 2014	practical implementation planning meeting with EWT staff - participants 5	5	Underberg
March 2015	practical testing with EWT staff	9	Underberg
April 2015	Practical training with partners (two days)	14	Matatiele
June 2015	Practical training with partners (two days)	12	Matatiele



Above: Troubleshooting issues arising in the field – Riverlea, Underberg.

All of these meetings enabled us to workshop ideas and receive inputs from partners and other experts. The incorporation of these ideas contributed to the development and evolution of the

methodology. A newer and more refined concept and proposed methodology emerged after every meeting eventually culminating in the second draft of the “MEASURING CHANGES IN ECOSYSTEM GOODS AND SERVICES - A HOW TO GUIDE”.

During this period, testing of the methodology (still in a draft form) and some of the tools, took place on our candidate Biodiversity Stewardship sites: Uitkomst, Riverlea, Tusa and Rokeby. The main aim of the testing was to understand the difficulties, contradictory issues and challenges faced with when implementing the methodology and tools in the field.

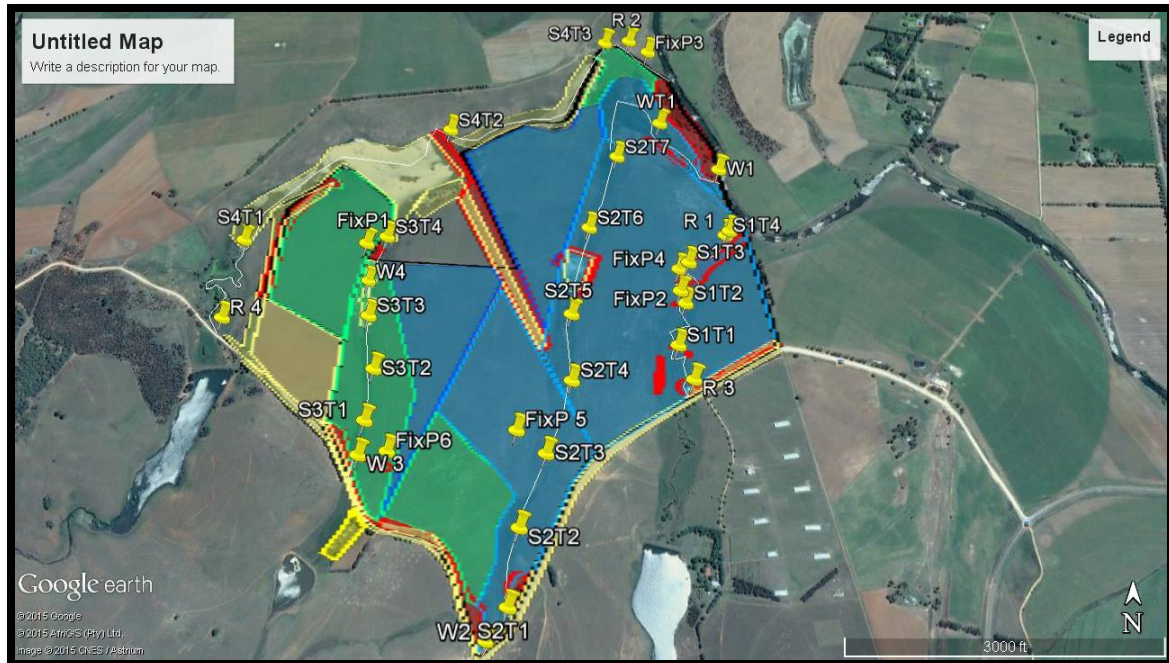
Partners received training in the methodology in Matatiele in April 2015. A further practical follow up training was held in June 2015 where we accompanied partners to their respective sites to apply and implement the methodology at each site.

Component 3 Planned (as stated in the approved proposal):

The results of the field work and testing of the tool and its methodology are compiled in a report.

