



Overberg

SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

Prepared within the context of the Municipal Systems Act, 2000 (Act 32 of 2000) and the principles of Bioregional Planning and Management of the Provincial Government of the Western Cape.

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OVERBERG DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

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LIST OF PLANS

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Plan 1:	Bioregions
Plan 1.1:	Areas of Co-operation between Category C Municipalities
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Plan 2:	Land-use Classification Plan
Plan 3:	Proposed Biosphere Reserves
Plan 4:	System of Protected Nature Areas
Plan 5:	Roads Plan

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND

The Overberg District Municipality (further referred to as the ODM) appointed Dennis Moss Partnership Inc. to assist with the preparation of the **Overberg Spatial Development Framework (Overberg SDF)** as an integral part of the Overberg District Integrated Development Plan (IDP).

A key requirement was that the project had to be undertaken in close collaboration with the four Category B municipalities that collectively form the ODM, and that the planning process had to foster a spirit of co-operation between these municipalities. Full use was made of the existing IDP forums as a basis for Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) consultation and participation.

The planning process was undertaken in terms of *inter alia* the Municipal Systems Act, 2000 (Act 32 of 2000), and the Western Cape Planning and Development Act, 1999 (Act 7 of 1999).

1.2 PROJECT BRIEF

In terms of the project brief, the SDF has to achieve the following:

- (a) Indicate the spatial implications of the IDP of the ODM.
- (b) Put forward development and management strategies, proposals and guidelines that will promote sustainable development in the ODM, including, without being limited to, development objectives, proposals for land reform, urban renewal, reconstruction, integration, environmental planning, transport planning, infrastructure planning, and urban design, so as to promote the general well-being of the people of the area in the most effective manner.
- (c) Integrate the strategies put forward by the Overberg IDP with the recommendations of the draft *Coastal Zone Policy for the Western Cape* (Provincial Government of the Western Cape, 2001).
- (d) Explore options for the implementation of UNESCO's MAB (Man and the Biosphere) Programme as a mechanism for the promotion of sustainable development throughout the ODM.

1.3 STRUCTURE OF THE SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

The SDF document comprises 8 sections, the contents and functions of which are summarised in Diagram 1 on the following page.

