




OTHER EFFECTIVE AREA-BASED CONSERVATION MEASURES

Harry Jonas
Co-Chair, IUCN WCPA OECM Specialist Group



SANGKAR - URANG  IKAN
KURUSUS DARIPADA PERIKANAN.

'OECMs' represent a
significant step
forward in the formal
recognition of
conservation beyond
protected areas




INTERNATIONAL CONTEXT



CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY



**COP10/MOP5
AICHI-NAGOYA
JAPAN 2010**



STRATEGIC PLAN (2011- 2020)

TARGET 11

By 2020, at least **17%** of terrestrial and inland water areas and **10%** of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and **well-connected systems of protected areas** and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscape and seascape.

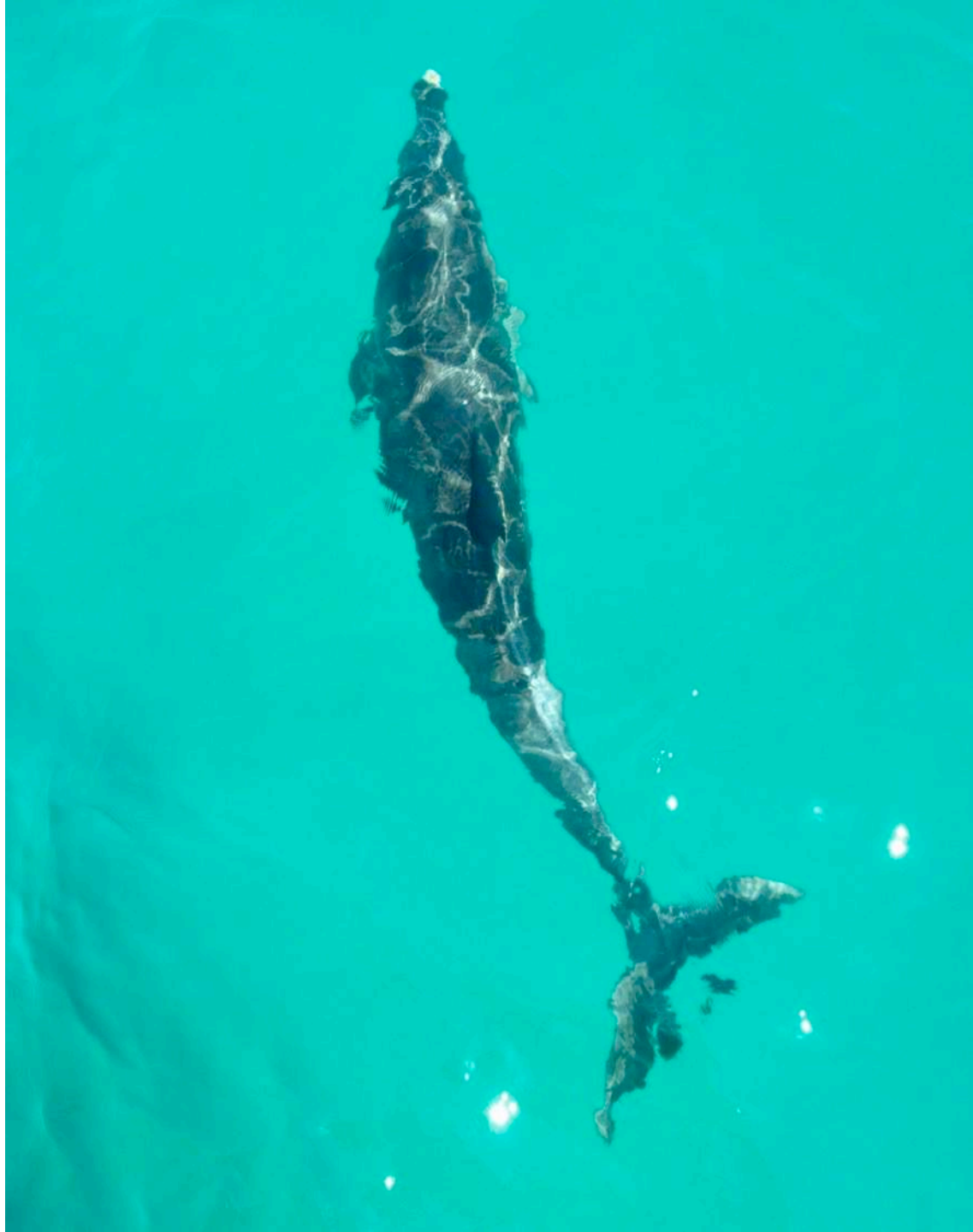
Global terrestrial protected areas coverage

15%



Global ocean
protected
areas

7.5%





TARGET 11

By 2020, at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water areas and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and **well-connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures**, and integrated into the wider landscape and seascape.

INTRODUCING OECMs



DEFINITION OF AN 'OECM'

(CBD, 2018)

A geographically defined area other than a Protected Area

... which is governed and managed

... in ways that achieve positive and sustained long-term outcomes for the in situ conservation of biodiversity

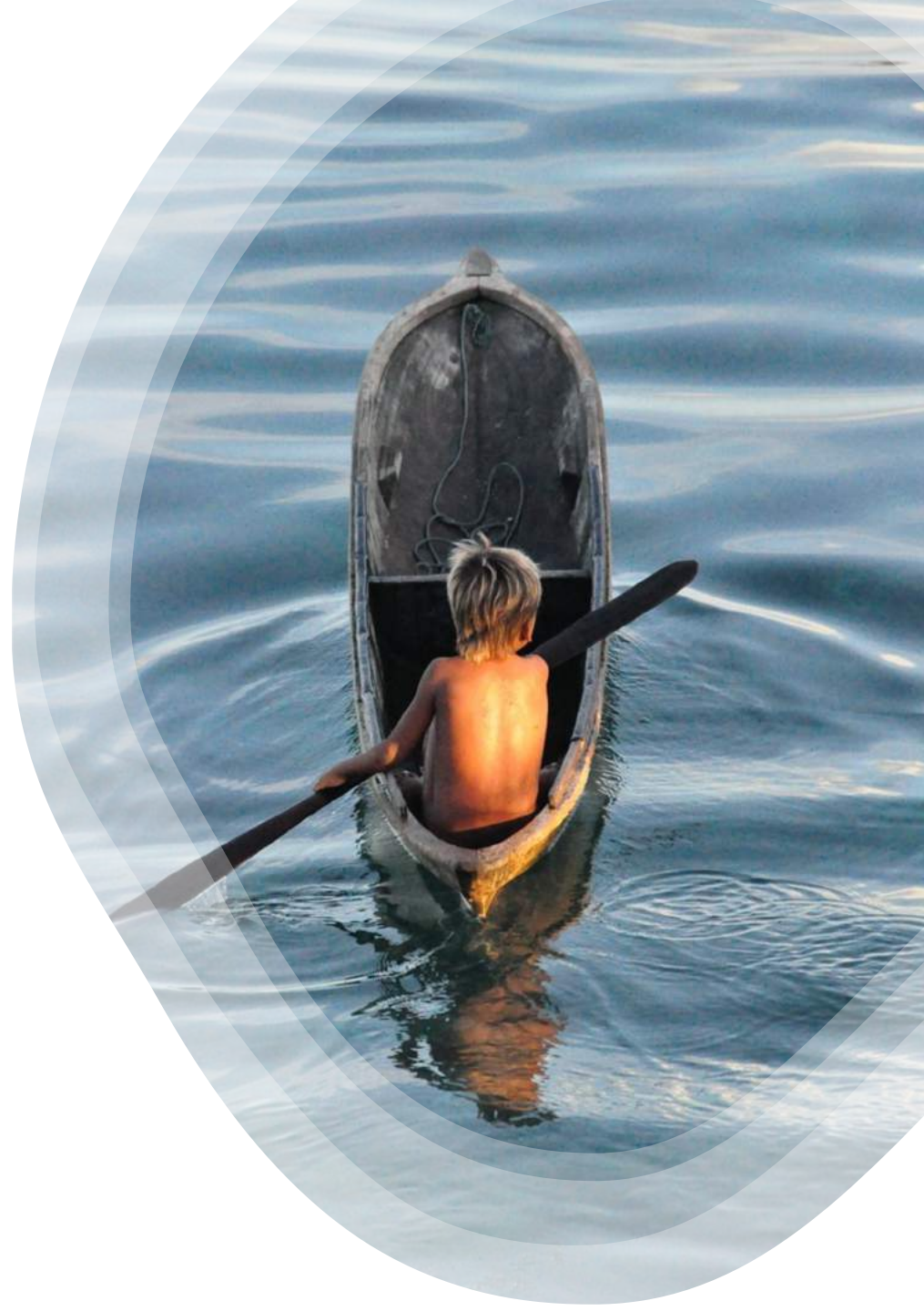
... with associated ecosystem functions and services and where applicable, cultural, spiritual, socio-economic, and other locally relevant values.

PROTECTED AREAS AND OECMs

Protected areas

Protected areas should have a *primary* conservation objective.

Their core function is to promote the *in-situ* conservation of biodiversity.



PROTECTED AREAS AND OECMs

Other effective area-based conservation measures

OECMs should *deliver* the effective *in-situ* conservation of biodiversity, regardless of their primary management objectives.



SPECTRUM OF OECSMs

Achieves the in situ conservation of biodiversity

Less intention to conserve
biodiversity

More intention to conserve
biodiversity

SPECTRUM OF OECSs

Achieves the in situ conservation of biodiversity

Less intention to conserve
biodiversity

More intention to conserve
biodiversity

Ancillary

- 'No-disturbance' areas
- Sacred sites
- Military areas
- War graves
- Other no-go areas

Secondary

Primary

SPECTRUM OF OECMs

Achieves the in situ conservation of biodiversity

Less intention to conserve
biodiversity

More intention to conserve
biodiversity

Ancillary

Secondary

- Areas that are conserved through very low-impact use
- A range of ICCAs/LMMAs
- Watershed protection areas
- NTFP areas
- Ecosystem service-related wetlands

Primary

SPECTRUM OF OECMs

Achieves the in situ conservation of biodiversity

Less intention to conserve
biodiversity

More intention to conserve
biodiversity

Ancillary

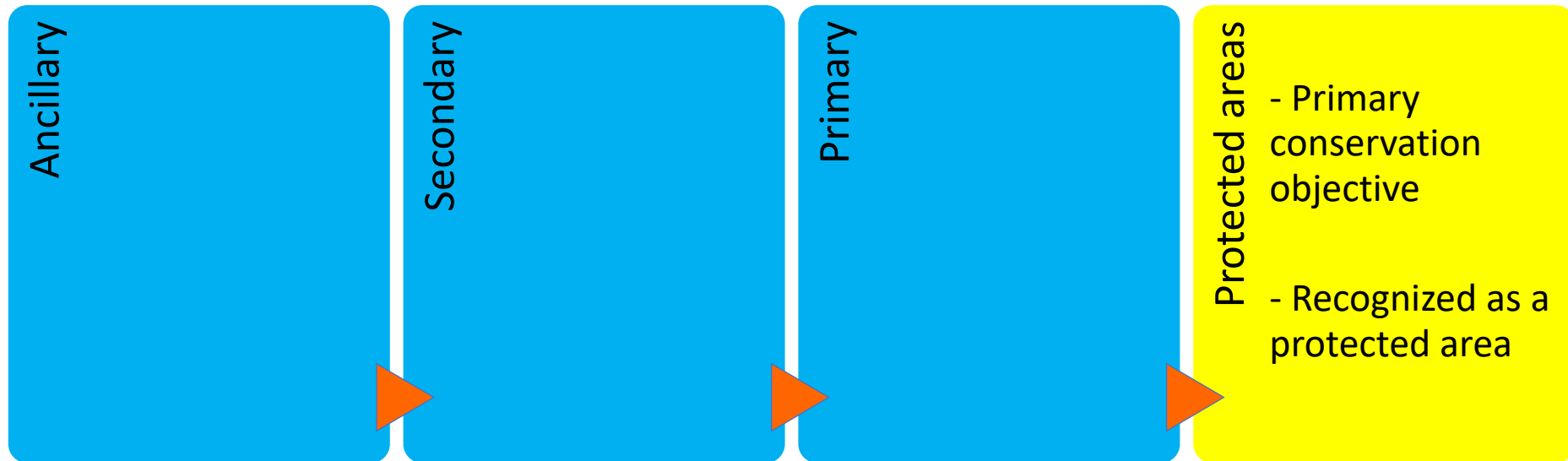
Secondary

Primary

- ICCAs or privately governed areas with a primary conservation objective...

