

THE
Genesis
of
LIFE

MAKHONJWA HERITAGE PROJECT

*WHS Makhonjwa Heritage Project Task
Team/Steering Committee*

Progress Presentation

Tuesday 9th June 2009



the dcsr
Department of
Culture, Sport & Recreation
Mpumalanga Province



Inception Report

- CCC has completed Implementation Plan/Inception Report.
- MS Software requested by Task Team to be utilized by CCC during the management and implementation of scope of work has been purchased.
- Training on MS Project has been completed and project details and timeframes, primarily for Phase 1 and on-going tasks have been transferred into MS Project.
- Three (3) Consortium Team Meetings have been held with all consortium members present and a further nine (9) Team meetings have been held with various Team Members. These meetings have focused on project planning, time scheduling and budgeting issues as well as the plan for the initial roll-out of the project following the appointment of Consortium on 21st October 2008.



Geological Inventory

- The compilation of the geological assessment and status report has commenced.
- Draft/Work in Progress Geological Report has been produced including the near completed data and literature reviews.
- Site visits with specialists to obtain their inputs and knowledge to the Geological Assessment:
 - Professor Chris Heubeck (Germany) provided inputs during initial site visits
 - Professor Carl Anhaessler (Wits) will provide inputs on site during June 2009
- The Project purchased two related geological reference books.
- Two full sets of maps have been purchased for reference by the Geological specialists in their surveys and to be included in certain areas in the nomination dossier.
- Professor Morris Viljoen (Wits) and Professor Carl Anhausser (Wits) have confirmed their availability as Peer Reviewers. Peer Review protocols are currently being finalised.



Biophysical Inventory

- Project Team is in possession of a range of recent biophysical data on the project area. This data has been consolidated into a database type format and reviewed.
- Gaps in respect of information requirements in baseline bio-physical data (such as the Bulembu Road Data) were identified
- Relevant specialists are currently being contacted to obtain the data that is required.
- Peer Reviewers have been identified and protocols are being drawn up. Mervin Lotter (MTPA) has confirmed his willingness to review documents and Dr P Goodman's involvement is still to be confirmed.
- The summation of the information into appropriate formats will proceed (Phase 2) including:
 - Ecological threats and trends (SWOT analysis)
 - Functional assessment (including connectivity)
 - Conservation Values (including diversity and endemism)
 - Tourism Values associated with biophysical information
 - Definition of core and peripheral areas and ground-truthing) will proceed.
- The final compilation of Biophysical inventory will be completed by mid-July 2009



SA Comparative Study Visits – Specialists

- Proposed Sites for Comparative Study Visits have been identified and require PSC input before planning can proceed.
- Proposed sites are:
 - Vredefort Impact Structure –WHS Status Pending
 - Cradle of Humankind – WHS
- Proposed that both sites are visited by WHS delegation due to the
 - differing issues the proposed sites have faced during their WHS planning and management processes
 - relative close proximity of sites to one another facilitating logistical benefits
 - two sites are classified as either geological or cultural World Heritage Sites which offers specific insights for Makhonjwa World Heritage Project



SA Comparative Study Visits – Specialists

Cont.

- Expected outputs from study visits include insights and advice based on lessons learnt, common pitfalls and challenges and recommended focus areas during the Nomination Process and beyond. The core topics will include:
 - planning issues
 - communication channels and methodology with all stakeholders
 - community involvement
 - management and governance recommendations.
- Proposed WHS project delegation includes
 - Sue, Dion, Tony from Consortium
 - 3 – 4 members of PSC – names to be confirmed
- Logistical Planning will proceed following PSC input with intention of conducting Study Visits early in July 2009.