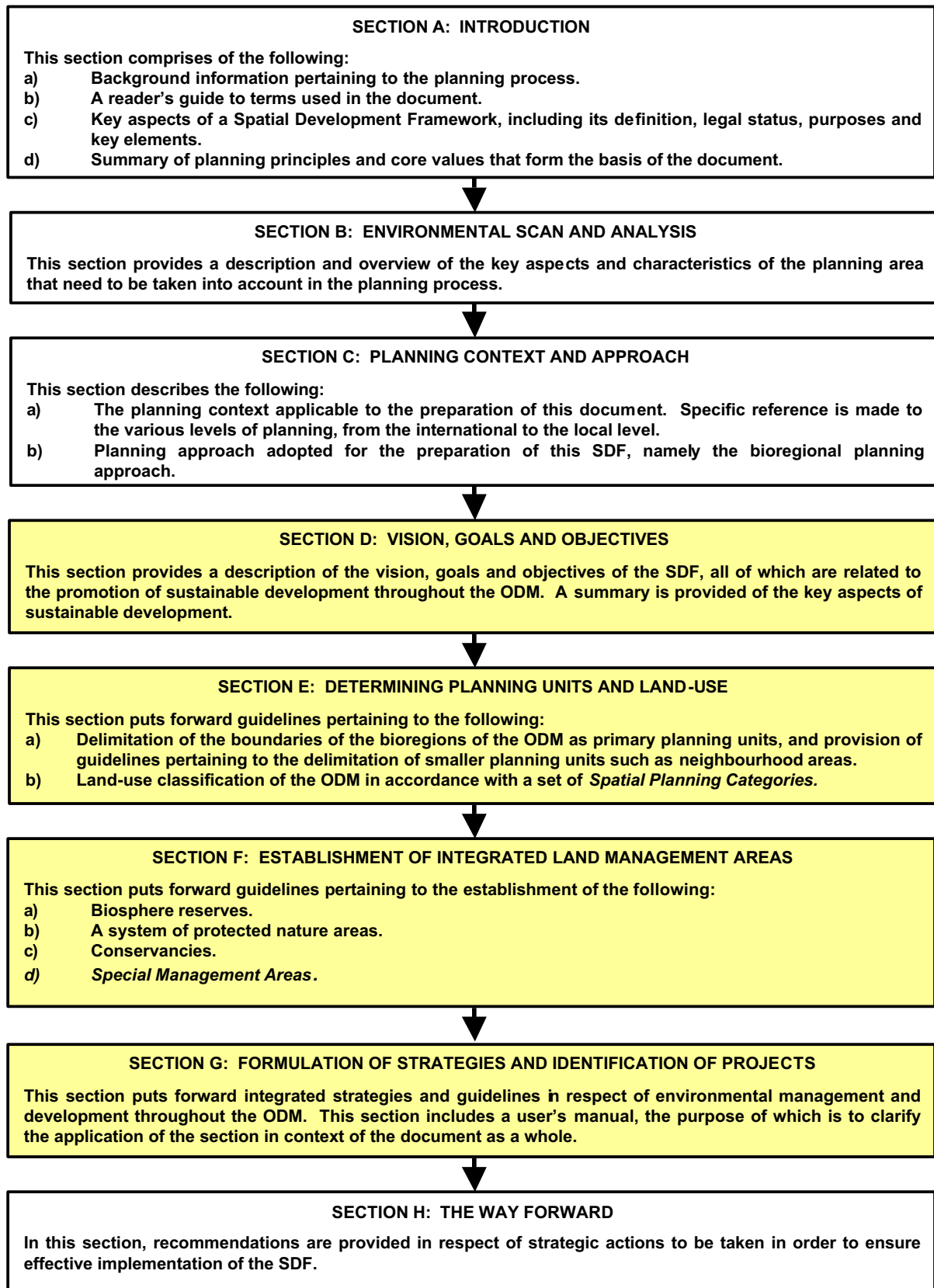


Diagram 1: Structure of the SDF.

2 CONTEXT OF THE OVERBERG DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

The ODM is located in the Western Cape Province and forms the southern-most area of Africa (refer to Figure 1). The ODM is an amalgamation of the magisterial districts of Caledon, Hermanus, Bredasdorp and Swellendam. It is bordered by the municipal areas of the City of Cape Town, and the Boland and Eden District Municipalities.

The coastline of ODM varies dramatically, from white sandy beaches to rocky cliffs. The Atlantic and Indian oceans meet at Cape Agulhas, which is the southern-most tip of the African continent.

The ODM is endowed by rich natural and cultural resources and landscapes, the most prominent of which are associated with the coastal zone, the indigenous Fynbos vegetation on the coastal plateaux and the dry Succulent Karoo environment of the Klein Karoo.

The main access route to the region are the national road (N2) via Sir Lowry's Pass and Houw Hoek Pass in the west, and Swellendam in the east. Cape Hangklip guards the coastal regional route (R44) in the west. Various mountain passes provide access from the north (including the R43, R45, R317 and R324).

