



A SOUTH AFRICAN BIOTRADE CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE USE STANDARD: WHY BOTHER?

African Biotrade Festival
15 September 2023



*Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.*

RATIONALE FOR DEVELOPMENT OF THE STANDARD



forestry, fisheries
& the environment

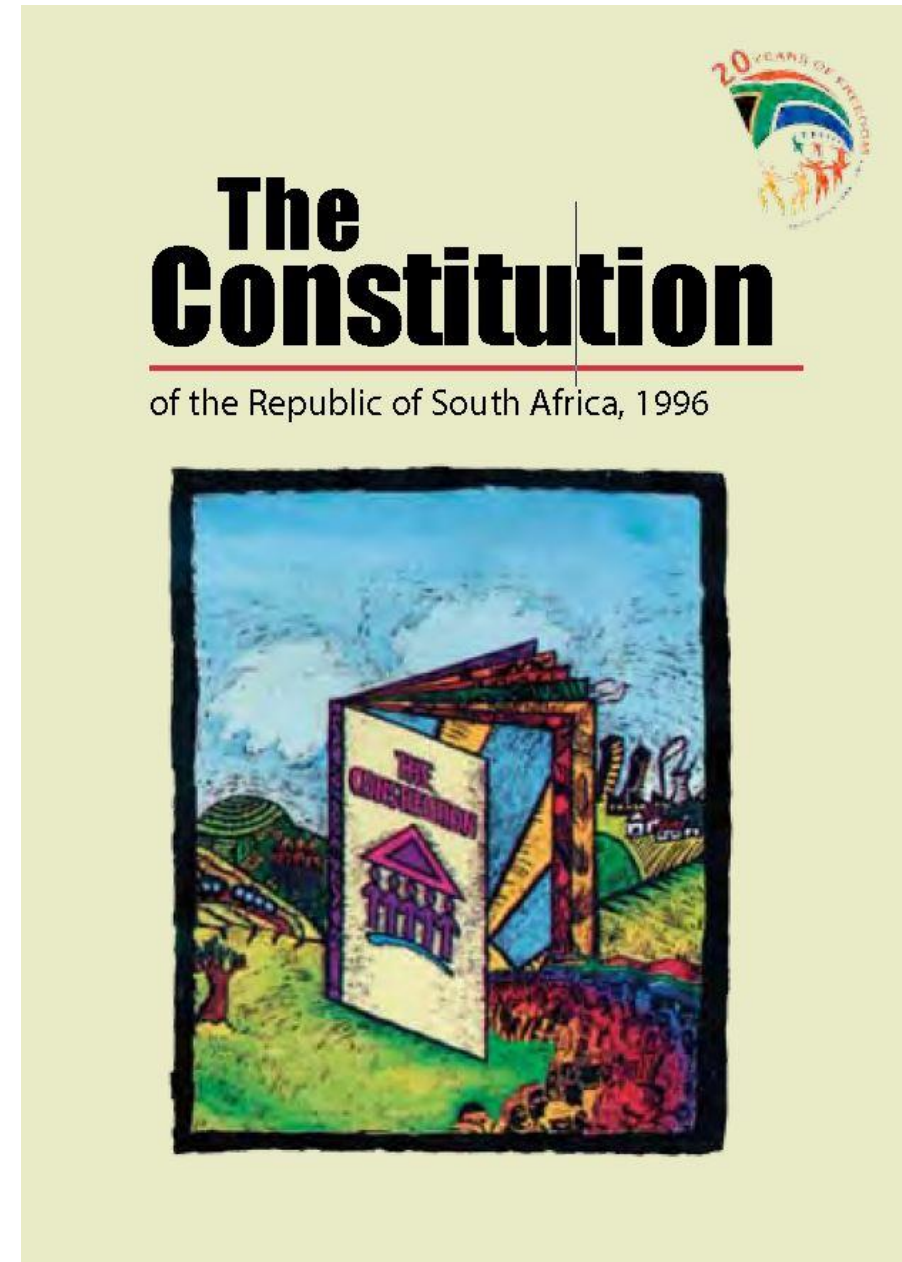
Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