- ... where the governance authority
 - is unable to secure PA designation or
 - prefers not to be recognised as a PA

SPECTRUM OF PROTECTED AREAS AND OECMs



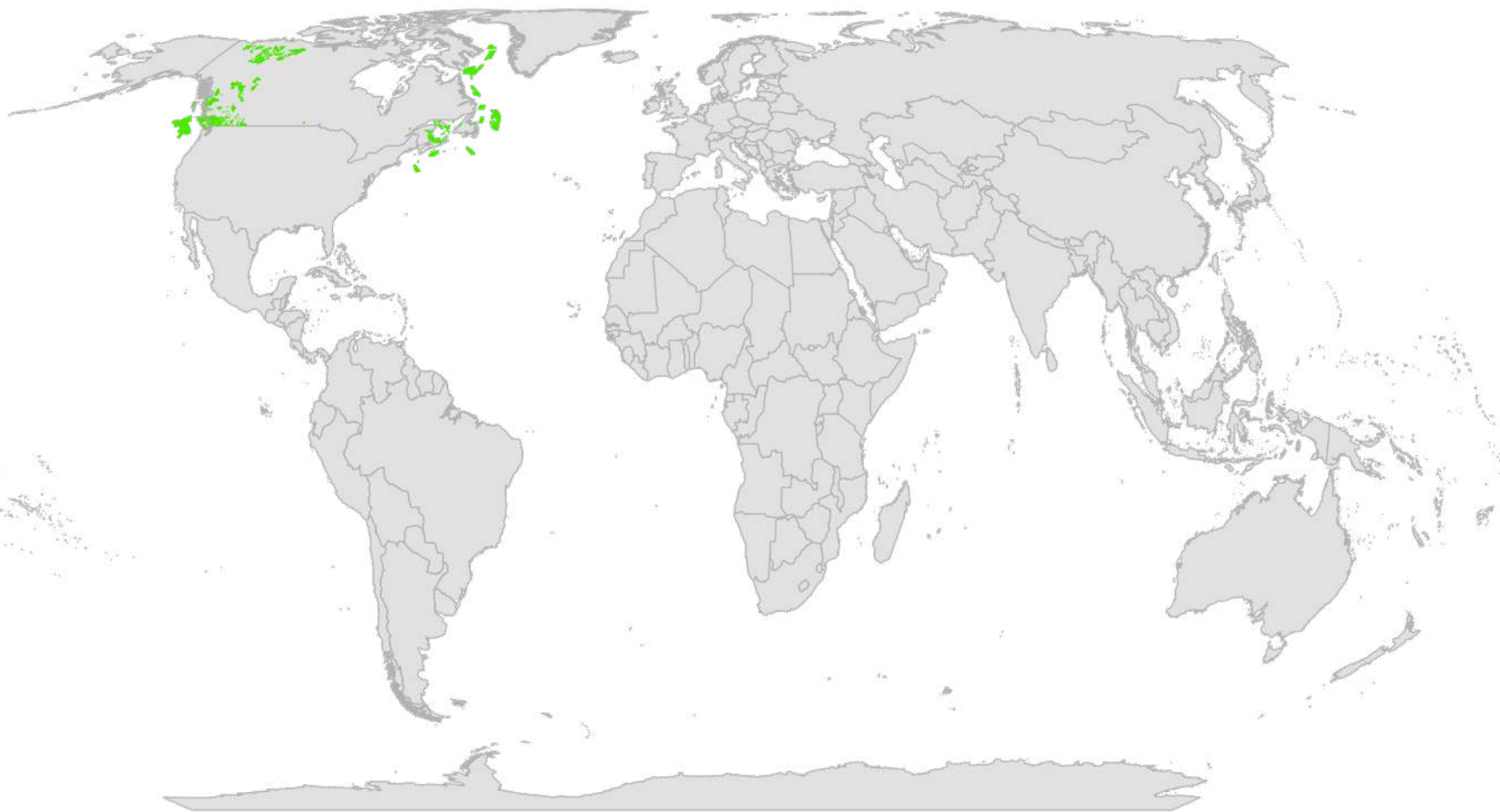


OECMs can be governed by: *government agencies,
*private actors, *Indigenous peoples and local
communities, as well as in *shared arrangements



OECMs
require us to
engage very
directly with
rights and
governance





Canada has added **137 OECMs** to its 8,161 protected areas, increasing marine coverage from **2.9% to 7.7%**, with OECMs now constituting more of Canada's marine conservation network than protected areas. The extent of Canada's terrestrial conservation coverage has also increased from **10.7% to 11.3%**.

OPPORTUNITIES





OPPORTUNITIES

‘OECMs’ - as a new international legal designation – **validates** efforts to conserve biodiversity outside of PAs

A solid orange vertical bar.

OPPORTUNITIES

Provides official recognition of OECM
**governance authorities and
management regimes**

A solid orange vertical bar.

OPPORTUNITIES

Might a) enhance **security**, b) enable more appropriate **support**

A solid orange vertical bar.

OPPORTUNITIES

New **policies, laws and institutional arrangements** may be required providing an opportunity to enhance current approaches

A solid orange vertical bar.

OPPORTUNITIES

Might lead to improvements in **sectoral practices**, such as agriculture, forestry and fisheries

A solid orange vertical bar.

OPPORTUNITIES

Support **livelihoods** and address
climate change

A solid orange vertical bar.

CHALLENGES

Ensure **rights** of Indigenous peoples, local communities and others are fully respected

A solid orange vertical bar.

CHALLENGES

Ensure **ecological standards** are upheld

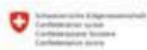


Recognising and reporting other effective area-based conservation measures

World Commission on Protected Areas Task Force on OECMs



Protected Area Technical Report Series No 3



DRAFT

Site-level methodology for identifying other effective area-based conservation measures



Version 1.0: July 2020





THANK YOU

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Harry Jonas: harry@futurelaw.org

www.iucn.org/commissions/world-commission-protected-areas/our-work/oecms

SANBI
Biodiversity for Life
South African National Biodiversity Institute



environmental affairs
Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

 **KRUGER TO CANYONS**
BIOSPHERE REGION

WILDERNESS
FOUNDATION
AFRICA



Giving Conservation Wings



OTHER EFFECTIVE AREA-BASED CONSERVATION MEASURES

Examples and Lessons from South Africa

Daniel Marnewick

Regional Conservation Programme Manager, BirdLife South Africa

Key Biodiversity Areas (KBA) Community Chair and Africa
Representative; OECM Specialist Group

Marnewick D., Stevens C., Antrobus-Wuth R., Theron N., Wilson N.,
Naude K., Jonas H. 2020. Assessing the Extent of OECMs in South
Africa: Final Project Report. BirdLife South Africa, Johannesburg.

5 November 2020

OTHER EFFECTIVE AREA-BASED CONSERVATION MEASURES

Assessing the Extent of
OECMs in South Africa

FINAL PROJECT REPORT



Download OECM Report:

<https://www.birdlife.org.za/what-we-do/regional-conservation-programme/media-and-resources/>

Goals



Figure 2: Key objectives and outcomes for the furthering of OECM work in South Africa

Seven Key Objectives

Objective 1:

Align OECMs with the national context to ensure that the OECM framework is mainstreamed within government and the respective sector/s

Objective 2:

Effectively engage the community of practice to introduce OECMs, allow for expert input and gain support from key sector stakeholders

Objective 3:

Undertake a national technical review to align OECMs with the country's existing protected and conserved area legislation, policy, and implementation frameworks, not limited to but including biodiversity stewardship

Objective 4:

Develop an OECM assessment tool to pilot and test during the case study assessments and inform the global tool

Objective 5:

Generate a list of land use types in South Africa to broadly assess as Potential OECMs, and from which to identify sites to assess as Candidate OECMs

Objective 6:

Conduct case study site assessments at sample sites from the list of Potential OECMs within a selected case study area to test the assessment tool and assess whether these types of land use would qualify as OECMs

Objective 7:

Develop a global OECM assessment methodology to support the identification and recognition of OECMs in other countries

Partnerships
Stakeholder engagement
Technical review
Case study assessments



STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT



60 Stakeholders invited to 3
workshops

40+ people attended



3 Focal Groups Hosted
24 People attended

Table 2. List of Potential OECMs that were identified and screen against the OECM characteristics during the stakeholder workshops, and potential landscapes in which to identify Potential OECMs.