Component 3 Actual at Completion:

Ongoing fieldwork has been performed at four sites. Unfortunately, only the Riverlea site has been subject to regular, consistent field based testing. This was due to the ease of access and the proximity of the farm to Underberg. Our other sites mentioned above were dropped in favour of using partner sites for the testing of the methodology so that the workload of monitoring could be shared with partners. The other sites are Mafube, Motseng and Ward 7.



Above – An example of the mapping process which is critical as the initial step the approach for measuring EGS change at a site over time. This is the site called Riverlea, one of our Biodiversity Stewardship Sites

While Partners were enthusiastic about the methodology, the experience has been that the involvement of our field staff to play a guiding role is a motivating factor. We are of the opinion that once ecosystem goods and services monitoring becomes embedded within partner projects, the above will no longer apply and partners will monitor and generate data regularly.

Partners such as the Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa (WESSA) and Environmental & Rural Solutions (ERS) have already indicated their willingness to include ecosystems goods and services monitoring and methodology in their projects and practices.

Regular monitoring and following up with partners will be pursued further under the European Union Funding.

A survey has been compiled and has been sent to partners to evaluate the perceptions around the methodology and its ease of implementation/use. The results of this survey will be used to objectively assess partners on aspects of the methodology such as: ease of use, practical value, educational value and the development of a deeper understanding of ecosystem goods and services. This survey is still currently open, but once all responses are received, we will compile a report that will guide future training, use and roll-out of the Monitoring EGS methodology.

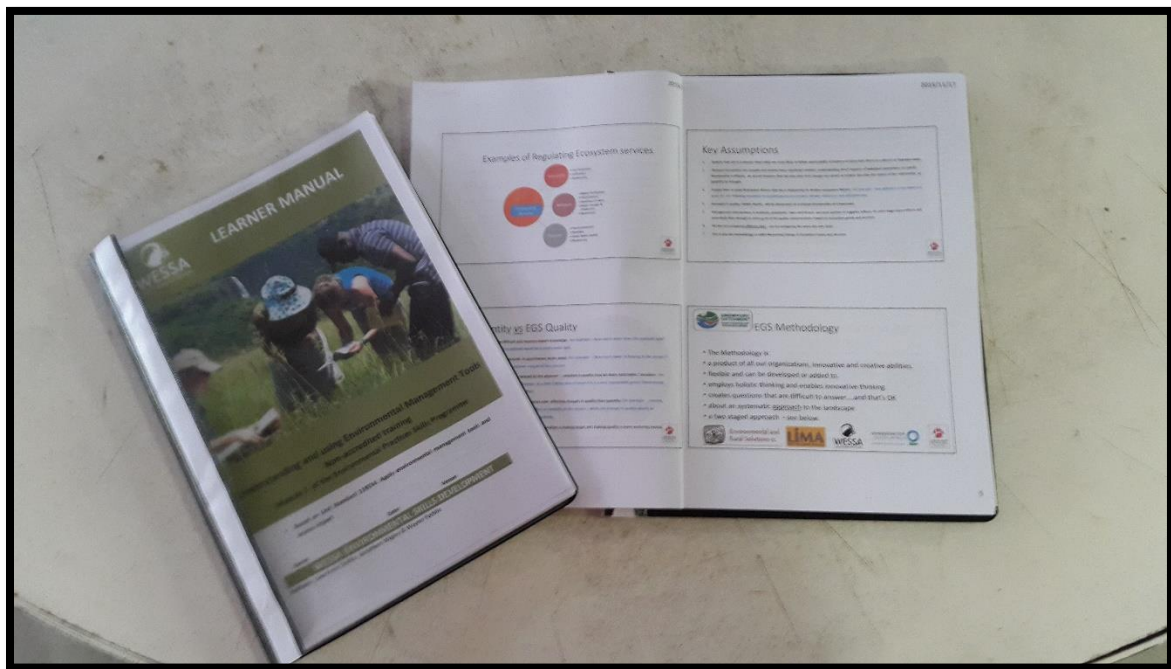
Participants in WESSA's Environment Practices course to be held on 16 and 17 November 2015 will also participate in the survey.