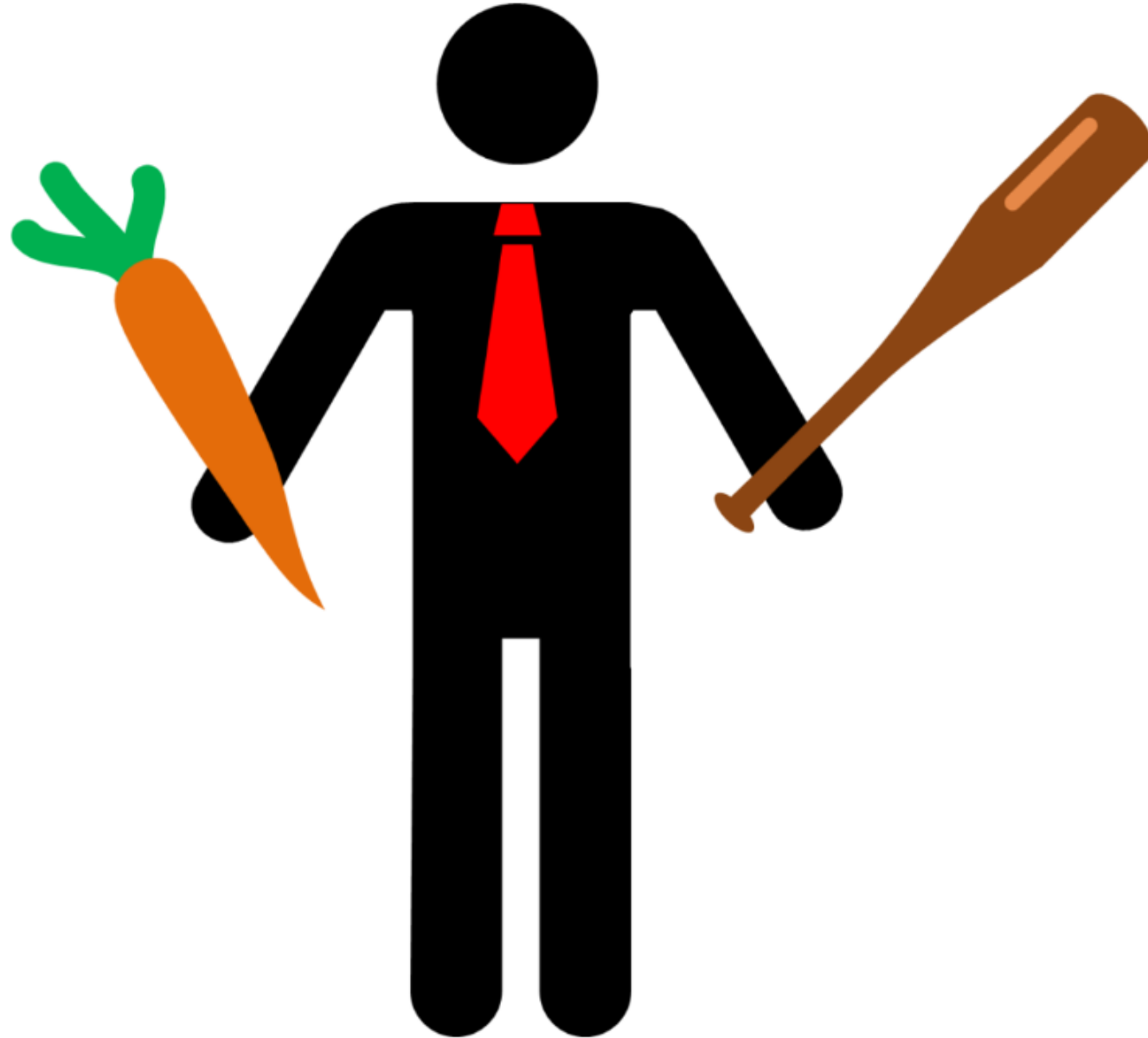
24. Environment.-Everyone has the right-

(b) to have the environment protected, for the benefit of present and future generations, through reasonable legislative and other measures that-

- (i) prevent pollution and ecological degradation;**
- (ii) promote conservation; and**
- (iii) secure ecologically sustainable development and use of natural resources while promoting justifiable economic and social development.**



The Carrot and the Stick





Home » [Implementation](#) » [CITES 'Non-detriment findings'](#)

Home

- ▶ [Non Detriment Findings \(NDF\)](#)
- ▶ [View existing reports database](#)

Submit a report



Please log in to access

Other issues

- ▶ [CITES 'Non-detriment findings'](#)
- ▶ [CITES and livelihoods](#)
- ▶ [International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime](#)
- ▶ [Introduction from the sea](#)
- ▶ [Wildlife trade policy reviews](#)
- ▶ [National legislation](#)

Non-detriment findings



The preamble to the Convention recognizes that international cooperation is essential for the protection of certain species of wild fauna and flora against over-exploitation through international trade, and recognizes also the urgency of taking appropriate measur... [See more](#)

Current policies on NDFs

In Resolution Conf. 13.2 on *Sustainable use of biodiversity: Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines*, Parties were urged, when adopting NDF...