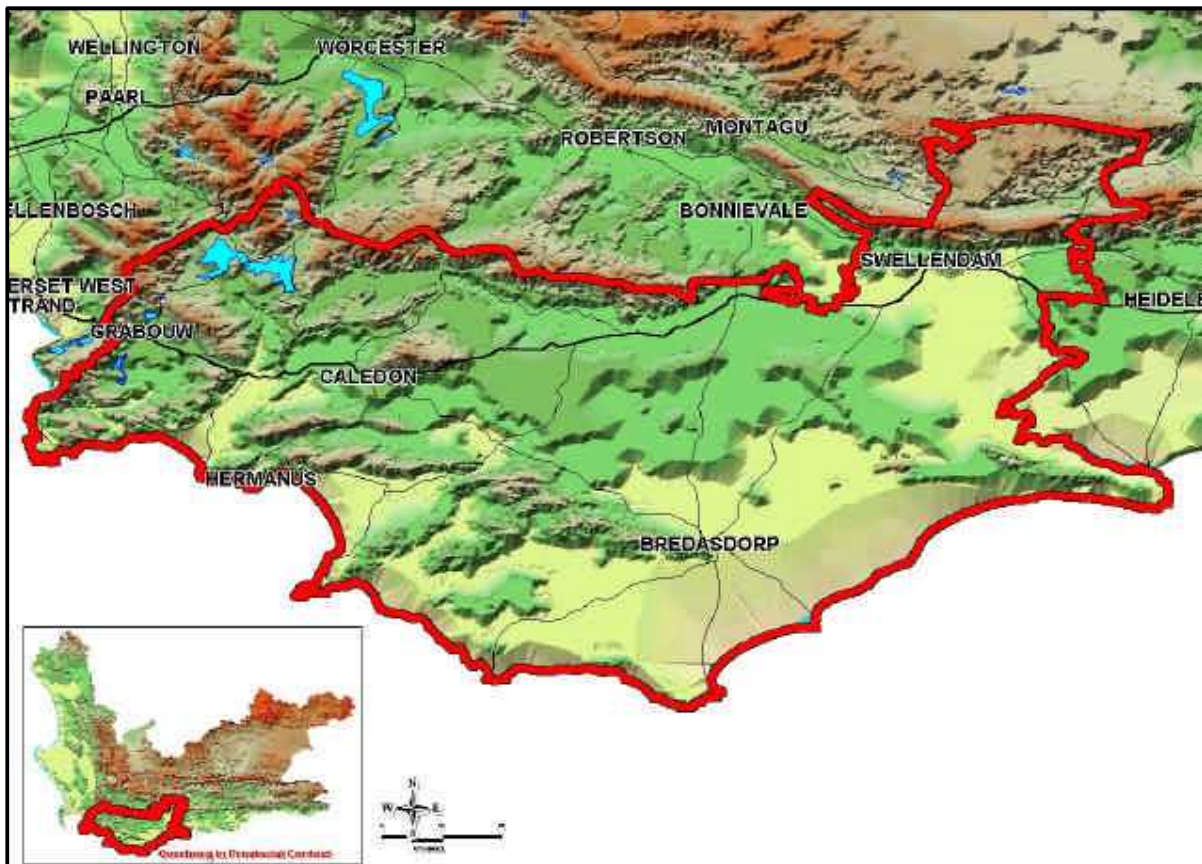


Figure 1: Location of the Overberg District Municipality.

3 PLANNING APPROACH

The SDF was based upon the bioregional planning approach described in the *Manual for the application of Bioregional Planning in the Western Cape* (PGWC, 2003) and the *Spatial Development Framework Manual* that has been prepared by PGWC to facilitate the preparation of SDFs in the Western Cape (PGWC, 2003).

International experience has shown that **biodiversity conservation** is a prerequisite for sustainable development, and that for biodiversity conservation to succeed, the maintenance of environmental integrity (as defined by ecological, economic and social criteria) must be one of the primary determinants of bioregional delimitation and land-use planning. This view has, during the past decade, evolved into a planning and management approach generally known as **bioregional planning**, which is increasingly being employed as a management system by, amongst others, UNEP and the WRI to promote sustainable development practices world-wide.

In the *Manual for the application of Bioregional Planning in the Western Cape* (PGWC, 2003), bioregional planning is defined as land-use planning and management that promote sustainable development by recognising the relationship between, and giving practical effect to, environmental integrity, human-well-being and economic efficiency within a defined geographical space, the boundaries of which were determined in accordance with environmental and social criteria.

In practical terms, bioregional planning refers to the 'matching' of human settlement and land-use patterns with the parameters of ecological systems, and the planning, design and development of the human-made environment within these parameters in a manner that ensures environmental sustainability.

4 VISION, GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The studies that have been undertaken during the preparation of this document, together with the IDPs of the Overberg District Municipality and the various Category B municipalities confirmed the following:

- a) The ODM comprises unique natural attributes that justify its status as a national asset.
- b) The natural environment and its resources of the ODM are sensitive and susceptible to over-exploitation or inappropriate use.
- c) The ODM supports viable economic sectors.
- d) The ODM comprises a significant cultural heritage.
- e) The ODM includes natural ecosystems and habitats that are of global importance.
- f) There is a substantial need for social upliftment and community development.
- g) Priority should be given to issues such as rural development, land reform, environmental conservation, statistics, economic development, tourism, roads and infrastructure, and the use of agricultural land for non-agricultural purposes. These aspects should be addressed on the district level.
- h) There is a general lack of co-ordination of development and land use on a bioregional level, which emphasises the need for an integrated planning framework, within which government, community, corporate, and other private interests, would share responsibility for co-ordinating land-use planning for both public and private land; and for defining and implementing development options that would ensure that human needs are met in a sustainable way.

In order to address the above aspects, the following vision, goals and objectives have been formulated for the ODM:

4.1 GUIDING VISION STATEMENTS

In order to balance the socio-economic aspirations of the ODM with sustainable utilisation of the natural environment and its community-supporting resources, the overriding mission of the IUCN¹ was adopted as a fundamental guideline in the preparation of this document, namely:

'The maintenance of essential ecological processes, the preservation of genetic diversity and the insurance of the sustainable utilisation of species and ecosystems that can only be achieved by the conservation of essential habitats and not individual species; and, the management of human use of the biosphere so that it may yield the greatest sustainable benefit to present generations, while maintaining its potential to meet the needs and aspirations of future generations' (IUCN, 1980).