Biodiversity Stewardship Category	OECM Type	Description ¹¹	Legislation/Policy	OECM Screening Result
BIODIVERSITY STEWARDSHIP CATEGORY 2: CONSERVATION AREAS	Biodiversity Management Agreement (BMA)	A Biodiversity Management Agreement (BMA) is enabled by NEMBA and is an agreement entered into between the Environmental Minister or Member of the Executive Committee (MEC) and organisation, person or organ of state which is willing to be responsible for the implementation of a Biodiversity Management Plan (BMP). A BMA requires a BMP or an aspect of a BMP to be in place before it may be concluded. BMAs should be concluded for at least five years and may be renewed in five-year increments per NEMBA.	National Environmental Management Biodiversity Act (No. 10 of 2004), Section 44. (NEMBA)	Green: Meets all the OECM characteristics.
	Biodiversity Agreement	A Biodiversity Agreement is concluded in terms of contract law and is not recognised in terms of either NEMPAA or NEMBA. These agreements are typically concluded for a defined period of between five and fifteen years and can be concluded for longer durations at the voluntary election of the landowner or community. These contractual agreements are generally signed between landowners or communities and provincial conservation agencies, or possibly an NGO. They are more flexible in nature than the mechanisms listed under biodiversity stewardship category 1. A Biodiversity Agreement is considered a conservation area and contributes to the conservation estate but not the protected area estate. A management plan is required.	Contract Law	Green: Meets all the OECM characteristics.
	Conservation Servitude	A conservation servitude is an agreement between a landholder and a third party, most typically a conservation NGO, in terms of which the landowner undertakes to set aside a section of his or her land for conservation purposes in favour of the third party. A conservation servitude differs from an ordinary biodiversity agreement in that the agreement is registered against the title deed of the relevant property and is therefore not only binding on the parties that entered into the agreement, but also on the landowner's successors in title. Servitudes are not provided for in legislation but founded in the South African common law. They are legally complex, and it is therefore recommended that they are drafted with the assistance of a notary public. Practitioners should also refer to any further guidance on the matter as provided by SANBI or the National Biodiversity Stewardship Technical Working Group.	Property/Contract Law	Green: Meets all the OECM characteristics.
	Conservation Agreements	Conservation agreements offer direct incentives for conservation through a negotiated benefit package in return for conservation actions by communities. Thus, a conservation agreement, typically signed for a 3-year duration (with the option for renewal), links conservation funders such as governments, bilateral agencies, private sector companies, foundations, individuals, etc. to people or	Contractual agreement	Orange: Meets most of the OECM characteristics. Characteristic as per this model and

Aligning with the
community of practice

BIODIVERSITY				
		sedentary and mobile, through customary laws or other effective means. CCAs can include ecosystems with minimum to substantial human influence as well as cases of continuation, revival or modification of traditional practices or new initiatives taken up by communities in the face of new threats or opportunities. Several of them are inviolate zones ranging from very small to large stretches of land and waterscapes.	Leadership and Governance Framework Act 41 Of 2003	Characteristic requiring additional focus: Requires improved governance and/or management effectiveness. However, if coupled with a Biodiversity Agreement, these sites could meet the OECM characteristics.
	Indigenous/ Natural Forests	Gazetted natural/national forests or a group of trees, woodland or species declared to be protected, under section 12(1) or 14(2) of National Forests Act (84 of 1998).	National Forests Act (84 of 1998)	Green: Meets all the OECM characteristics. Protected forests fall under the Forest Act but are not recognised as protected areas.
	National Botanical Gardens	Land declared or regarded as having been declared as a national botanical garden in terms of section 33 of NEMBA. 'Conservation Gardens' is the international term for botanical gardens that include both landscaped and natural areas within their boundaries.	(NEMBA)	Green: Meets all the OECM characteristics. The only caveat is that there needs to be biodiversity value.
	Military Land	State owned tracts of land used by the Department of Defence for testing and training purposes.	State Land Disposal Act (No. 48 of 1961); Government Immovable Asset Management Act (No. 19 of 2007).	Green: Meets all the OECM characteristics. The only caveat is that there needs to be biodiversity value.
DOES NOT FALL IN A BIODIVERSITY STEWARDSHIP CATEGORY				
	National/ Provincial Heritage Sites	A place declared to be a national heritage site by South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA), or a place declared to be a provincial heritage site by a provincial heritage resources authority. Historic site or Heritage site is an official location where pieces of political, military, cultural, or social history have been preserved due to their cultural heritage value.	The National Heritage Resource Act (No. 25 of 1999)	Orange: These sites could meet the OECM characteristics, but given the variability across sites, they would need to be assessed on their own merit (No assessment(s) to date).

Strengthening the
community of practice

Target Areas for Assessing OECMs:

While the below are not Potential OECMs in of themselves, given their purpose, they would be effective and efficient landscapes to target for assessing Potential OECMs.

<p>Biosphere Reserves: Buffer Zone</p>	<p>A biosphere reserve is an ecosystem with plants and animals of unusual scientific and natural interest. The UNESCO World Network of Biosphere Reserves (WNBR) covers internationally designated areas, that are meant to demonstrate a balanced relationship between people and nature (e.g. encourage sustainable development). Biosphere reserves have three interrelated zones that aim to fulfil three complementary and mutually reinforcing functions. The buffer zone surrounds or adjoins the core areas and is used for activities compatible with sound ecological practices that can reinforce scientific research, monitoring, training, and education. However, the buffer zones of BRs would not qualify in their entirety and still requires each site to be assessed on their own merits. BRs do however provide a first go-to in order to find Potential OECMs.</p>	<p>UNESCO Biosphere Reserve Programme. MoU with UNESCO.</p>	<p>Orange: The variety of the types of sites in Biosphere Reserve buffer zones means that each site needs to be assessed on its own merit. However, buffer zones should be prioritised for assessing Potential OECMs.</p>
<p>Transfrontier Conservation Area (TFCA): Buffer Zones</p>	<p>An area that straddles the boundaries of two or more countries where the natural and cultural resources are collaboratively managed by the Governments and/or Authorities involved. The area may include one or more protected areas as well as multiple resource use areas. The unprotected sites within TFCAs are often referred to as buffer zones or conservation areas.</p>	<p>The legal foundation for the establishment, development and management of TFCAs is the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Protocol on Wildlife and Law Enforcement Article 4, 2 (f): "to promote the conservation of shared wildlife resources through the establishment of TFCAs".</p>	<p>Orange: The variety of the types of sites in TFCA buffer zones means that each site needs to be assessed on its own merit. However, buffer zones should be prioritised for assessing Potential OECMs.</p>

Objective 6:

Conduct case study site assessments at sample sites from the list of Potential OECMs within a selected case study area to test the assessment tool and assess whether these types of land use would qualify as OECMs

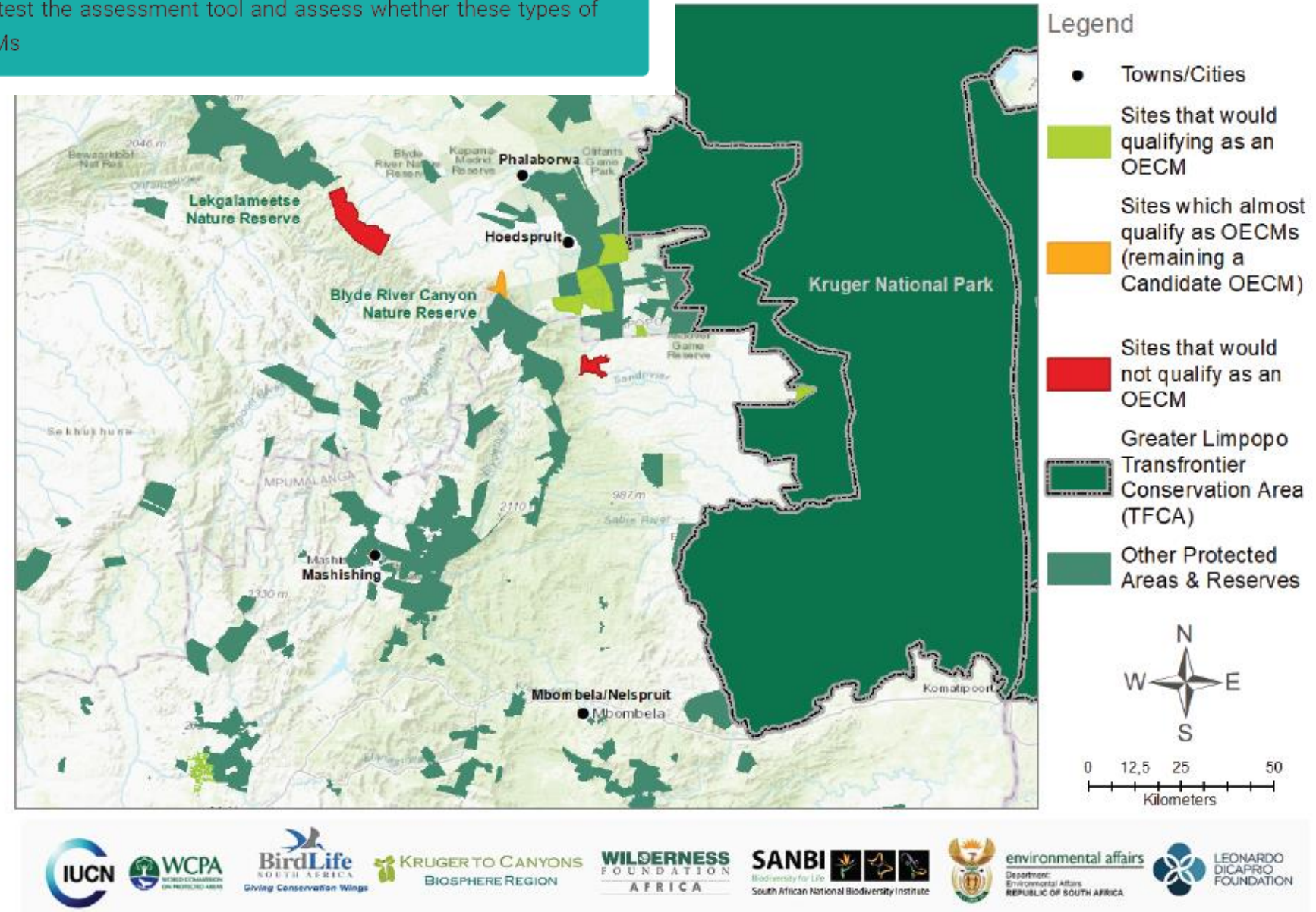
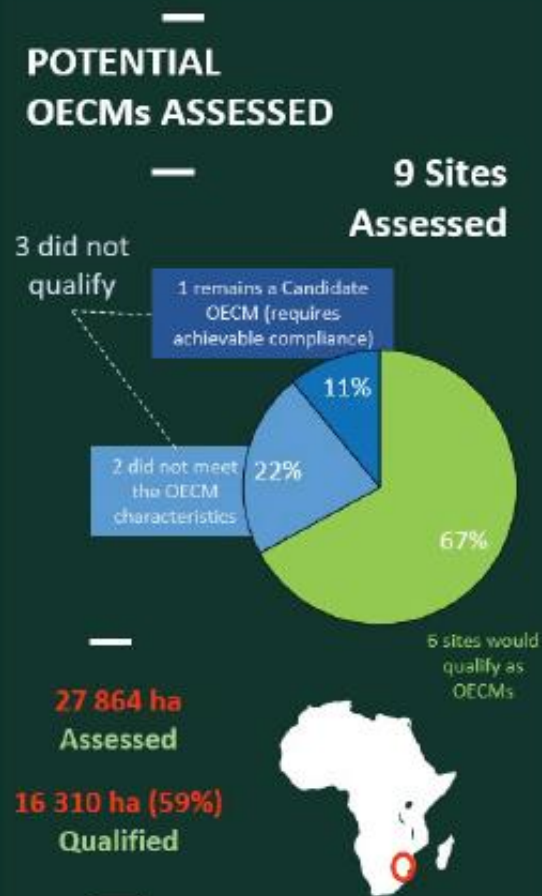


Figure 4: OECM Assessment Sites in relation to the protected area network and KBAs in the K2C Biosphere Region

Case Study Site Assessments Results



Of the nine sites assessed, six qualified as OECMs and three sites did not adequately meet the OECM criteria as set out in the assessment tool (Table 1). Therefore, of the total area of 27 864 hectares assessed during the case study, 16 310 hectares (59%) qualified as Candidate OECMS (Figure 8).