[See more](#)

Guidance on NDFs

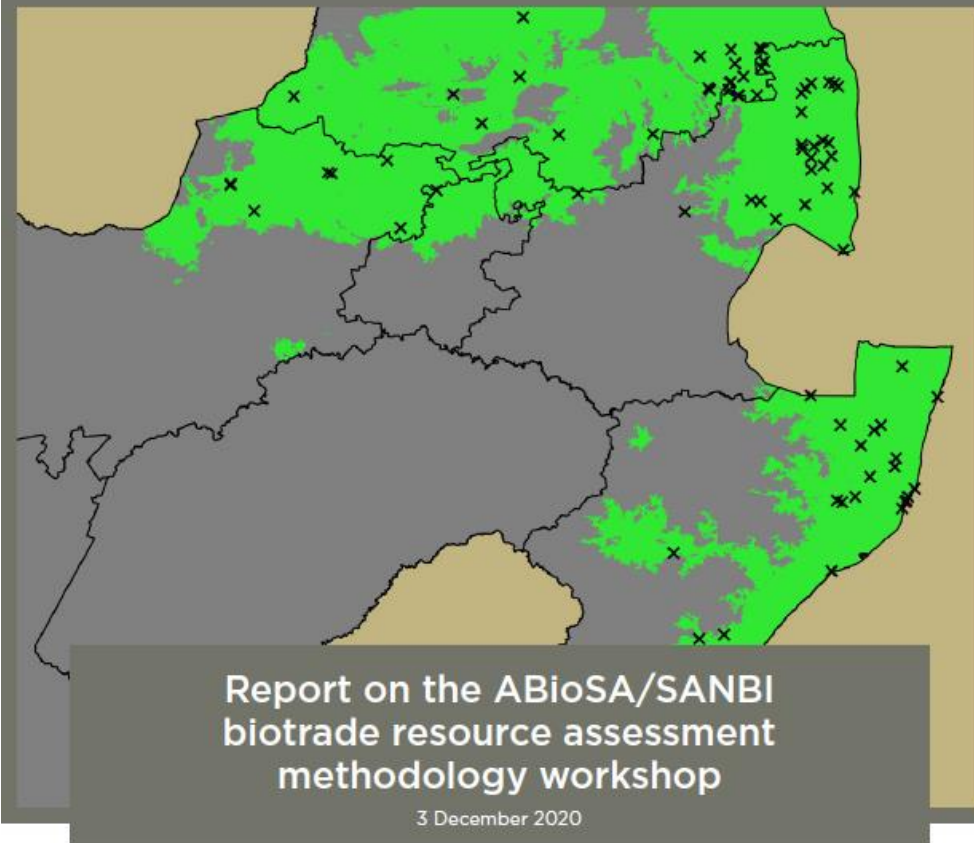
In 1992, the CoP adopted Resolution Conf. 8.6 on the *Role of the Scientific Authority* which arose initially from a document by the United States of America discussed at the fifth... [See more](#)

Convention Requirements

In detail, the NDF requirements in the text of the Convention are:

a) Article III (Appendix-I species):

- i) An export pe... [See more](#)



Biotrack South Africa (Pty) Ltd
 PO Box 101
 Grahamstown
 6140
 South Africa
 Friday, January 29, 2021

Aloe ferox Resource Assessment (Q6546/2019).

Deliverable 1.7: Final Report- *Aloe ferox* as a Resource and the Extent of Impacts



Prepared for the South African National Biodiversity Institute by
 Prof AR Palmer and Mr CI Weideman