Additional fundamental guidance was provided by the discussion document, *'Towards a New Environmental Policy for South Africa'* which states that: *'In the process of transforming the South African society, the South African Government of national unity states as one of its priorities, that the government must ensure that all South African citizens, present and future, have the right to a decent quality of life through the sustainable use of resources. It also states that environmental considerations must be built into every decision and that current legislation should be revised with a view to establishing an effective system of environmental management in South Africa. The underlying principle of sustainable development is not only recognised as a priority by the South African Government, but also internationally in Agenda 21* (Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism, 1996).

4.2 VISION AND MISSION FOR THE ODM

The vision and mission of the people of the ODM is as follows:

<p>VISION</p> <p>'Paradise at the southernmost tip of Africa - A lekker region that works.</p> <p>MISSION</p> <p>'To create, preserve and further develop paradise through:</p> <p>a) Sustainable and balanced utilisation and development of human and natural resources to the benefit and wealth of all the inhabitants and for the promotion of economic growth and development</p> <p>b) Promotion and sustainable utilisation of the region's diversity in different fields</p> <p>c) The preservation of the region's rural character</p> <p>d) Effective crime prevention and combating</p> <p>To make the region a lekker place that works, by:</p> <p>a) Striving to develop the potential of all inhabitants to the full</p> <p>b) Promotion unison within regional and communal context</p> <p>c) Ensuring that the region's inhabitants and their descendants can continue to live in a healthy natural environment'</p>
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(From: Overberg IDP, 2002)

¹ International Union for Conservation of Nature.

4.3 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT – THE OVERARCHING GOAL OF THE SDF

As stated in the project brief, the primary aim of the SDF is to ‘**promote real sustainable development in the ODM**’ (refer to Chapter 1).

Sustainable development is defined as ‘*development that meets the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs*’ (WCED, 1987: P 8).

The IISD² (1995) highlights two key components with regard to sustainable development, namely (a) the **concept of need** (in particular, the essential needs of the poor to which overriding priority should be given, and the reality of limitations, imposed by the state of technology and social organisation) and (b) the **environment’s ability** to meet present and future needs.

It is clear that sustainable development will not be achieved by only conserving natural areas. The *Global Biodiversity Strategy* (IUCN/UNEP/WWF) states that conservation strategies must be aimed at accommodating cultural, economic, and political circumstances at local and regional levels. Such strategies must, *inter alia*, be aimed at improving the well-being of local and regional communities through the implementation of conservation strategies.

The IISD (1995) points out that sustainable development occurs at the intersection of three global imperatives and that if these imperatives are not balanced and integrated, sustainable development cannot be achieved (refer to Diagram 2 below).

In this regard, the interactive model of sustainability described by Mebratu (1998), illustrates that sustainable development occurs where the three imperatives interact within an ‘interactive zone’. Development outside this ‘interactive zone’ will not be sustainable. Diagram 2 below illustrates the three global imperatives and their integration.

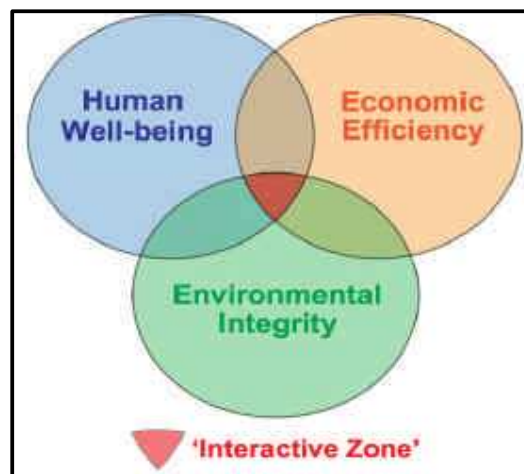


Diagram 2: The interactive model of sustainability (Adapted from Mebratu, 1998).

² International Institute for Sustainable Development.

The SDF builds on the following understanding of the three global imperatives:

4.3.1 HUMAN WELL-BEING

Human well-being refers to both **material** and **spiritual well-being**. Material well-being refers to the absence of poverty. Spiritual well-being, in terms of the bioregional planning methodology, implies that the bioregion represents a physical and moral space where its inhabitants seek to maintain and improve the continuity of its complex ecology. This, especially, entails creating the conditions for developing the individual to become richly connected to place and to obtain new powers, emotionally, intellectually and physically, so as to enable the individual, as a member of society, to play his or her rightful role in promoting and achieving sustainable development. It is recognised that, in post-apartheid South Africa, special consideration has to be given to address historical inequalities that have undermined human well-being in the past.