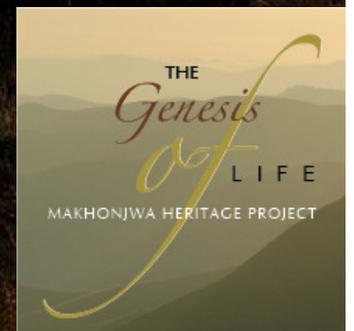
SA Comparative Study Visits – Community

- Proposed Sites for Comparative Study Visits for Stakeholders and Community Representatives have been identified.
- Proposed sites are:
 - Drakensburg-Maluti WHS
 - Isimangaliso (St Lucia)WHS
- It is proposed that ONE of these sites is visited by the WHS Community delegation over 4 – 5 days
- Planning and confirmation of site should can only proceed once Initial Community Consultation processes have commenced and suitable community representatives identified by Project Team and Communities.
- Planning will proceed from August 2009 with aim of conducting Study Visit in September 2009



Cultural Historical Heritage Resources Inventory

- External socio-politically anchored Tourism Expert has been identified, briefed and has commenced initial work on the project
- Preliminary literature reviews of relevant background documents has commenced
- Facilitation Agenda has been compiled to identify
 - key local sites, traditions, knowledge and perceptions of the areas that are significant, particularly from local stakeholders perspectives
 - To facilitate the assimilation of information on local artefacts, accounts of social, colonial and political history and living heritage of the region which have value to its inhabitants
- Community Workshops on Heritage will run concurrently with WHS Information Workshops to engage all stakeholders. Preliminary programme for initial workshops has been compiled
- Preliminary report will be completed by end July 2009



Socio-Economic Baseline Study

- Various available in-house statistical data has been consolidated in respect of core social and economic background information on key regions within proposed WHS area.
- Where gaps were identified in statistical data, suitable data has been sourced and inserted into raw socio-economic database.
- Available in-house data in respect of the relevant Integrated Development Plans (IDPs) for 'respective regions have been consolidated into summary reports.
- A Draft/ Work in Progress Report has been compiled which presents the broad socio-economic baseline of the project's impact area.
- Focus going forward to finalise the document by end July 2009 will be:
 - Updating current available statistical data that is out-dated (based on Census 2001) to 2006 Census when available
 - To ensure socio-economic analysis is presented in such a way that it can be interpreted and understood by a range of stakeholders within the project
 - Establish appropriate forecasts of impacts of the proposed WHS and criteria for future evaluation of such impacts will be determined for future project analysis



Communications and Reporting Schedule

- The identification, consultation and discussions with all Interested and Affected Parties (IAPs) in concerned regions is a critical element of project.
- Appropriate planning was conducted to identify and engage with IAPs during early stages of the project's roll-out.
- Communications Strategy Document has been compiled including:
 - Draft adverts for local newspapers - require PSC approval prior to publishing
 - Project Contact Database for key participants, specialists and stakeholders has been compiled - Will be continuously up-dated during course of project and will generate records of attendance for all meetings/workshops as well as per stakeholder or stakeholder grouping.
 - I&AP Registration Form has been compiled and ready for distribution
 - Initial Communication Plan for Stakeholder Engagement has been drawn up for Municipalities and Community Representatives.



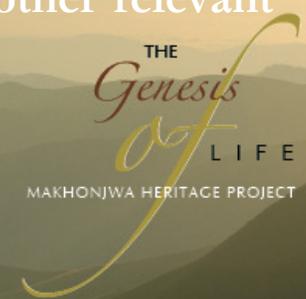
Communications and Reporting Schedule Cont.

- MS Project Plan has been developed indicating specific actions, persons responsible and timeframes for each aspect of project
- Progress Reports have been compiled for submission with each monthly invoice to indicate deliverables achieved to-date
- A Project Communication and Management Mechanism has been drawn up for consideration by PSC in respect of Project Management and Reporting – See Communications Strategy
- A Project Steering Committee Meetings schedule has been drawn up – requires PSC approval



General Awareness, Communications and Media/PR Material

- Project website is key to facilitating good communication with various stakeholders within WHS area and beyond.
- Aim – to provide background information on project and to register key issues for investigation/discussion etc.
- Website requirements were unpacked by Project Team and put into brief to local (Barberton) website developer with extensive experience in construction of interactive, informative and archival websites for broad public usage – See Communication Strategy
- Project Team provided preliminary information for website development to commence in preparation for PSC approval
- High quality WHS Brochure was commissioned to aide communication of project information and objectives. Brochure was distributed at recent Tourism Indaba, Geo-Conference and will be distributed at forthcoming Innebos and other relevant events (including relevant logos)



General Awareness, Communications and Media/PR Material Cont.