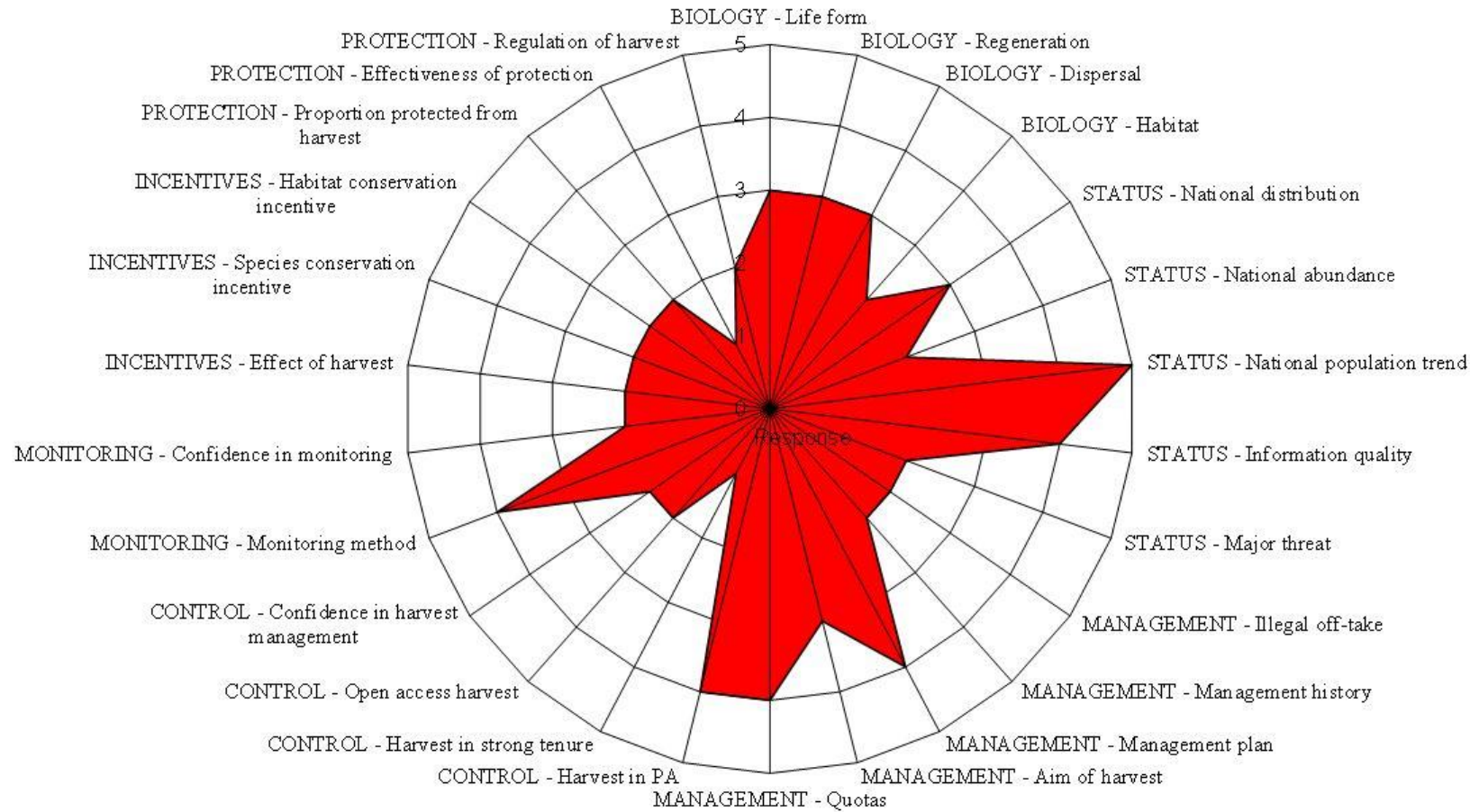


Figure 1: Radar chart summarizing the non-detriment finding assessment for *A. ferox* in accordance with the CITES NDF checklist. Explanations of scores given are detailed in Table 1. Higher scores are indicative of higher risks to the species. The area shaded in the radar chart indicates an overall low to moderate risk to the species.

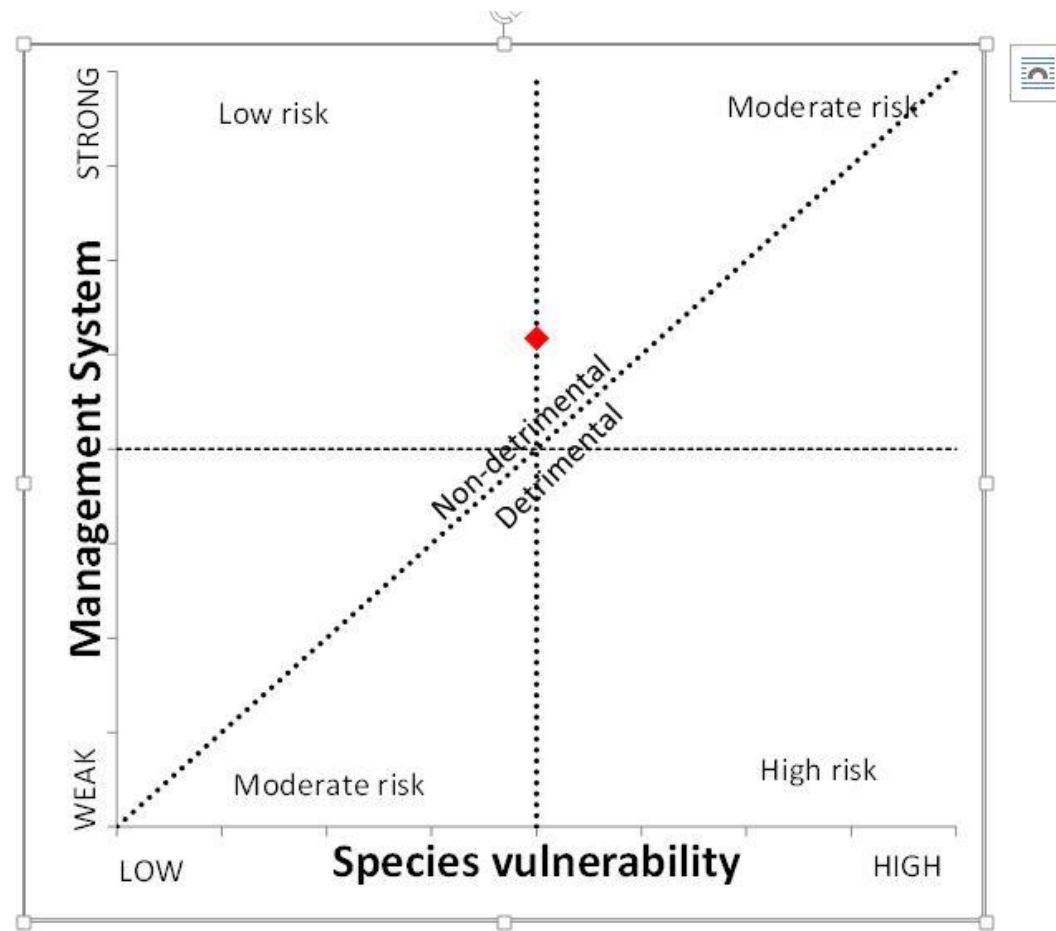


Figure 2: The risk of trading in *A. ferox*, as represented by the relationship between species vulnerability (biology and status) and the management system to which the species is subjected (management, control, monitoring, incentives and protection). The figure shows that the species is currently at a low to moderate risk and trade is non detrimental.