Component 4 Planned (as stated in the approved proposal):

The tool, together with its methodologies and protocols, is finalized

Component 4 Actual at Completion:

A third and final draft is being finalized for WESSA's Environmental Practices Course in November 2015 - see below. This draft is not fundamentally different to the second draft but represents a more streamlined and easy to understand version.



Above - the EGS Methodology included in the WESSA learner manual – November 2015.

During the reporting period, a final workshop was not held as planned. This was mainly due to the unavailability of Cobus Theron, the project leader, due to medical reasons. Several inputs and suggestions were however received from within The Endangered Wildlife Trust and from partners, WESSA and ERS on a one-on-one basis. These changes have been incorporated into the methodology and "How to Guide". For example, partner inputs have led to the refinement of a more simplistic approach to interpreting and converting results of different tools within the methodology.

The methodology is currently being finalized and will be presented in its final form at WESSA's Environmental Practices Course presented in November 2015 where many of the partners will be present.

Component 5 Planned (as stated in the approved proposal):

Tool distributed

Component 5 Actual at Completion:

Staff members from our partners, Environmental & Rural Solutions, Conservation South Africa, LIMA and WESSA have been trained in the methodology in April and June 2015.



Above -Training in Matatiele - April 2015

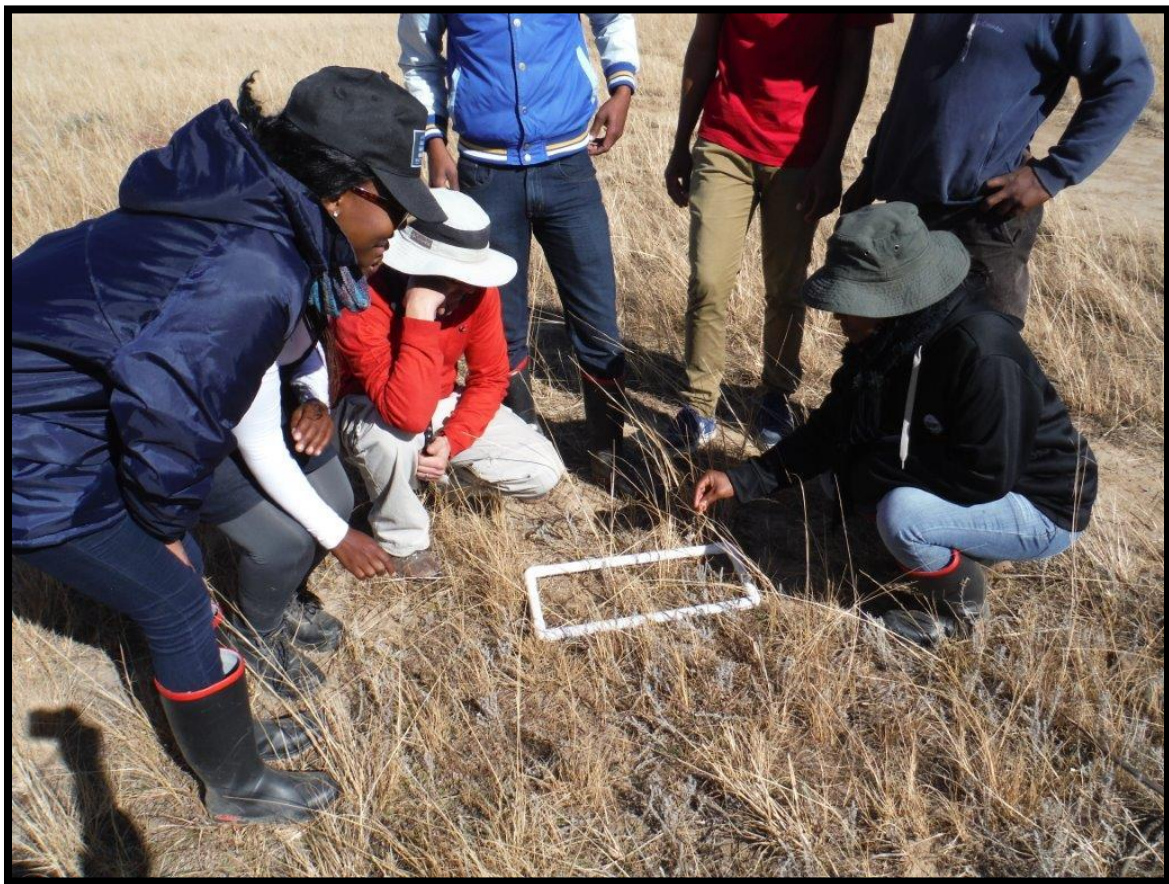
All partners have a copy of the 2nd draft "How to Guide" for measuring EGS methodology. The pilot digital cellular data capturing application has been loaded on cellular devices of all of the

