



THE REVISED NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY ECONOMY STRATEGY PRESENTATION TO THE G20 INITIATIVE ON BIOECONOMY (GIB)

24 FEBRUARY 2025



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“HIDDEN TRANSFER OF VALUE”

- The Global South remain the biggest net exporters of natural resources
- According to Jason Hickel et al (2021), rich countries imported \$152tn worth of commodities from the global South since 1960!!
- Today, it is estimated that the Global North import commodities worth \$2.2 trillion per year from the Global South.
- Africa is no exception, huge quantities of natural resources are exported to the Global North in raw form.
- Some economists describe this as a “hidden transfer of value” from the Global South, which sustains high levels of income and consumption in the Global North



CONTRIBUTION OF THE WILDLIFE-BASED ECONOMY IN THE SADC REGION

Overall GDP Contribution:

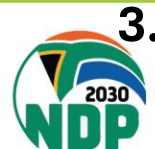
- The wildlife-based economy contributed approximately **USD 33.9 billion to the SADC GDP in 2018 and USD 31.5 billion in 2019, representing about 4.6% of the total GDP for the region.**
- **Wildlife Plant Sub-Sector:** Contributed around USD 12.8 billion in 2018 and an estimated USD 10.9 billion in 2019.
- **Wildlife Animal Sub-Sector:** Contributed approximately USD 21.1 billion in 2018 and an estimated USD 20.5 billion in 2019.
- The above figures represent a fraction of what Africa should be generating from her rich natural resources. Had the Region been beneficiating her resources, the figures would have been much higher than what's currently being generated.

Source: SADC Wildlife Based Economy Strategy (2022)



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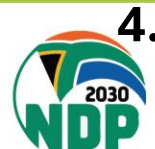


THE SOUTH AFRICAN EXPERIENCE



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4.



THE NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY ECONOMY STRATEGY (NBES) MANDATE

- The NBES draws its mandate **Section 24** of the Constitution which requires that reasonable legislative and other measures be put in place to ensure that the environment is protected for the benefit of present and future generations, including through promoting conservation and securing ecologically sustainable development and use of natural resources.



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1. THE WHITE PAPER POLICY ON CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE USE OF SOUTH AFRICA'S BIODIVERSITY

GOAL 1: Biodiversity Conservation

Promoted: Conserve all biological diversity and its components

GOAL 2 :Sustainable Use: Ensure that sustainable use enhances thriving living land- and seascapes and ecosystems, livelihoods, and human well-being, while avoiding, minimising, or remedying adverse impacts on biodiversity

Enabler 1 ~ **Integrated, Mainstreamed and Effective Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Use:** Integrate policy and practice across government and effectively implement multilateral agreements; and

Enabler 2 ~ **Enhanced Means of Implementation:** Expand and develop ability to effectively conserve biodiversity, to manage its use, and to address factors threatening it.

GOAL 3:Equitable Access and Benefit Sharing:

Ensure that benefits are derived and shared from the use and development of South Africa's genetic and biological resources, without compromising national interests

GOAL 4 :Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Use is Transformative: gives effect the environmental right (contained in Section 24 of the Constitution), and other human rights, facilitates redress, and promotes transformation



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SOUTH AFRICA'S BIODIVERSITY ENDOWEMENT

- South Africa is ranked amongst **the top 17 mega-biodiverse countries in the world**, due to its species diversity, rate of endemism and diverse ecosystems.
- Endemism rates reach 56% for amphibians, 65% for plants and up to 70% for invertebrates.
- Hosts 3 globally recognized biodiversity hotspots: **The Cape Floral Kingdom, the Succulent Karoo and the Maputaland-Pondoland Albany center of endemism.**
- Above all, due to the **rich cultural diversity**, South Africa is endowed with Indigenous Knowledge linked with the use of indigenous biological resources across diverse communities, e.g. **the indigenous knowledge of the Khoi and San communities on the use of the rooibos species.**

7% of the world's
reptiles (288 species),
birds (800+ species)
and mammals (300
species)



10% of the
world's plants



15% of the
world's coastal
marine species



BIODIVERSITY FUELS BUSINESS

Biodiversity provides ecosystem services that are more R433 billion to South Africa's economy

Medicinal plants and animals underpin the work of over 200 000 Traditional Health Practitioners who are serving over 27 million South Africans

*Stats SA 2023. Hadji-Lazaro et al., 2023.
Turpie et al. 2017. Hadji-Lazo et al., 2023.
Mohamed A.M Abd Elbasit et al (2019)*

12% of tourists travel in SA to see nature, generating R27,7 billion.

Biodiversity is sustaining over 418 000 jobs in South Africa, with majority of such jobs located in the far remote rural parts of the country

*NBA 2018. SANBI 2019.
Stats SA 2023. Hadji-Lazaro et al., 2023.*



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8.



THEORY OF CHANGE FOR THE NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY ECONOMY STRATEGY

GOAL 1

Leveraging biodiversity-based features to scale inclusive ecotourism industry growth in seascapes and in sustainable conservation land-use

GOAL 2

Sustainable consumption and beneficiation of Game from extensive wildlife systems that drives transformation and expanded sustainable conservation compatible land-use

GOAL 3

Sustainable consumption of wild and produced marine and freshwater resources that drives inclusive coastal socio-economic development

GOAL 4

Well structured, inclusive, integrated and formalised Bioprospecting, Biotrade, and Biodiversity-based Harvesting and Production Sector that beneficiates communities

CROSS-CUTTING GOAL 5: Secure and enhance ecological infrastructure across ecosystems essential for South Africa's economy through cross-sectoral coordination, leveraging additional investment and market support critical to rural and informal economies.