Table 1 illustrates how each site fared against each of the OECM characteristics. The overall result of a site's assessment was determined by whether the site had all green leaves, in which case it would qualify as a Candidate OECM, while sites with one or more red leaves would not qualify as an OECM. Sites with one or more orange leaves could easily qualify if certain improvements were made. How the various sites qualified overall against these different OECM characteristics are discussed further below.

Figure 8: Six sites of the nine assessed satisfied all the OECM characteristics. 59% of the habitat assessed would therefore be conserved as an OECM.



























Site Type					OECM Characteristics				
#	Candidate OECM Type	Governance Type	Governance Authority	Management Authority	Biodiversity Value	Geographically Define	Governance	Management	Effectiveness
1	Private Game Reserve	Privately Owned	Board of Trustees; Constitution	Pvt. Management Company. Home-owners association					
2	Private Game Reserve	Privately Owned	Family trust; Constitution	None					
3	Ecotourism Establishment	Private Company	Private company (Companies Act)	Company Directors					
4	Military land	State Owned	South African Defence Force	Air Force Base					
5	Sustainable Agriculture/ Forestry	State Owned	State Department (across three departments)	State owned company					
6	Academic Institution Land	University	University governance structures	University's natural sciences academic department; infrastructure by Services Department					
7	Conservation Agreement (with 3rd party)	Communally owned land	Community Development Forum; Traditional Authority	Traditional Authority; Farmer's Cooperative.					
8	Community Conservation Area	Communally owned land	Traditional Authority	Traditional Authority					
9	Community Conservation Area	Communally owned land	Traditional Authority	Traditional Authority					

Table 1. Potential OECM site performance against the OECM characteristics, using the 3-grade rating scale.

7.2. Project Results

The project realised the following results:

The project effectively **mainstreamed OECMs** into the national context. This was achieved by establishing the South African Project Steering Committee with key government partners; engaging with over 40 stakeholders through three workshops and three focal groups; presenting at numerous conferences and workshops; and undertaking a rigorous technical review.

The **stakeholder workshops** facilitated two outcomes, namely gaining the input of key sector experts into the project, particularly the development of the list of Potential OECMs which was aligned with categories 2 and 3 under biodiversity stewardship; and the ability to engage with the stakeholders to make the case for OECMs in South Africa, and ultimately gain their support for the implementation of phase two of this work, i.e. the integration of OECMs, and the enhancement and support of the existing conservation areas framework using OECMs.

The **technical review** assisted biodiversity stewardship to fully integrate all possible initiatives across South Africa that meet the international OECM definition in the South African context into Category 2 of biodiversity stewardship. The project team has continued to support DEFF and SANBI to integrate the results from this project into national governments' policy development for OECMs and support the integration of OECMs into the biodiversity stewardship framework, and; use OECMs to enhance and strengthen the broader framework for conservation areas. Through this project, South Africa will be well-positioned to report fully on its OECMs to the CBD Aichi Target 11 and the post-2020 inheritor target.

The OECM **assessment tool**, developed by this project, assisted to pilot and test the OECM characteristics during the case study assessments. A 3-grade rating scale (green, orange, and red) was used to assess the key indicators under the five OECM characteristics.

Mainstreamed
OECMs

Sector buy-in

Alignment &
integration

Assessment
methodology

7.1. Lessons Learnt

As a result of a clear definition and technical guidance on OECMs, the opportunity now exists to further strengthen the collective estate of protected and conserved areas by designing and recognising interconnected and sustainable networks of protected areas and OECMs across landscapes and seascapes. Specifically:

- OECMs provide a global framework to legitimately recognise, complement (not replace), and strengthen other conservation area designations or existing management and governance mechanisms or frameworks producing conservation outcomes.
- OECMs allow for the engagement of a diverse range of rights-holders and stakeholders who are contributing to area-based conservation outside of the protected area estate.
- OECMs could facilitate a more inclusive area-based conservation network by allowing the inclusion of previously excluded or marginalized groups of land use types.
- OECMs contribution to South Africa meeting CBD Aichi Target 11 (and its post-2020 inheritor target).
- OECMs provide a framework to transform sectoral practices.

- OECMs provide a framework that could promote and unlock links to conservation financing and nature-based economies in conservation areas.
- OECMs build resilient, integrated, and connected landscapes to address environmental crises, e.g. climate change and biodiversity loss.
- OECMs address climate change by contributing to net-zero climate targets and building resilience to the physical impacts of climate change through nature-based solutions.
- OECMs contribute to building sustainable landscapes that result in the conservation of ecosystem assets and services, i.e. securing Strategic Water Source Areas.
- OECMs support variability through a structured framework with flexible indicators.
- OECM Assessments assist sites to self-analyse their strengths and weaknesses which promotes robustness.
- OECMs do not avoid commercial sites; economic development often unpins these sites' conservation outcomes.

THANK YOU



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*OECMs provide a global currency for assessing, recognizing and reporting area-based conservation efforts, and can create sustainable and connected conservation landscapes, underpinning cooperative management and wildlife economies.
But do not take the process lightly.*

Download OECM Report:

<https://www.birdlife.org.za/what-we-do/regional-conservation-programme/media-and-resources/>



“Other effective area-based conservation measures” (OECMs) is a conservation designation for areas that are contributing to the effective in-situ conservation of biodiversity outside of protected areas.”

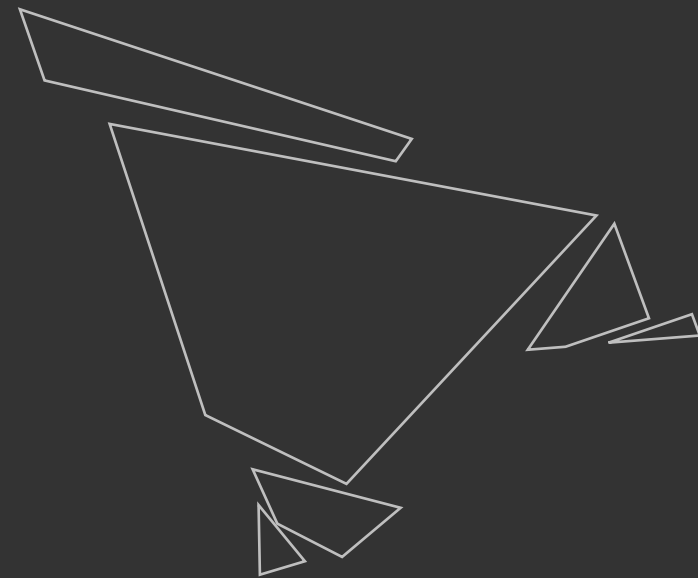
Towards the recognition and identification of OECMs in Eswatini

Wisdom M. Dlamini
University of Eswatini

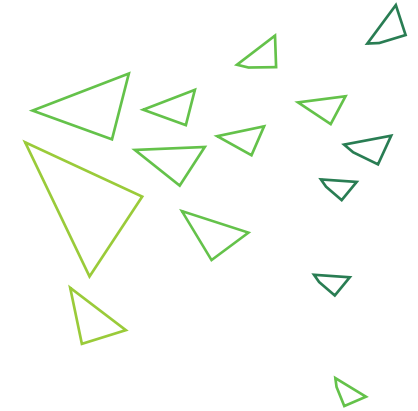
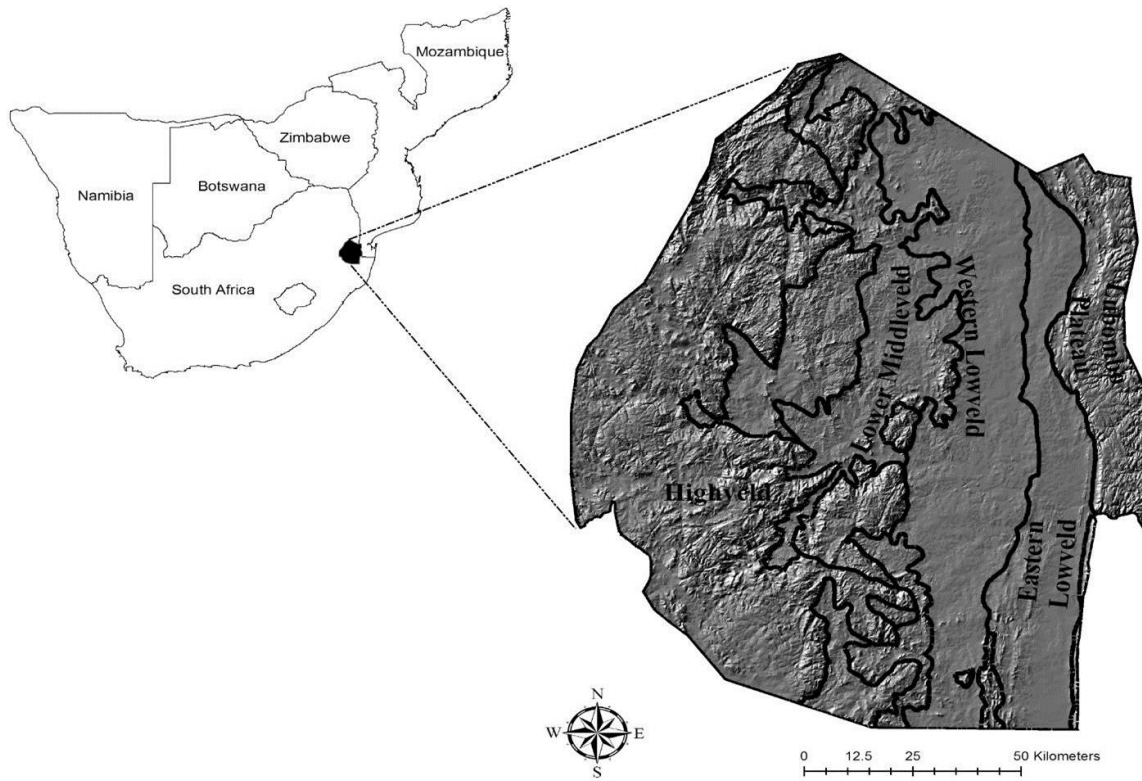
5 November 2020



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.



Background



Background

Area: 17,365 sq. km

Population: 1,2 million people

- Agro-based based economy
- Divergent physiography and climate
- Altitude that ranges from approximately 50m to 1860m a.s.l.
- High biodiversity richness in a small area
- One of the largest remaining intact altitudinal gradients of natural ecosystems in Southern Africa, and is the only place where this continuum is concentrated in a relatively short distance (of about 200 km).
- Majority of people and sectors rely on environmental/ecosystem services.