partners that attended the training and they have been requested to test it in the field in the pilot phase.

The Measuring EGS methodology was presented at a learning exchange workshop in August between the Umzimvubu Catchment Protection Partnership and the Umgeni Ecological Infrastructure Partnership. The methodology was demonstrated at our partner sites within the Umzimvubu catchment.

We have also been approached by Wildlands Conservation Trust, who have shown an interest in the methodology, to share our literature study in respect of the tools used in the methodology. A meeting will be held to present the methodology to them.

A workshop is also planned to take place with monitoring experts at GroundTruth to share lessons learnt, as they have been developing a catchment monitoring protocol which could be combined with the EGS methodology.



Above - actual training in the field - June 2015.

We have also submitted a funding proposal that aim to support the roll-out and training of partners and stakeholders in the use of the EGS methodology on Biodiversity Stewardship sites across the Drakensberg (and then ultimately into Mpumalanga and the Free State grasslands). Through our footprint in the rest of Africa we aim to roll out this approach in measuring EGS change at our project sites in Uganda, Kenya, Rwanda and Zambia over the next year.

We are planning to make the methodology available online once all the materials and the application is finalized. The due date for this would be in the beginning of 2016.

An unexpected outcome has been the use of the methodology and the different tools in environmental education. During National Water Day 2015 in Matatiele, EWT and several partners hosted approximately 100 pupils at the Wilfred Bauer Nature Reserve where various tools where used to convey certain environmental concepts.

Partners are particularly excited about the citizen science component of the methodology and see it as being particularly useful to facilitate dialog in rural communities around land management.

Component 6 Planned (as stated in the approved proposal):

Sampling points and sites identified for measuring changes in ecosystem services using the tool

Component 6 Actual at Completion:

Several sites were identified for the possible use and implementation of the methodology. In terms of the European Union Funding these sites will have to be monitored using the methodology until mid-2017.



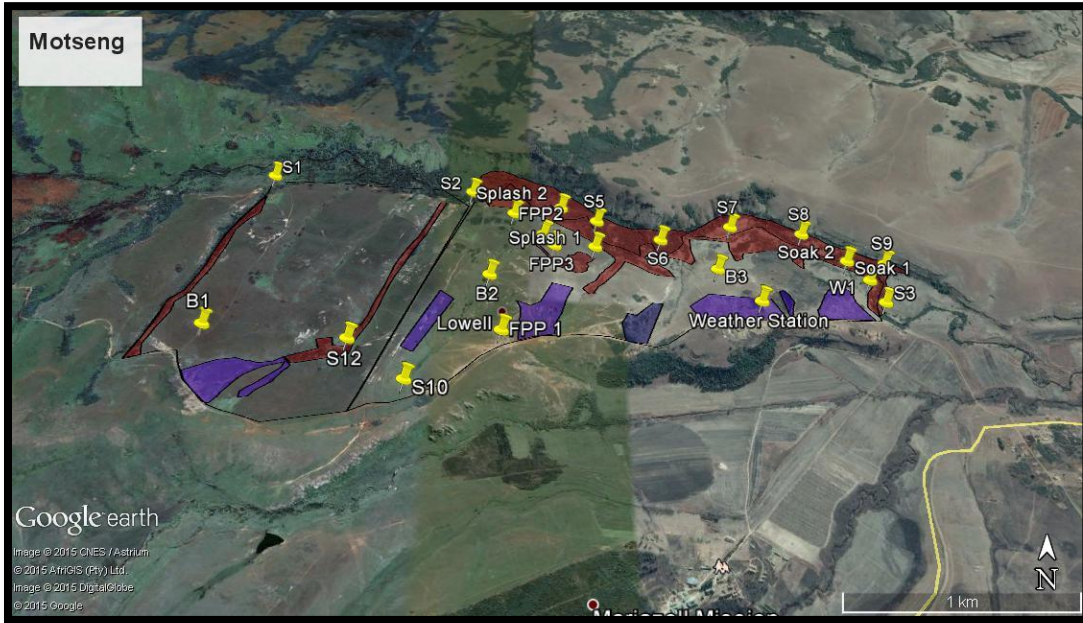
Above - a staff gauge in an erosion donga in the Cedarville Protected Environment gives context to fixed point photographs.