Biodiversity Management Plans (S)

[Multi-stakeholder developed safeguard]

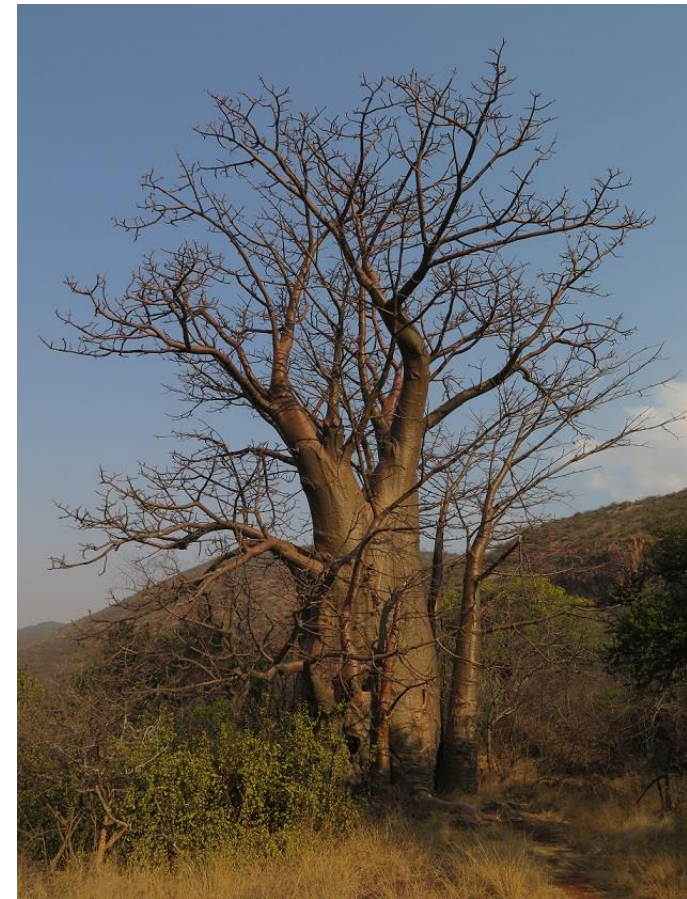
A BMP must –

- (a) Be aimed at ensuring the long-term survival in nature of the species or ecosystem to which the plan relates
- (b) Provide for the responsible person, organization or organ of state to monitor and report on progress with implementation of the plan

For which species can a BMPs be produced?

Threatened or Protected Species (TOPS taxa), or any which warrant special conservation attention

[NEMBA, Articles 43, 45]



**BIODIVERSITY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR TWO HONEYBUSH SPECIES (*CYCLOPIA
SUBTERNATA* AND *CYCLOPIA INTERMEDIA*)**



- Objectives
- Criteria
- Actions
- Actors
- Indicators
- Delivery dates

Jointly developed by:

Lead agent: Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning

Core Authors: Albert Ackhurst, Annelise Vlok, Azwinaki Muingi, Clyde Lamberts, Frances Balayer, Gerrie Ferreira, Humbu Mafumo, Neil Crouch

Implementing Organisations: Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning, Eastern Cape Department of Economic Development and Environmental Affairs, CapeNature, national Department of Forestry and Fisheries and the Environment, Western Cape Department of Agriculture, Eastern Cape Parks and Tourism Agency, South African National Biodiversity Institute, South African Honeybush Tea Association, Agriculture Sector Education Training Authority, Honeybush Community of Practice, private and communal land owners, The Council for

Harvesting Guidelines for *Pelargonium* *sidoides*

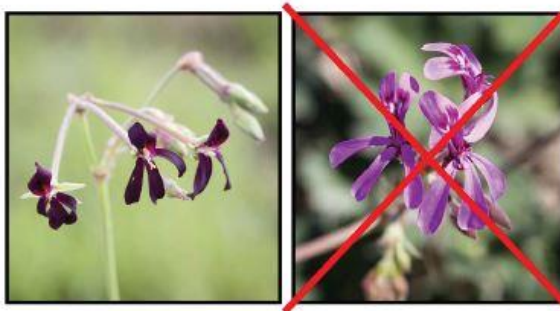


**Based on the Recommendations
in the Biodiversity Management
Plan for *Pelargonium sidoides*
Government Gazette No 36411
of 26th April 2013**

Designed by Parceval • June 2018 version #1

What can be harvested?

Only *Pelargonium sidoides* – with the dark red to black flowers – must be harvested. The pink flowered *Pelargonium reniforme* must not be harvested. Make sure you know which species you are harvesting!