Lowveld bushveld



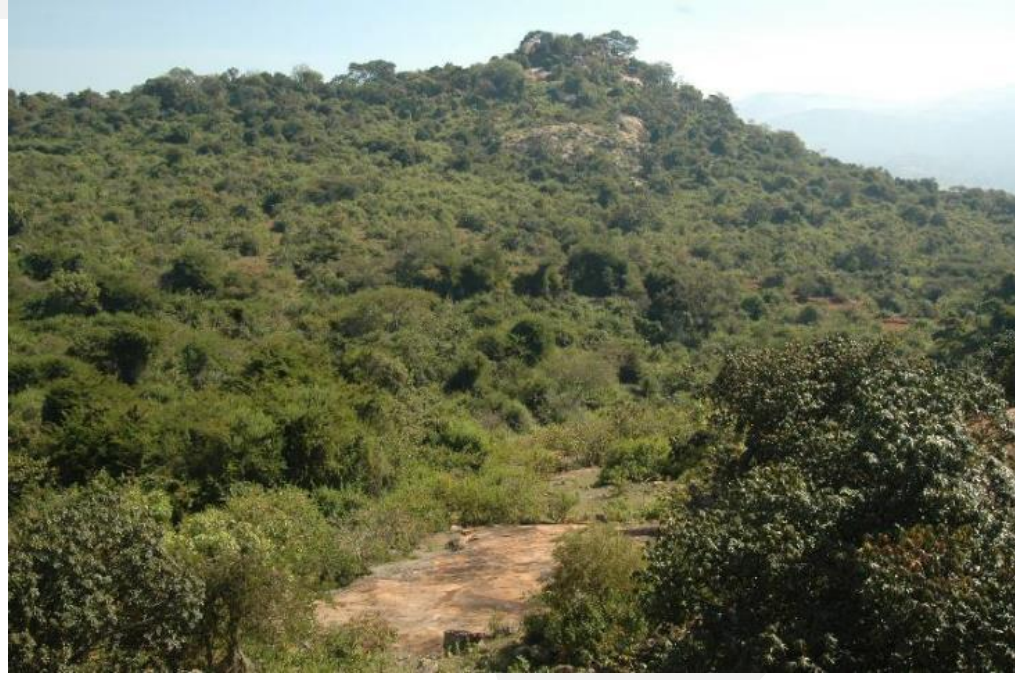
Montane grassland

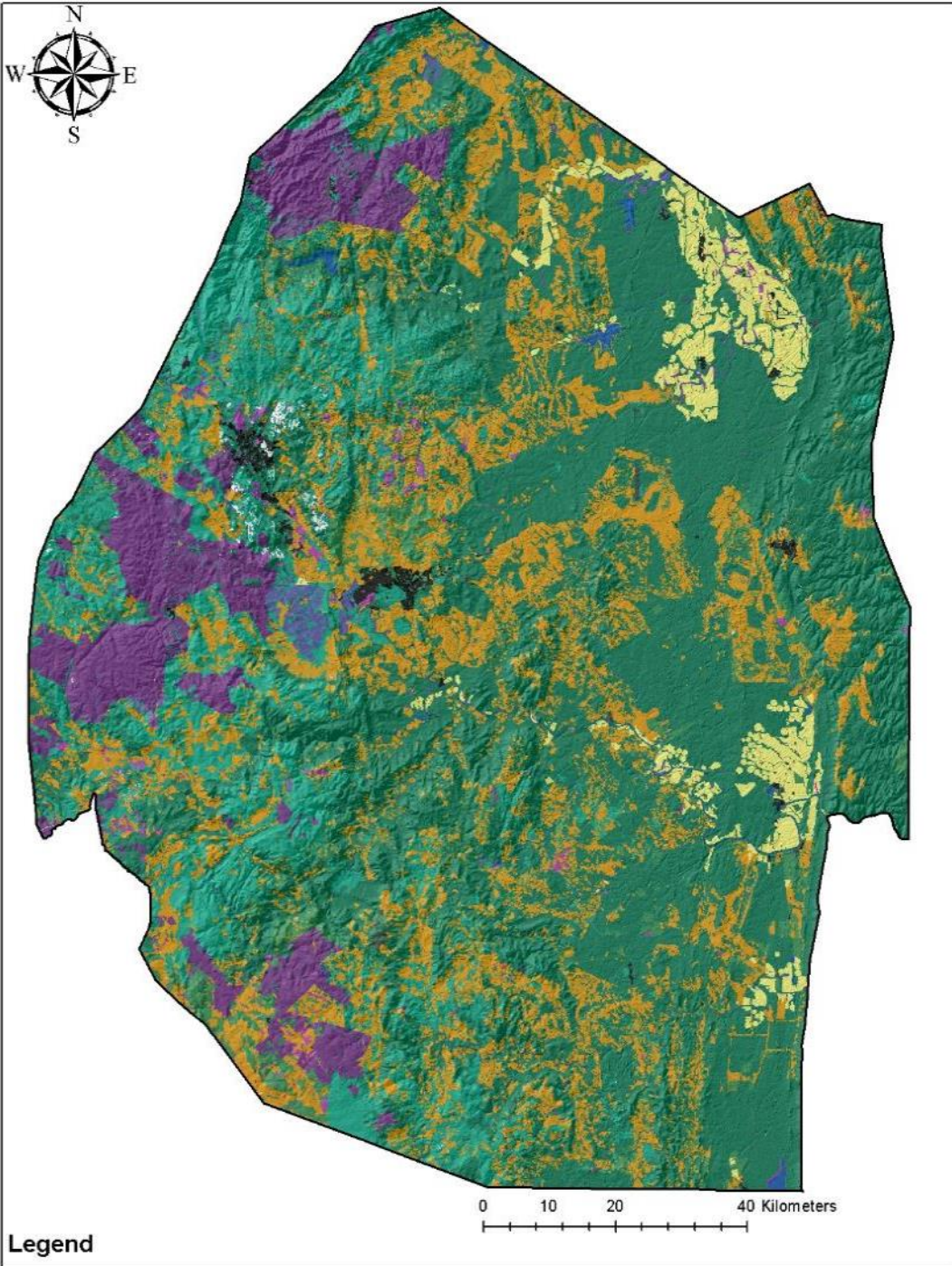


Lebombo bushveld



Sour bushveld





- Bare Rock Natural
- Built-up Rural Cluster
- Built-up Rural Cluster
- Built-up Transport / Industria
- Built-up Urban
- Cultivated Dryland
- Cultivated Irrigated
- Cultivated Sugarcane
- Degraded Grassland
- Degraded Woodland
- Erosion
- Grassland
- Mines and Quarries
- Plantation
- Waterbody
- Wetland
- Woodland

Land cover

- Highlights predominant cultivated dryland (subsistence agriculture) pressure
- Settlements expansion
- Sugarcane pressure
- Plantation forestry
- Degraded woodlands (4% of total land area)

SPECIES/TAXA	IDENTIFICATION STATUS					
	Indigenous	Exotic	Total	Family or higher level	Genus level	Species or subspecies/variety level
All taxa	9578	353	9931	353	422	10560
Flora	3772	335	4107	0	16	4075
Fungi	201	0	201	4	39	1588
Fauna - Invertebrates						
Butterflies	375	0	375	1	4	370
Moths	1214	2	1216	10	54	1152
Odonata	91	0	91	0	0	91
Arachnida	272	0	272	21	49	200
Neuroptera	67	0	67	1	3	49
Coleoptera	396	1	397	58	43	289
Hymenoptera	232	0	232	35	56	141
Hemiptera	158	1	159	46	28	84
Diptera	196	0	196	38	49	109
Other Arthropods	260	0	260	65	54	144
Total Arthropods	4681	4	4685	343	340	3992
Mollusca	19	0	19	5	8	6
Fauna - Vertebrates						
Fish	63	11	74	0	3	71
Amphibians	62	0	62	0	5	57
Reptiles	127	0	127	1	7	119
Birds *	509	1	510	0	0	510
Mammals	144	2	146	0	4	142
Total Vertebrates	905	14	919	1	19	899

The Problem



Changing Climate

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit



Changing Land Use

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Increasing Population

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Alien Plant Invasion

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Inequality/Poverty

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Need for OECMs

- Eswatini's formal Protected Areas (PAs) coverage is inadequate to effectively conserve the country's biodiversity
- Current protected area legislation too restrictive for private sector and communal lands (with interests in multiple land uses) – too many don'ts.
- Existing non-gazetted areas effectively conserving biodiversity but not 'formally' recognized.
- Towards the achievement of Aichi Target 11 – current reporting based only on 4.2% of gazetted protected areas – OECMs can raise this to over 11%.
- Attainment of aspirations of the country's NBSAP2.