Sites that have been identified for ongoing ecosystem goods and services monitoring through using the EGS methodology will be:

- 1) Riverlea
- 2) Hebron & Hebron East
- 3) A site within Cedarville Protected Environment
- 4) Mfube (a partner site: LIMA)
- 5) Motseng (a partner site: ERS)

EGS mapping has been completed for three out of the five sites listed above. The other two will be completed over the next three months.

Some of these sites are partner sites and they will be monitored by partners with the assistance of The Endangered Wildlife Trust.



Above – An example of the mapping process which is critical as the initial step the approach for measuring EGS change at a site over time. This is the site Motseng and is an ERS Site.



Above - Repeated testing at Riverlea, Undeberg. Here the EWT EcoRangers measure basal cover within the grassland



Above: Installation of a small weather station near Mafube – a LIMA site within uMzimvubu catchment.

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

Yes. Component 3: as discussed and explained above.

Application of the methodology has not yet generated the amount data that was planned for a scientific report. For this reason we are shifting our evaluation of the methodology to the participants that received training in the methodology. We envisage a future publication based on data once we have sufficient and reliable data to draw conclusions.

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

Annexure A

“MEASURING CHANGES IN ECOSYSTEM GOODS AND SERVICES - A HOW TO GUIDE”

Annexure B

Literature review, table of tools and monitoring protocols.

Annexure C

Cyber tracker app

Annexure D

Partner Survey to determine ease of use and value of the EGS methodology - also see

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LVYMN6B>

Lessons Learned

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.

- 1) Monitoring of Ecosystems is time consuming and requires resources. If many monitoring sites are selected they should ideally be as close as is possible to one another to cut down on costs and time.
- 2) Ideally monitoring should be incorporated into all projects and not be a standalone feature. This will ensure better delivery as time, budget and reporting targets will be part of project deliverables.
- 3) Acceptance of new methodologies are greatly enhanced when partners are involved in the development of it.
- 4) The approach used to conduct EGS monitoring is more fundamental than the tools that will be used in the actual monitoring. The tools will depend on the habitat types and the specifics of each site but the approach (methodology) will be a standard at all sites.
- 5) Practical field work including trial and error is essential in the development of new methodologies or techniques. These experiences are often better at providing answers / solutions to difficult questions and providing direction where required.
- 6) A robust scientific approach is required but if you really want to get people involved and excited, a strong citizen science approach is required.

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

Success

- 1) Involvement of partners early on in the development process of any new concept fosters buy-in and a sense of joint ownership.
- 2) Allowances made by the CEPF and EWT to accommodate small changes in the project – flexibility is especially important when working within a novel and innovative project environment.
- 3) Developing projects where there is a need for the type of product that one is developing - the demand also drives interest and commitment.
- 4) A practical literature study can guide project actions and implementation.
- 5) Having a wide understanding of what others are doing in the Ecosystems Goods and Services arena fosters linking up of different ideas and concepts.