Harvest only the main root and leave the smaller side roots behind – they will grow into mature roots over time and can be harvested in the future.

Roots must be red to dark red when broken – light coloured roots will not be purchased as they are too young and do not make good medicine.



When can it be harvested?

Pelargonium can be harvested all year round. It is however preferably harvested in the rainy months of October to May when plants can be replanted easily and will re-sprout for future harvesting.

How must it be harvested?



Use a pick, a hoe or a fork to dig up the plant.

Be careful not to disturb too many plants and soil around the plant you harvest. If other plants are affected, re-place them into the harvesting hole and compact the soil around them so they can continue to grow.





Western Cape
Government
Environmental Affairs and
Development Planning

BETTER TOGETHER.



THE WILD HONEYBUSH
HARVESTING FIELD GUIDE

Using Google Earth, a farmer has mapped four Bergtee patches on his farm and calculated the area per patch, to give a total of 20 ha of Bergtee veld. He has done a survey walk of about 100 m in each patch, to get a density figure for approximately 200 m² which converts to an average of 1000 plants per hectare. He has harvested a sample of 30 plants and weighed each plant to get an average weight per plant of 0.45 kg.

Calculating the potential harvest yield

Total area: 20 ha	20 ha x 1000 plants x 0.45 kg =
Ave. plant density: 1000	9000 kg
Ave weight of plant: 0,45 kg	
2 year harvest interval, 50% of plants cut: 4500 kg	
4 year harvest interval, 80% of plants cut: 7200 kg	

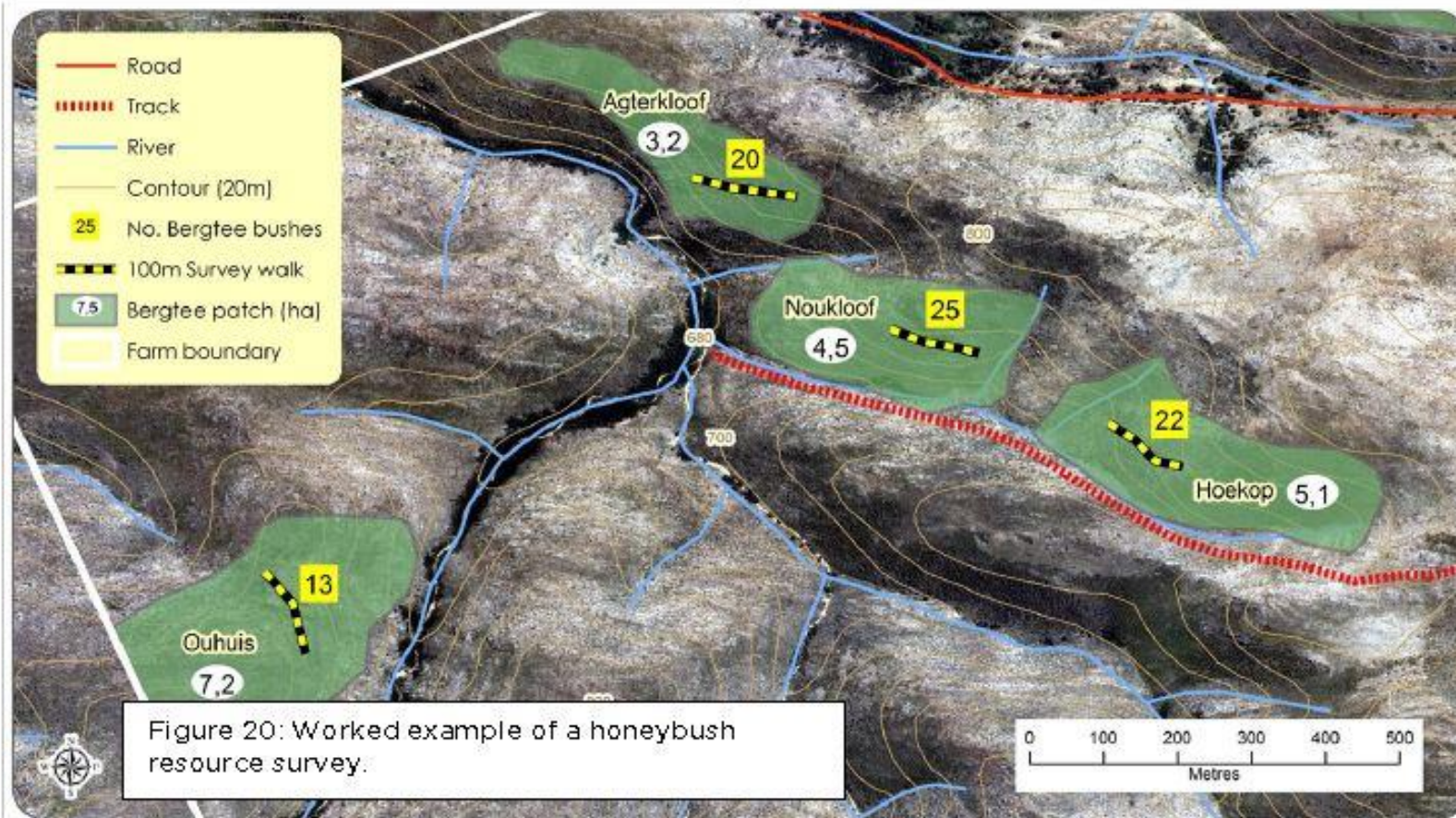


Figure 20: Worked example of a honeybush resource survey.