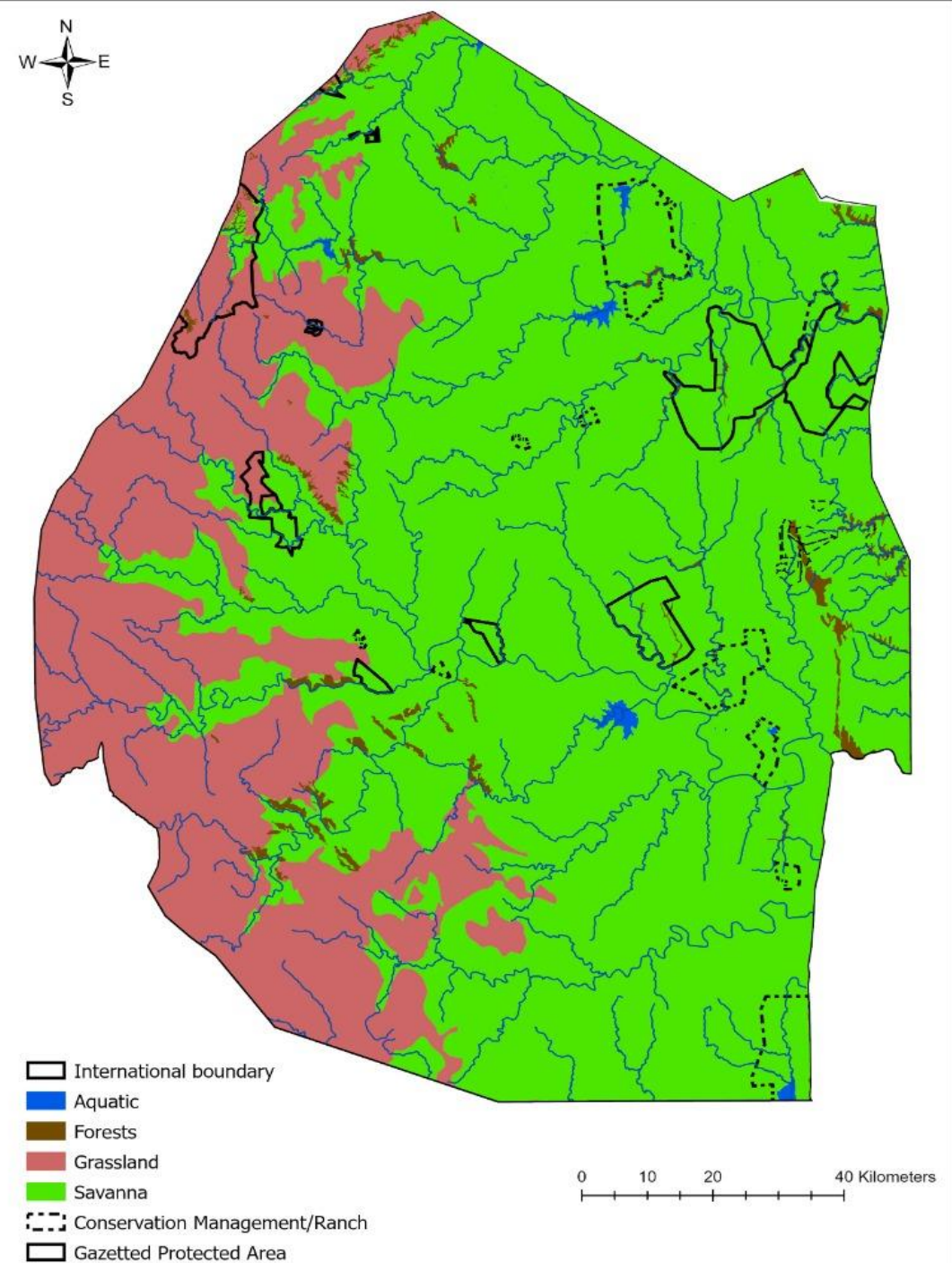
Need for OECMs

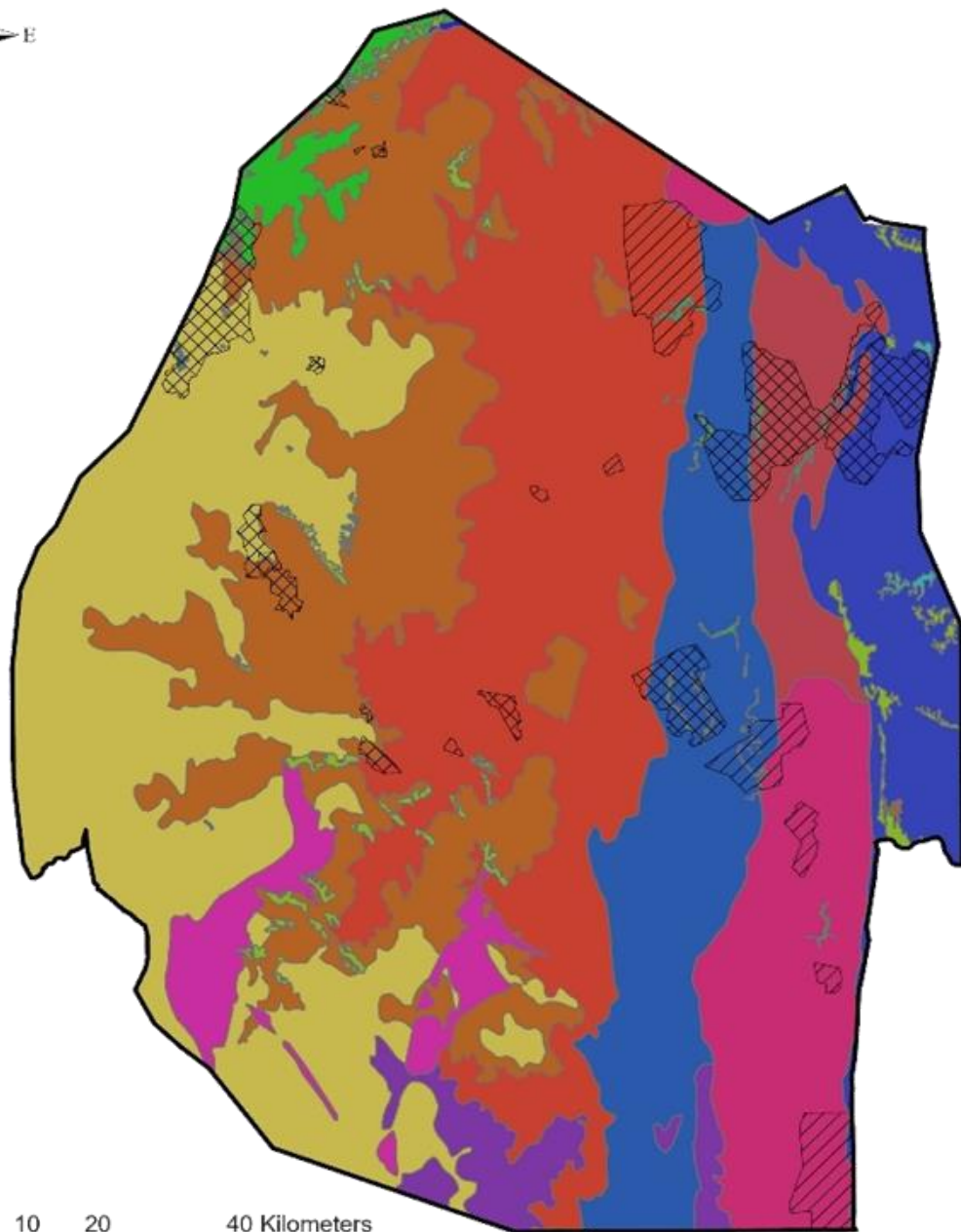
- Contribute directly and indirectly towards achievement of several SDG targets, particularly SDG 15 which aims to
 - “Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss”.
- Eswatini government, through the Strengthening the Protected Areas System (SNPAS) Project, saw an opportunity to further strengthen landscape protection areas through designing and recognising the interconnected sustainable networks of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs).

- *Limited protected area coverage (4.2%)*
- *Opportunity of recognizing OECMs to cover >11% of land area.*

Protected area coverage

Biome protection





0 10 20 40 Kilometers

International boundary

International boundary

Vegetation type

- Barberton Montane Grassland
- Delagoa Lowveld
- Granite Lowveld
- Ironwood Dry Forest
- Ithala Quartzite Sourveld
- KaNgwane Montane Grassland
- Kaalrug Mountain Bushveld
- Lebombo Summit Sourveld
- Lowveld Riverine Forest
- Northern Afrotemperate Forest
- Northern Mistbelt Forest
- Northern Zululand Sourveld
- Scarp Forest
- Southern Lebombo Bushveld
- Swaziland Sour Bushveld
- Tshokwane-Hlane Basalt Lowveld
- Western Maputaland Clay Bushveld
- Zululand Lowveld