Cross cutting imperative 1:leverage the biodiversity economy to promote conservation, species and ecosystem management

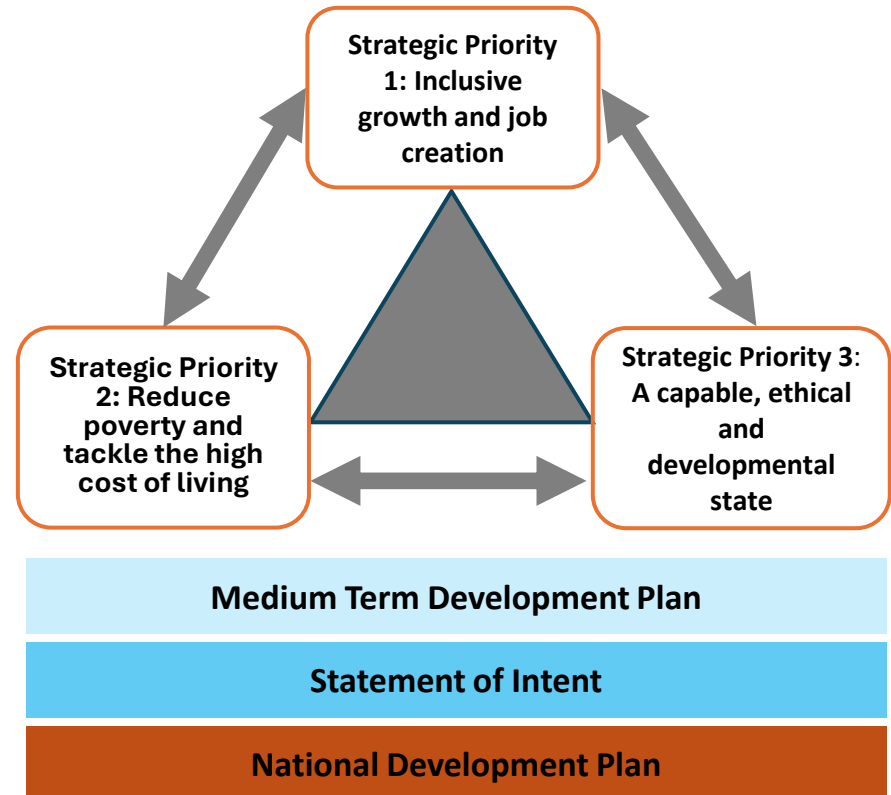
Cross cutting imperative 2: Promote growth and transformation of the biodiversity economy

Enabler 1: effective and efficient regulation and policy implementation	Enabler 2: financial support sustains conservation and grows the biodiversity economy
Enabler 2: increased capacity, innovation and technological support	Enabler 4: market access for communities and previously disadvantaged individuals



The Revised NBES aligns to the 3 Apex priorities of the 7th Administration

- 1. Inclusive Growth and job Creation:** The NBES intend to inject an additional 397 000 jobs and R127 billion to the economy per annum.
- 2. Reduce poverty and tackle the high cost of living:**
 - Providing 100 million kilogram of game meat in the formal market, especially in far flung rural areas of the country by 2030 and thus contribute to food sovereignty
 - Promoting regenerative agriculture which aims to improve soil health, biodiversity and water management.
 - Promoting the crop wild relatives to improve pests and disease resistance as well as the untapped genetic diversity.
 - Mainstreaming the protein rich traditional edible insects such as mopani worms, locusts, termites and crickets
 - Implement inclusive and sustainable small-scale fisheries and aquaculture strategies that ensures economies of scale and promotes market access for the fishing communities
- 3. A capable, Ethical and Developmental State:** Empowering all spheres of government to invest in ecological infrastructure and green economy that promotes corruption free innovative financing mechanisms that attract both public and private investment in biodiversity economy and sustainable use.



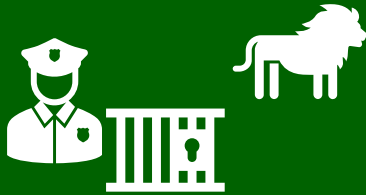
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Development and implementation of Nega Living Landscapes- Vision 2040

A move away from
traditional approach of
conservation to...



Inclusive large interconnected areas that
support diverse ecosystems, socio-economic
development, cultural heritage, indigenous
knowledge systems and tourism.



It includes different areas with various
conservation and production purposes -
ranging from protected areas to communal
land to sustainable agriculture zones and
buffer areas where other activities like
farming may take place.



These landscapes enhance climate
resilience and promote sustainability/



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BIODIVERSITY ECONOMY MEGA-HUBS INITIATIVE

BIODIVERSITY ECONOMY MEGA-HUB: LOCAL BENEFICIATION OF OUR IBRs



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Service Providers already working on comprehensive feasibility studies, costed business plans and 3-dimensional artistic designs for the development of the novel biodiversity mega-hubs in order to localise and benefitate the value chains of the rich biodiversity South Africa is blessed with.



THANK YOU!

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Thank You



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