Responding to international developments

- The global market increasingly focuses on the development of mechanisms for assurance when procuring from supplier countries.
- In response to this, a sharp increase in the number of Voluntary Sustainability Standards (VSS) is observed over the past years
- VSS focusses on translating internationally accepted best practise into measurable criteria which can then be implemented by business to provide the necessary assurance
- While there are successful international precedents, there is no South African or even Southern African example focused on and accommodating the unique nature of the biotrade sector in the region from which to develop a national biodiversity conservation focused certification scheme
- **The first rationale for the development standard is to respond to international developments in the wider biotrade space and markets**



forestry, fisheries
& the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.



Provide a mechanism for the advancement of CSU

- The CSU Standard is a vehicle to support the SA government to give effect and illustrate implementation of their international undertaking and responsibilities under:
 - The Convention for Biological Diversity
 - The Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing
 - The Global Biodiversity Framework
- Draft National Biodiversity Economy Strategy (NBES) target: development of a South African Biotrade certification scheme and standard
- The second rationale is that the CSU standard will provide a transparent mechanism for promoting biodiversity conservation, fair trade and product differentiation & unlock the potential of bioprospecting/biotrade as aligned to national and international undertakings



forestry, fisheries
& the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.



HOW IS THE STANDARD BEING DEVELOPED?



forestry, fisheries
& the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Overview

- Informed by the SA –EU Dialogue facility work which explored three areas: 1) VSS, 2) national and international CSU safeguards and 3) EU CSDDD and culminated in a standards framework and the definition and positioning of the Standard as a Conservation and Sustainable Use Standard
- The current project has 3 broad areas:
 - Landscape review
 - Implementation of NDF and RA processes
 - Standard & Scheme development and testing
- The review work and implementation of the NDF and RA will happen in 2023 and will supply information that will be used as the basis of the development of the standard and scheme in 2024. This approach will optimally position the standard for applicability and accessibility in the SA landscape



forestry, fisheries
& the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.



Parts of the project

Part	Title	Progress
1	Global landscape review	2023
2	National landscape review	2023
3	Honeybush Non-Detriment Finding (NDF) – two species	2023
4	Rooibos Non-Detriment Finding (NDF)	2023
5	Honeybush Resource Assessment (RA) – two species	2023 – 2024
6	Rooibos Resource Assessment (RA)	2023 – 2024
7	Scheme development	2024
8	Testing and learning	2024



forestry, fisheries
& the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.



The value of NDFs and RA for the CSU Standard

- NDFs used by the Scientific Authority of the State of export for species included in Appendices I and II of CITES to illustrate that export is not detrimental to the survival of the species
- The CSU Standard: innovates & positions NDFs as a tool to capture baselines, identify needed development actions and monitoring of species
- RAs are normally implemented on species or sector level and has as one of its results a Monitoring Plan – this however makes the tool inaccessible for many industries not able to fund the implementation
- The CSU Standard will innovate the use of RAs in the development of methodologies for how the RA can be applied to regions and even individual producers enabling sectors to prioritize for example areas where this is most needed and gradually implement
- One key benefit of these innovations is that sectors will be able to illustrate good management of resource and avoid being included in for example CITES and TOPS presenting higher requirements for export trade



forestry, fisheries
& the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.



WHO IS INVOLVED?



forestry, fisheries
& the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Stakeholder consultation

Stakeholder consultation is key to ensure:

- That the standard is applicable and accessible to the intended users in SA
- Acceptable to international partners and buyers
- Contributes through innovation to the international biotrade space

Government and regulatory	Development organizations
Sector platforms	Industry organizations
Standards and certification schemes	Certification bodies
Biotrade businesses	Buyers
Communities	Academic teams



forestry, fisheries
& the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.



THE CSU STANDARD: VOLUNTARY AND DEVELOPMENT FOCUSSED



forestry, fisheries
& the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



CSU Standards Framework

Voluntary code of good practise

Public standard with the DFFE as the authority

Applicable to wild harvesting and cultivation

Generic not product specific



forestry, fisheries
& the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.



CSU Standard as development tool

Gives guidance to business and enable the creation of a roadmap for development aligned to good practices in the biotrade sector.

Can be used to communicate and maximise the marketing advantage that can be obtained from legal compliance and demonstration of best practice.

Defines good practise and gives a unified strategic direction to the sector.

Integrates conservation and sustainable use aspects.