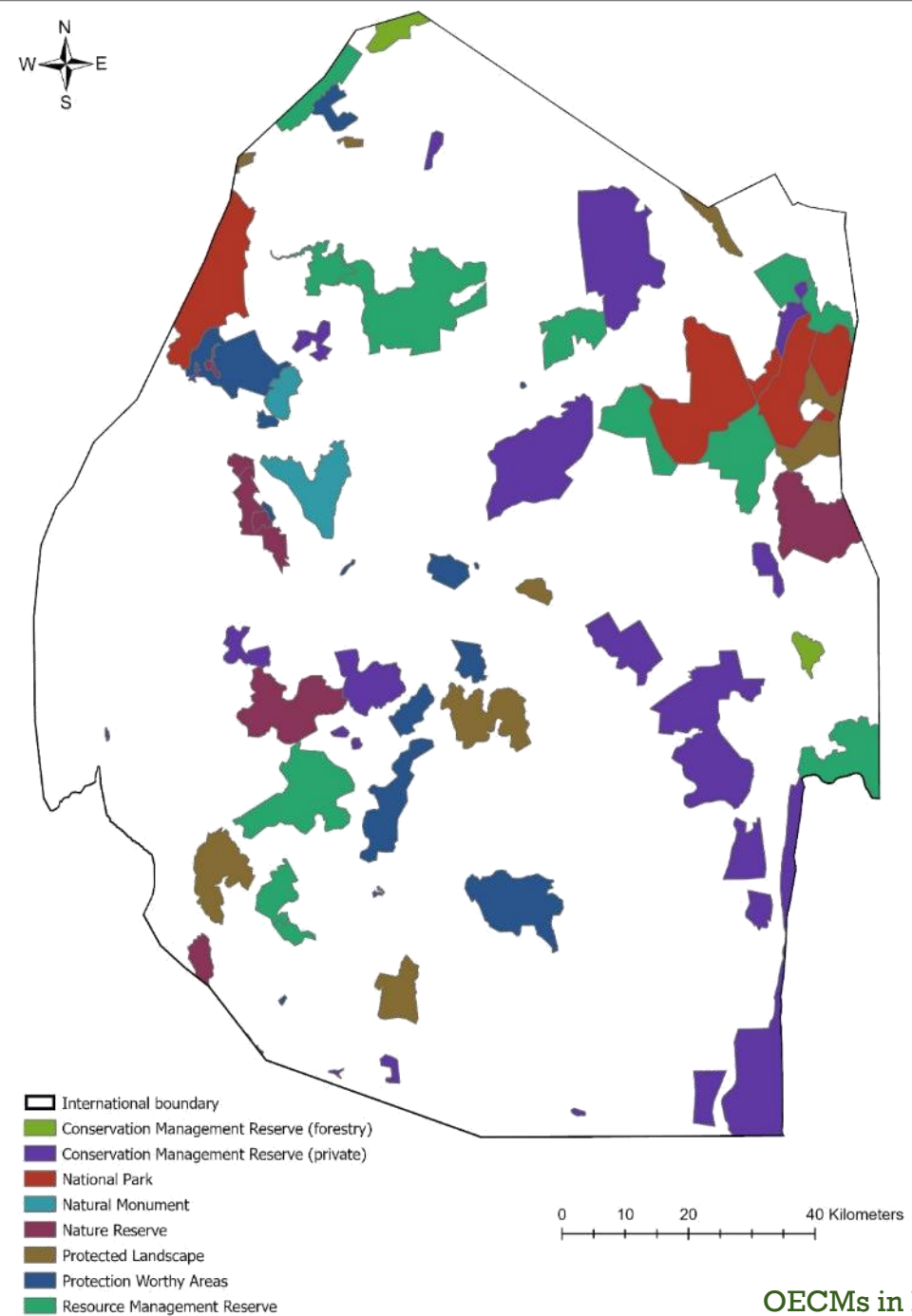
Protection status

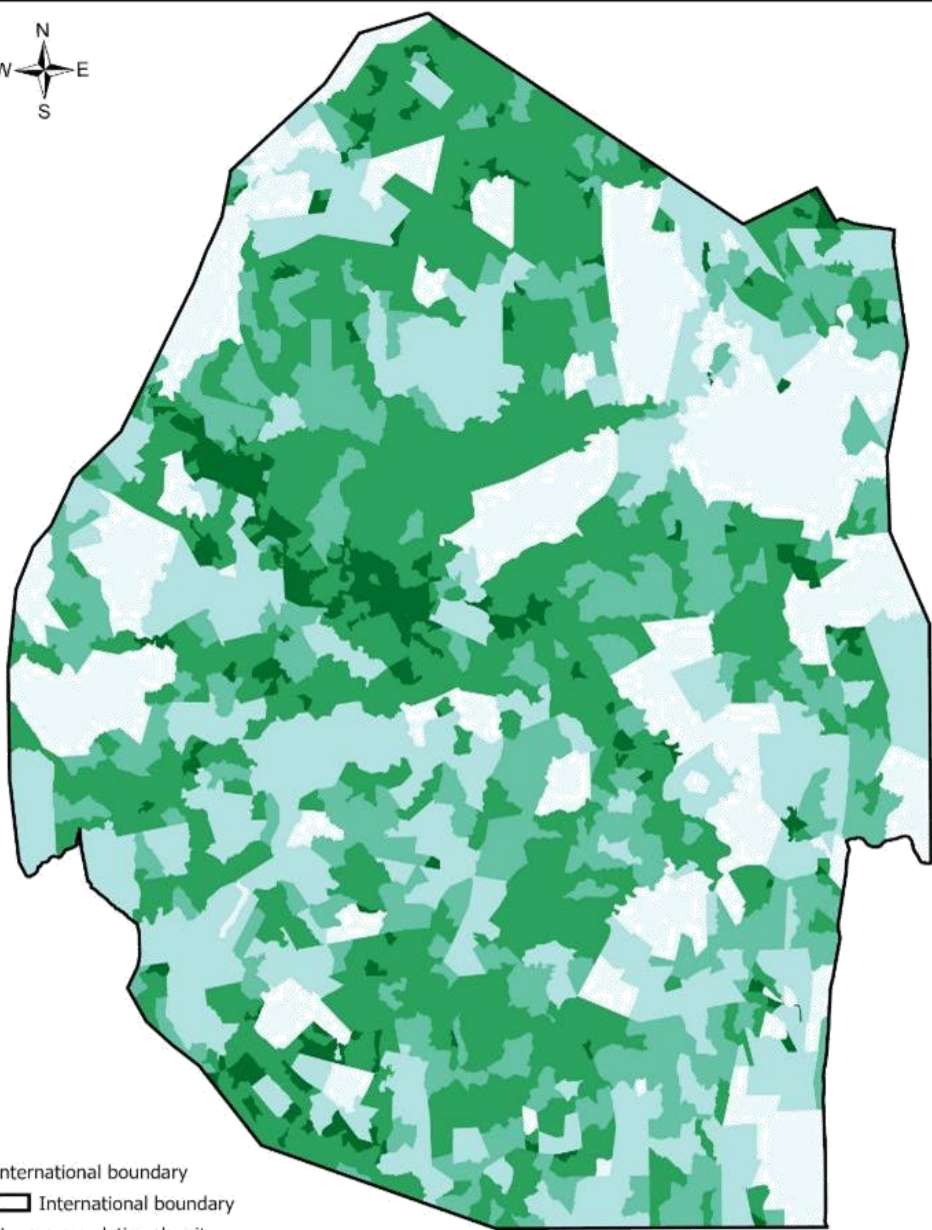
- Conservation Management/Ranch
- Proclaimed

- *Some vegetation units completely unprotected*
- *Some are least represented in current protected area network*

Protection-worthy areas survey - 2002

2002 Gap Assessment





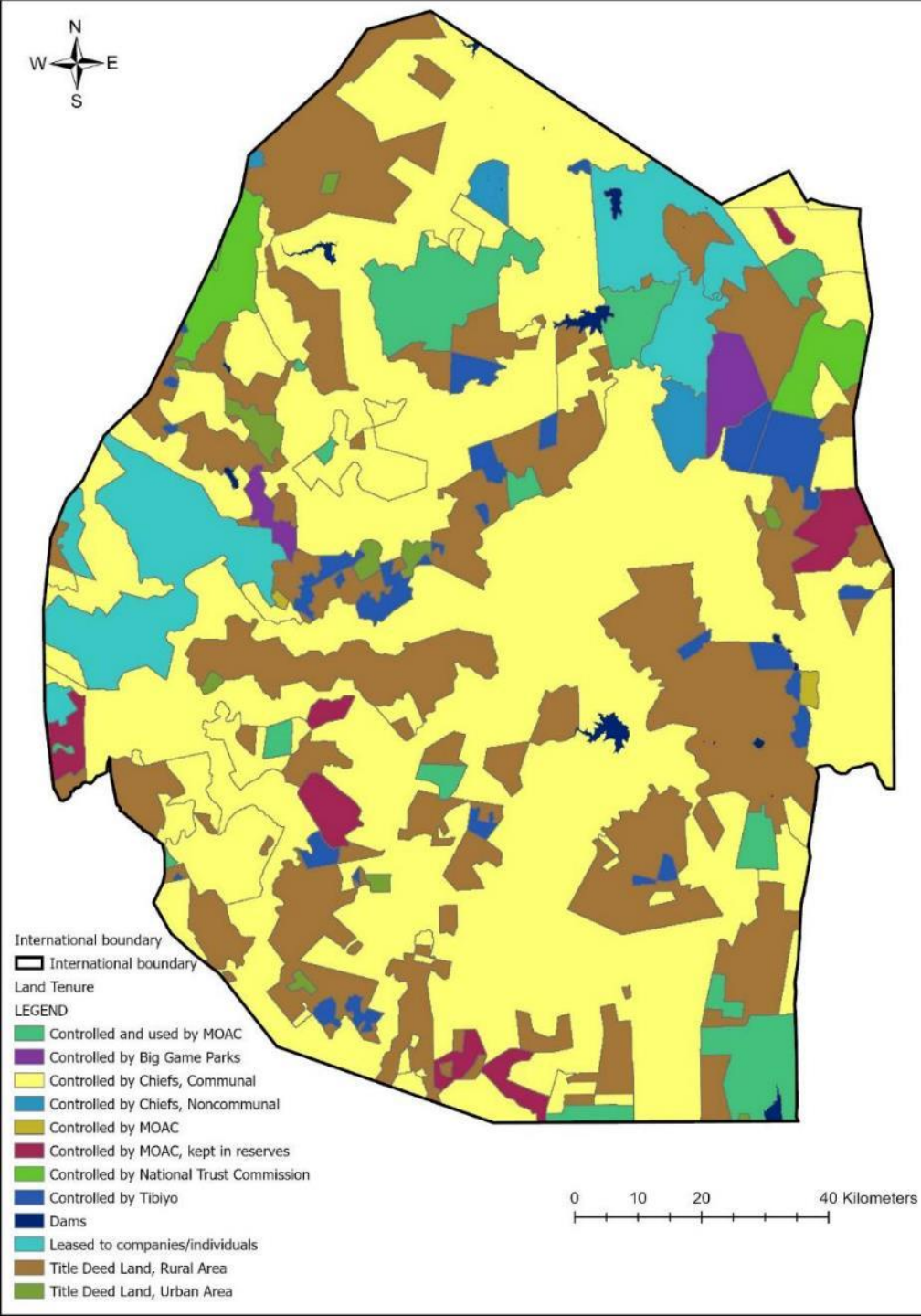
International boundary
International boundary
Human population density

≤5
≤25
≤50
≤200
>200

0 10 20 40 Kilometers

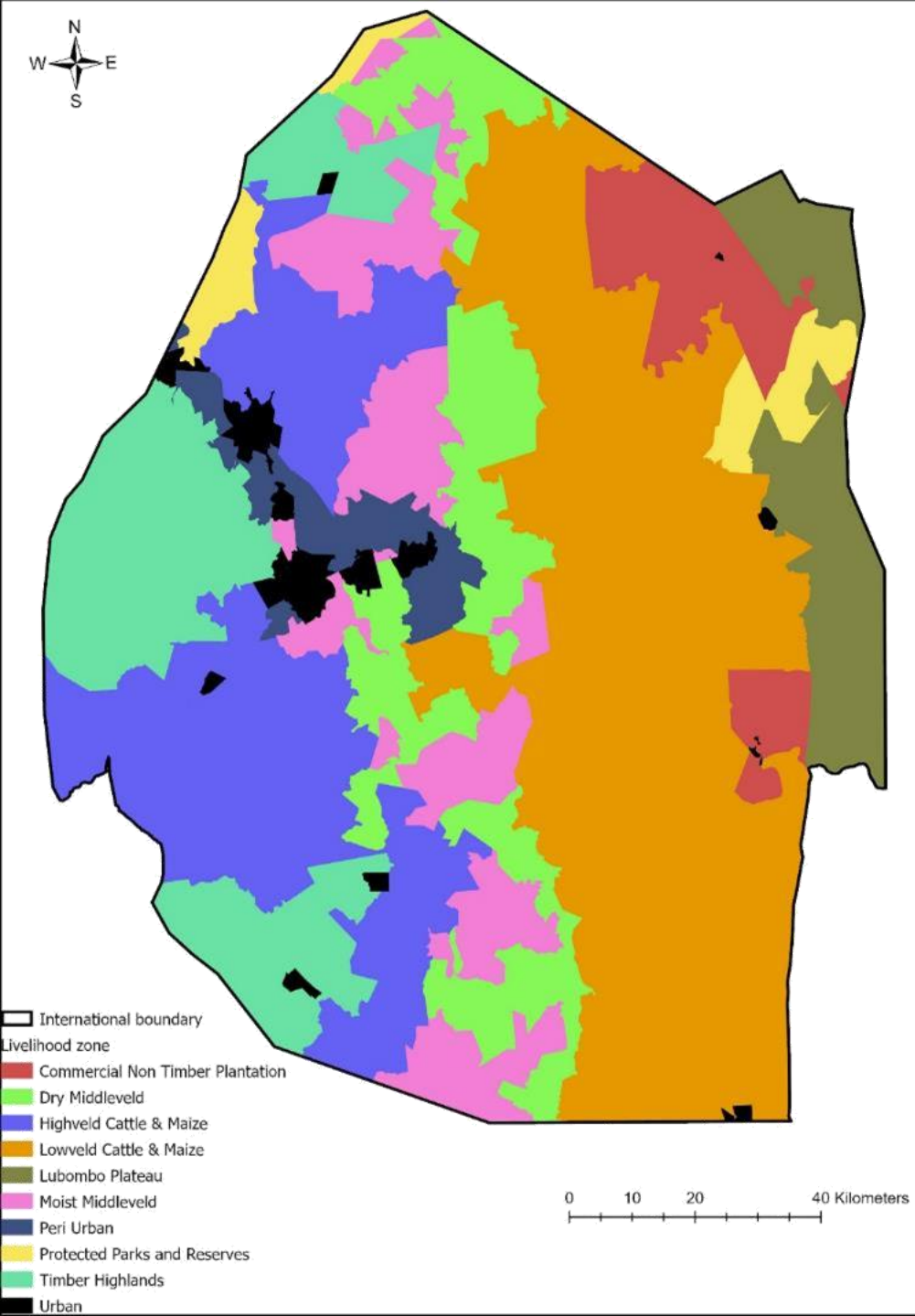
Population

- Less population in protected areas, well-managed ranches and plantations.
- Need for conservation measures in areas outside of private ranches and protected areas in consultation with communities.
- Pressure from competition with other land uses including sugarcane expansion and human settlements, among others.