- Dion Brandt and Tony Ferrar attended Geological Society of South Africa's World Heritage and Geotourism Conference (4th to 5th June 2009).
- Attendance served both as a means of promoting the WHS project as well as providing useful contacts and information from key stakeholders of other local heritage sites.
- Examples of other key project-related communications made to-date include:
 - Several Land Owners (such as Dubai World, N Oosthusien)
 - WHS Management Personnel and Key Role Players in other SA WHS programmes
 - Local Forestry Companies
 - Local Municipalities
 - Various key Specialists, particularly geological specialists



Archival Data

- GIS database is a key element of project to ensure all data obtained and generated during life of project, particularly map-data, is captured and recorded for future reference by relevant specialists and adjudicators of Nomination Dossier.
- Preparation of the data-capturing mechanism was carried out on a dedicated PC with the appropriate GIS programmes.
- Following assimilation of current available GIS data for project, a list of information still required for the project has been generated.
- Relevant Project Team Consultants will continue to obtain relevant data and will continue to maintain archival database during life of project.

Summary of Project Progress & Discussion Points

	Deliverable	Overall Status	Concerns for Discussion	Proposed Way Forward/ Recommendations
1	Inception Report	Completed	a. MTPA Park Planner Intern not identified	a. Advertise for Intern across Province/ PMU?
2	Geological Inventory	On track	a. 1 month behind due to delays in project funding & project start up	a. Deliverable will be completed by end of August with no delays to overall project plan
3	Biophysical Resources Inventory	On track	a. 1.5 months behind due to delays in project funding & project start up	a. Deliverable will be completed by mid-July with no delays to overall project plan
4	SA Comparative Study Visits - Specialists	On track	a. PSC endorsements & introductions to other WHS Managers etc is outstanding b. Project Team requires input on proposed sites, PSC members to attend and available dates	a. Clarify Communications Protocol at Higher Governmental levels b. Deliverable on track overall and will be completed within original timeframe (Sept 09)

Summary of Project Progress & Discussion Points

	Deliverable	Overall Status	Concerns for Discussion	Proposed Way Forward/ Recommendations
5	SA Comparative Study Visits - Specialists	On track	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. PSC endorsements & introductions to other WHS Managers etc is outstanding b. Project Team requires input on proposed sites, PSC members to attend and available dates c. Community Representatives can only be identified following initial community workshops 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Clarify Communications Protocol at Higher Governmental levels b. Deliverable on track overall and will be completed within original timeframe (Sept 09)

Summary of Project Progress & Discussion Points

	Deliverable	Overall Status	Concerns for Discussion	Proposed Way Forward/ Recommendations
6	Cultural Historical Heritage Resources Inventory	Delayed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. 2 months behind due to delays in project funding & project start up resulting in delays in specialist commencing work b. Awaiting inputs from community workshops 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Preliminary Report on findings from workshops will be completed by end July 2009
7	Socio-economic Baseline Study	On track	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. 1 month delayed start due to delays in project funding & project start up 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Deliverable on track overall and will be completed within original timeframe (July 09)

Summary of Project Progress & Discussion Points

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8	Communications and Reporting	On track	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Problems experienced re. roll-out of initial participatory meetings due to lack of clear and mandated communication programme b. Newspaper advert for I&AP's not yet published due to delayed approval by PSC c. Initial Project Contact List is incomplete and requires input from PSC members d. Website not operational due to delays in approval by PSC ito project/domain name, content & branding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Clarify Communications Protocol at All Stakeholder levels and hold meeting with PSC members to determine agreed Communications Plan b. Newspaper advert requires PSC input and approval c. Obtain inputs from PSC re. Key stakeholders to be included in initial distribution of information etc d. Obtain inputs from PSC re. project/domain name, content & branding for website development to proceed

Summary of Project Progress & Discussion Points

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9	General Awareness, Communications & Media/PR Material	On track	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Project brochures produced for project awareness at recent key events received no PSC input. b. Concerns raised over project publications recently produced, particularly ito of project name, branding and funders logos 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Protocol in respect of project related publications/ press releases/ editorials etc to be obtained b. Confirmation of project name, branding etc to be obtained c. Clarification of funders logos to be included on publications d. Correct logos to be added onto printed brochures and included in future versions of brochures as well as all project-related documentation