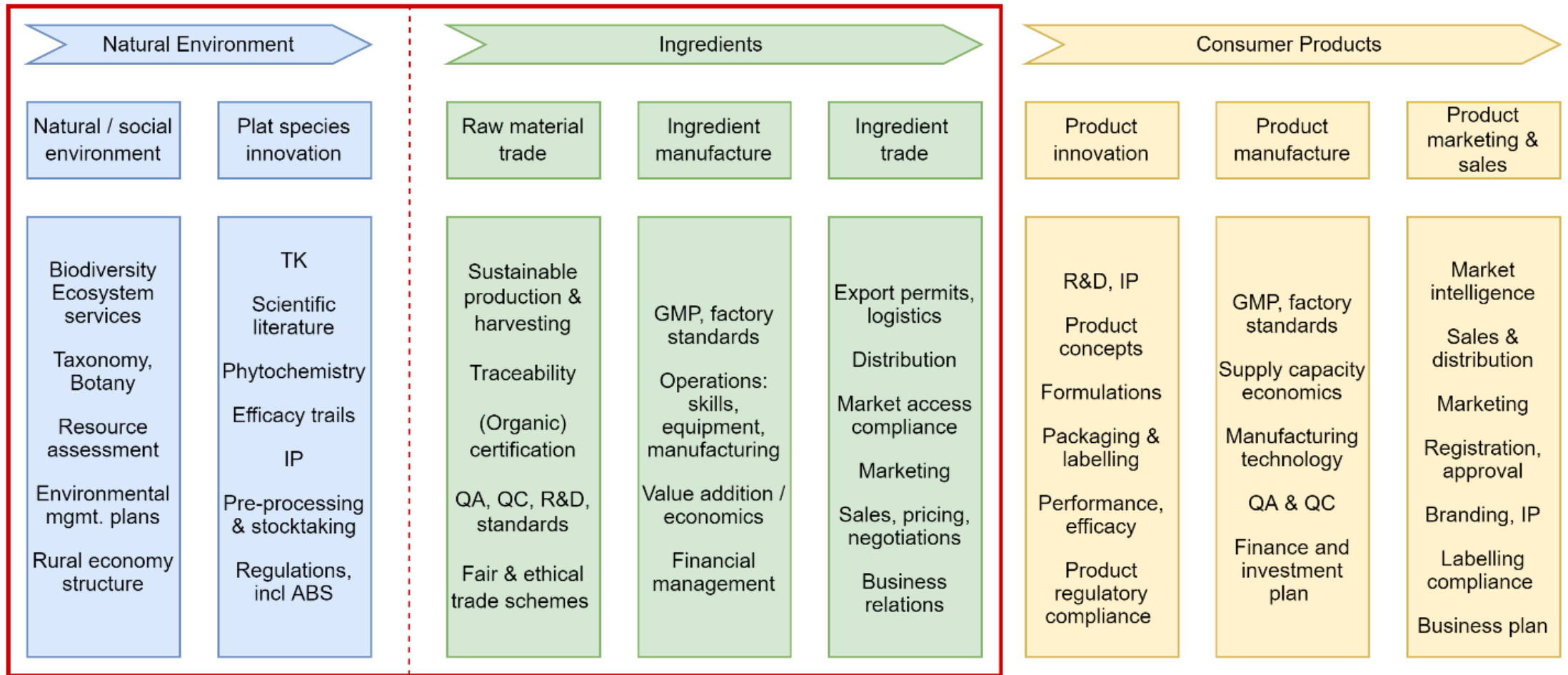
forestry, fisheries
& the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.

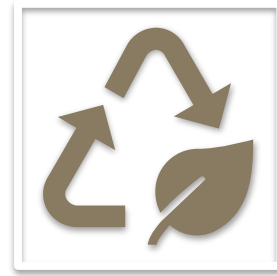




Principles of the CSU Standard



Environmental protection
and conservation



Sustainable use of
resource & Fair and
equitable benefit sharing



Management and ethics



forestry, fisheries
& the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.



INDUSTRY SUPPORT FOR THE DEVELOPMENT AND TESTING OF THE STANDARD



forestry, fisheries
& the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Partnership

- Both in the developmental phases & in the eventual implementation of the Standard, there is a strong focus on partnership and collaboration.
- There is an understanding that the standard will only be successful if all stakeholders as included in the consultation find their role and take on their responsibility and actively contribute to making this initiative a success.



forestry, fisheries
& the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.



Potential contributions

- Design and implementation of collective processes such as NDF and RA that will benefit all in the sector and support those micro businesses
- Work with the DFFE as the authority to continue to innovate both in content and approach to make the standard feasible and of value to the sector
- Raise awareness in networks to support the acceptance of the standard
- Contribute to monitoring of participation to contribute to cost effective implementation



forestry, fisheries
& the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.



THANK YOU!

Preshanthie Naicker-M
Director: UNDP/GEF 6 Bioprospecting
Value Chains
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the
Environment
Email: pnaicker@dffe.gov.za

Prof. Neil Crouch
Biodiversity Economy Lead
SANBI
Email: n.crouch@sanbi.org

Thank You