Shortcomings

- 1) Project time frames for methodologies should be longer as development and testing of new thinking and concepts take time. Gathering data should also take place over a long period to account for seasonal influences.
- 2) Underestimating the time required when putting a theoretical concept into practice and developing a working model.
- 3) Underestimating the amount of time spent on workshop and meetings with partners. In this project we held many more workshops and meetings than was originally planned. However as stated before, this was hugely beneficial and essential.

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

Success

- 1) Trial and error is an important part of the learning process and the project allowed for that.
- 2) Fieldwork in different environments and sites was essential to test concepts and ideas.
- 3) Having access to creative and innovative capacity and resources within partners and one's own organization is an absolute must.
- 4) Taking a practical approach to solving problems encountered.
- 5) Understanding that “not knowing an answer” is part of the process in developing innovation. Some questions can only be answered by actually doing.

Shortcomings

- 1) Selected sites being far apart from one another – this incurred huge time and costs requirements.
- 2) Data capturing and storing, especially among partners, proved problematic, however the development of the cell phone based app and revised data collection template has made data recording easier.

Other lessons learned relevant to conservation community:

- 1) New concepts are often difficult to develop and promote to peers. Persist with the concept until people start seeing the logic for themselves.
- 2) Do not assume that your audience, even if trained in conservation fields, understands all environment related topics. Create some way of assessing their knowledge and level of understanding before starting out. This is especially true for the ecosystem goods and services arena.
- 3) When developing new methods try to design them so they make intuitive sense – then the next step or answers to questions seem to naturally flow from the thinking applied.

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
EU	Regional	EU 231 399	This is allocated for this project and CEPF 59784 only.

**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.)*

European Union funding has been secured to support the outcomes of this project and the continued implementation of the tool for an additional two years until mid-2017.

Sustainability/Replicability

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

Success

The methodology has been widely accepted by partners. Environmental & Rural Solutions have indicated that they will be implementing the methodology as a standard monitoring protocol within all their current and future projects.

The Wildlife and Environmental Society of South Africa have indicated that they will incorporate the methodology into their Environmental Practices Course. The course will commence in Matatiele during the week of 16 to 19 November 2015. The methodology will be taught to all participants attending the course.



Above – Endangered Wildlife Trust EcoRanger, Thabo Madlala describes one of the Tools used to assess bare ground in a grassland.

Challenges

Since EGS monitoring of sites are not part of the partner's project deliverables in respect of their projects, monitoring represents additional work not budgeted for. Therefore our ongoing involvement and encouragement is necessary to motivate partners to continue with regular monitoring and data recording.

Summarize any unplanned sustainability or replicability achieved.

Incorporation of the methodology into the WESSA Environmental Practices course was an unexpected outcome. If participants for the course in November are able to grasp and implement the methodology readily, the methodology will become a permanent module in the course.

Safeguard Policy Assessment

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

N/A

Additional Comments/Recommendations

N/A

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, and publicized in our newsletter and other communications.

Please include your full contact details below:

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Fax: N/A
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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.

Project Results	Is this question relevant?	If yes, provide your numerical response for results achieved during the annual period.	Provide your numerical response for project from inception of CEPF support to date.	Describe the principal results achieved from July 1, 2013 to May 30, 2014. (Attach annexes if necessary)
1. Did your project strengthen management of a protected area guided by a sustainable management plan? Please indicate number of hectares improved.	N/A			Please also include name of the protected area(s). If more than one, please include the number of hectares strengthened for each one.
2. How many hectares of new and/or expanded protected areas did your project help establish through a legal declaration or community agreement?	N/A			Please also include name of the protected area. If more than one, please include the number of hectares strengthened for each one.
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	275 ha		Riverlea 125 ha Uitkomst 30 ha Tusa 10 ha Rokeby 10 ha Motseng 50 ha Mafube 50 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	275 ha		Riverlea 125 ha Uitkomst 30 ha Tusa 10 ha Rokeby 10 ha Motseng 50 ha Mafube 50 ha
5. If your project promotes the sustainable use of natural resources, how many local communities accrued tangible socioeconomic benefits? Please complete Table 1 below.	No			

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