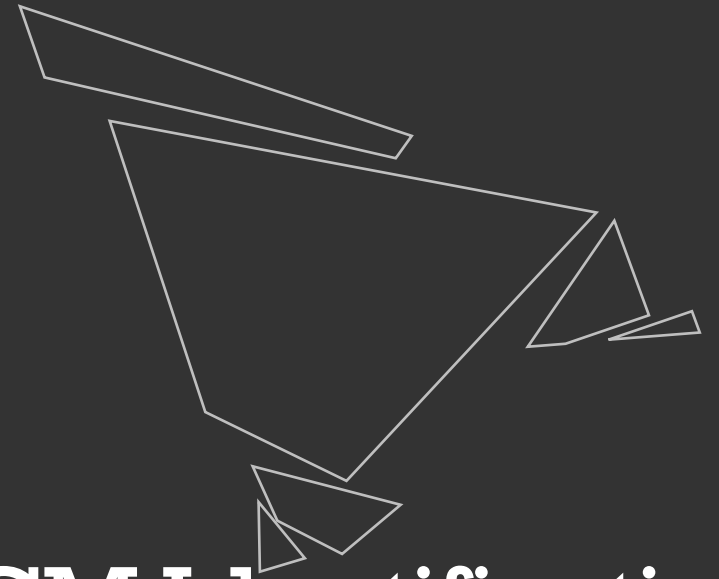
Land tenure

- Swazi Nation Land (76% of population)
 - Title Land (24%)
 - Crown Land (1%)



Livelihoods

- Predominantly Maize and Cattle farming
- Sugarcane and Plantations (Biggest employers)
 - Urban



The OECM Identification Process

Developing the OECM tool for Eswatini

Protected Area Legislation

- The present legal framework governing Protected Areas (PAs) consists of three (3) legal instruments viz.
 - (a) the National Trust Commission Act of 1972 (as amended in 1973)
 - Nature Reserves
 - National Parks
 - National Monuments
 - (b) the Game Act of 1953 (as amended in 1991 and 1993)
 - Game Reserves
 - Game Sanctuaries
 - (c) the Flora Protection Act of 2001.
 - Flora reserves
 - Botanical gardens
 - Special habitats
- National Trust Commission Act in a process of amendment, the Bill of which has been to Cabinet and awaiting finalization by the Legislature.
 - Additional (less strict) categories - : **Special Reserves, Managed Resource Protected Areas, and Protected Landscapes**

OECM Methodology development process

Planning and Consultations

- Information gathering and consolidation
- Establish criteria for assessment process
- Stakeholder consultations and introduction of OECM guideline development consultancy

Stakeholder Engagement

- Present the OECM approach to stakeholders (Government, ENTC, King's Office, Private sector (ESGRA), Experts, Communities/Chiefdoms)
- Describe expected benefits to biodiversity and ecosystem services from OECMs
- Assess the additional properties of OECMs described in Aichi Target 11 and Annex III of CBD Decision 14/8
- Identify and assess 2 pilot areas in Eswatini (One communal, one private)

Reporting and documentation

- Develop Eswatini guideline document based on national circumstances and consultations.
- Document and report on the identification outcomes
- Present guideline document and stakeholder consultation report.

Stakeholder consultation process

- Theory of Change framework used to ensure that the stakeholders have a common achievable goal in as far as the objectives of the entire process was concerned.
- Consultation process considered:
 - Land tenure
 - Land use
 - Expertise (biodiversity conservation and land use/management)
 - Legal/policy mandate (biodiversity conservation and land use/management)

POTENTIAL MECHANISMS / GOVERNANCE TYPES	DEFINITION/DESCRIPTION	LEGISLATION/POLICY
Conservancies	A conservancy is a voluntary association between land users/landowners who co-operatively wish to manage their natural resources in an environmentally friendly manner without necessarily changing the land-use of their properties. This could include areas that are part of the Transfrontier Conservation Areas (TFCAs)	MOU (between landowners), some cases constitutions, Game Act (only for PA portions, also covers list of protected species), NTC Act (for PA portions), Lubombo Conservancy falls within Lubombo TFCA Protocols
Ecotourism and Wildlife Estates	Wildlife and ecotourism estates managed to promote biodiversity conservation on land not designated for development.	Game Act (same situation as with conservancies - game protected by Game Act, but not gazetted as PAs in themselves). Owned by individuals, or shareholders. Need to understand governance intention.
Institutional properties for research	Natural areas of land owned by academic institutions for research or educational purposes.	Not a PA
Municipal Parks/Green spaces	Urban or municipal parks managed primarily for public recreation but which are large enough and sufficiently natural to also effectively achieve the in-situ conservation of biodiversity (e.g. wild grassland, forests, wetlands).	Urban Government Act (No. 8 of 1969)
Indigenous/Natural Forests	Gazetted natural/national forests or a group of trees, woodland or species declared to be protected, under section 3 or the Flora Protection Act.	Flora Protection Act (No. 10 of 2000), Private Forests Act (No. 3 of 1951)
Eco Tourism Establishments	Properties that operate sustainable tourism operations that encourage outdoor activities and the appreciation of nature through activities such as hiking, bird watching, kayaking, scuba diving etc. This could include areas that are part of the Transfrontier Conservation Areas (TFCAs)	Contractual Agreement/ ETA Certification or both. TFCA Protocols
Game Farms/Ranches a) Extensive (Game Reserves)	The extensive management of wildlife in largely natural landscapes.	Game Act (species)

POTENTIAL MECHANISMS / GOVERNANCE TYPES	DEFINITION/DESCRIPTION	LEGISLATION/POLICY
Biodiversity initiative sites and other agri-conservation initiatives.	Sustainable initiatives such as pieces of land within or around plantation forests and agri-conservation areas that have been specifically reserve for conserving pristine natural forests and biodiversity. They are often done in compliance with FSC requirements. These, however, exclude the exotic plantations themselves.	Contractual Agreement/ HVCA recognition or both.
Community conservation areas	Areas that have been specifically set aside as for conservation or as rangelands and not designated for any other development except for sustainable tourism. This could include areas that are part of the Transfrontier Conservation Areas (TFCAs)	Natural Resources Act (No. 71 of 1951), Swazi Administration Order (No. 6 of 1998), Community Development Plans, TFCA Protocols
Sacred Sites	Areas that strictly protected as restricted areas or sacred sites according to Eswatini Law and Custom.	Customary Law, Swazi Administration Order (No.6 of 1998)
Biosphere Reserves	A biosphere reserve is an ecosystem with plants and animals of unusual scientific and natural interest. The UNESCO World Network of Biosphere Reserves (WNBR) covers internationally designated areas, that are meant to demonstrate a balanced relationship between people and nature (e.g. encourage sustainable development).Biosphere reserves have three interrelated zones that aim to fulfil three complementary and mutually reinforcing functions.	UNESCO Biosphere Reserve Programme. MoU with UNESCO.
a) Buffer Zone	The buffer zone surrounds or adjoins the core areas and is used for activities compatible with sound ecological practices that can reinforce scientific research, monitoring, training and education.	

OECM Methodology Development

- Customized the draft global methodology (Marnewick et al.) designed to be applicable in all national contexts - Marnewick D., Jonas H. and Stevens C. draft. *Site-level methodology for identifying other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs)*. IUCN: Gland, Switzerland.
- Specifically, the global methodology was customized by:
 - Removing references to seascapes have been removed
 - Including Eswatini-specific examples under the column “Evidence-Based Rationale” in the tables in steps 1, 2.3, 3.1-3.6
 - Providing Eswatini-specific explanations of the questions on the screening tool.
 - Including information on the primacy of conservation objectives has in section 2 under the Introduction.
- Formation of multi-stakeholder National OECM Committee to undertake assessments.



Piloting the OECM Methodology

Testing the tool

Pilot Assessment of the OECM Methodology

- Two sites tested – one private land and another communal.
- Both sites have been implementing conservation initiatives for at least 2 decades.
- Objective:
 - To enhance knowledge about the Eswatini OECMs Methodology.
 - To understand and evaluate how the methodology would align with the Eswatini environment.
 - To enhance the methodology based on findings from the testing.



Shewula Community Reserve

- Located in the north-eastern corner of Eswatini, on the Lubombo mountains.
- Home to the people of Shewula under Chief Mbandzamane Sifundza, who continue to practice a traditional lifestyle.
- Set aside by Chief for conservation and controlled grazing (3,215ha).
- Area contains a high number of endemic plant and animal species and forms part an internationally recognized region for biodiversity conservation, the Maputaland-Pondoland-Albany Hotspot.
- This area is also part of the recently established Lubombo Biosphere Reserve, the first for Eswatini.





Shewula Community Reserve

Governance



Good governance and leadership on conservation including local fines for offences

Biodiversity values and ecosystem services



Rich in biodiversity and serves community with ecosystem services including tourism

Geographic demarcation



Area well identified and demarcated by chief and local community

Shewula Community Reserve

Summary Results

CRITERIA	RESULTS		
	Yes	Partially	No
3.1 Geographically defined boundaries and not a protected area	√	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.2 Governed	√	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.3 Managed	<input type="checkbox"/>	√	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.4 Biodiversity values	√	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.5 Effective and long-term in-situ conservation of biodiversity	<input type="checkbox"/>	√	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.6 Ecosystem functions, ecosystem services and other locally relevant values are detailed	√	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Challenges



2016

Management

Limited management capacity
including monitoring capacity



2019

Long-term conservation

Increasing marijuana cultivation
not under full control

Inyoni YaseSwatini Irrigation Scheme (IYSIS) Ranch

- Located in the north-eastern part of Eswatini, on the Lubombo mountains.
- Used a cattle and wildlife ranch.
- Co-owned (50:50) by Royal Eswatini Sugar Corporation and Tibiyo TakaNgwane.
- Area hosts a Ramsar site and a herd of over 3000 large antelopes.
- The largest ranch (and potential OECM) in the country (20,016ha).



IYSIS Ranch



Governance and management

Strong governance and management systems including monitoring and law enforcement



Biodiversity values and ecosystem services

Ramsar site. Unique vegetation and some endemic cycads



Geographic demarcation

Well demarcated ranch with maps.

Inyoni YaseSwatini Irrigation Scheme (TYSIS) Ranch

Summary Results

CRITERIA	RESULTS		
	Yes	Partially	No
3.1 Geographically defined boundaries and not a protected area	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.2 Governed	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.3 Managed	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.4 Biodiversity values	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.5 Effective and long-term in-situ conservation of biodiversity	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.6 Ecosystem functions, ecosystem services and other locally relevant values are detailed	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Challenges





2017

Sugarcane pressure
Ever increasing pressure from
sugarcane expansion



2020

Settlement encroachment
Local community encroachment
(matter now *sub judice*)



Conclusion and next steps

Summary and way forward

Comparing governance/land tenure types

Private Land

- Relatively well resourced and capacitated – may easily tick most of the boxes.
- Commercialization (profitability) pressure (land use conversion) – **what's in for us?**
- Human settlement and population pressure – **external pressure** (from neighboring communities)

Communal Land

- Limited resources and technical capacity – may miss some ticks.
- Socio-economic pressure (poverty) – **will it put food on the table?**
- Human settlement and population pressure – **internal pressure** (from within)

Implications

- Some of the criteria may be tricky for local communities (e.g. managing some threats and regular monitoring)
- Incentivizing conservation is of utmost importance under both tenure/governance systems.

Where to from here?

A path to the future

**Methodology completed
and preliminarily approved**
October, 2020

- Methodology completed.
- Awaiting Ministerial approval and official launch

OECM Assessments
Ongoing

- Ongoing assessment of potential OECMs
- To be finalized and submitted by Ministry of Tourism and Environmental Affairs to UNEP-WCMC.

**Ongoing revision and
assessments**
Ongoing

- Methodology to be amended in accordance with international and national developments.
- Additional sites to be added as and when identified.
- **Development of a formal policy document recognizing OECMs**

The Team



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**Daniel
Marnewick**

International
Consultant - BirdLife
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**Lindani
Mavimbela**


National Project
Manager + the SNPAS
Project Team, OECMs
Committee and Project
Steering Committee




Thank You



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