4.3.2 ENVIRONMENTAL INTEGRITY

Environmental integrity refers to the '*wholeness*' of the environment. 'Environment' is defined as the aggregate of all external conditions and influences affecting the life of an organism. In particular, 'environment' refers to the surroundings within which humans exist and that are made up of:

- a) the land, water and atmosphere of the earth;
- b) micro-organisms, plant and animal life;
- c) any part or combination of (a) and (b) and the interrelationships among and between them; and
- d) the physical, chemical, aesthetic and cultural properties and conditions of the foregoing that influence human health and well-being.

Environmental integrity is determined by the *value* of the environment or place (natural or human-made), with specific reference to its intrinsic, systemic, and/or instrumental value.

It is recognised that human-made environments such as settlements, are located within and 'contained' by the natural environment. The manner in which human settlements are developed, therefore, has an immense impact on the quality and integrity of the environment as a totality. It is therefore imperative that the human-made environment be planned, designed and developed in a manner that will ensure the maintenance of the values referred to above (i.e. intrinsic, systemic, and/or instrumental value).

From a natural environmental perspective, it is clear that ecological integrity is a key factor in the sustainable development equation. Ecological integrity *inter alia* requires that source and sink thresholds are not exceeded, that biodiversity is protected and that essential ecological processes and services (e.g. water yield and quality, soil conservation, decomposition, etc.) are maintained.

4.3.3 ECONOMIC EFFICIENCY

Economic efficiency refers to making the best use of available resources, including human resources, funds, land, infrastructure, etc. It is also understood as the optimisation of benefit at the lowest cost for valued things.

It is important to note that the unconditional optimisation of benefit, regardless of its social and environmental cost, has the potential to create serious conflict between various interest groups. For example, the construction of a road through a settlement may imply high efficiency in that it would limit construction costs and save time for the road-user. On the other hand, such a road may prove to be largely inequitable due to its environmental and social impact (e.g. endangering the lives of local inhabitants, and resulting in emotional stress for individuals living in the proximity of the road, as well as users of the road). Efficiency should therefore never be considered separately from justice (both environmental justice and social justice).

Therefore, whilst justice is most often considered as an ideal principle of equitable distribution of goods or benefits among persons, it is important to note that there are many stumbling blocks in society that make pure justice difficult to achieve.

5 DELIMITATION OF BIOREGIONS AS PRIMARY PLANNING UNITS

As directed by the *Manual for the application of Bioregional Planning in the Western Cape* (PGWC, 2003), a primary step in the preparation of the SDF was the delimitation of the bioregions that collectively form the ODM.

The purpose of this delimitation process was to establish the boundaries of the bioregions in order to provide for a spatial development framework within which the following can be achieved:

- a) Achieve holistic integrated planning, i.e. ensure that all aspects that may have an influence on the ODM and its component Category B municipalities are addressed in the SDF and the IDP.
- b) Identify areas of co-operation between municipalities (i.e. overlapping areas where municipal boundaries do not correspond with bioregional parameters). In this regard, it is recognised that the existing municipal boundaries, in many cases, do not follow bioregional boundaries and that appropriate cross-boundary co-ordination needs to be established between adjoining municipalities in respect of areas and issues that are of mutual interest.
- c) Long-term sustainable development based on a place-specific planning approach and optimal community participation.
- d) Integrated management of community-supporting resources.
- e) Appropriate future municipal demarcation in accordance with bioregional planning principles.

5.1 DELIMITATION PROCESS

The delimitation of the bioregions of the ODM was based upon the delimitation process described in the *Manual for the application of Bioregional Planning in the Western Cape* (PGWC, 2003). The conceptual bioregions put forward in the manual served as a basis for the delimitation process.

The delimitation approach recognises that any bioregion has enormous *intrinsic*, *instrumental* and *systemic* values that are directly related to the well-being of natural and human communities. The unique ecological, cultural, social and economic characteristics and components of a bioregion co-exist and function in an integrated, and often complex, manner. For a bioregion to be optimally effective in terms of its community-supporting functions it is of paramount importance that this symbiosis of bioregional characteristics

and functions be maintained and the bioregions must, as far as possible, not be fragmented by political boundaries. It should be maintained and governed as a distinct unit.

In addition, no bioregion, or any land unit should be seen as an island in isolation from its surroundings. Each unit is an important part of the broader region within which it is situated, and the mutual relationships and linkages between adjacent units must be understood and applied when delimiting and managing units.

The delimitation process adopted in this planning process encapsulates biophysical, biological and socio-economic considerations consistent with the definition of a bioregion and recognises both diversity and scale. The methodology provides for the identification of 4 distinct **bioregional components** in a hierarchical relationship with each other, requiring a planning / management approach ranging from the broad scale to the detail (refer to Diagram 3 below).

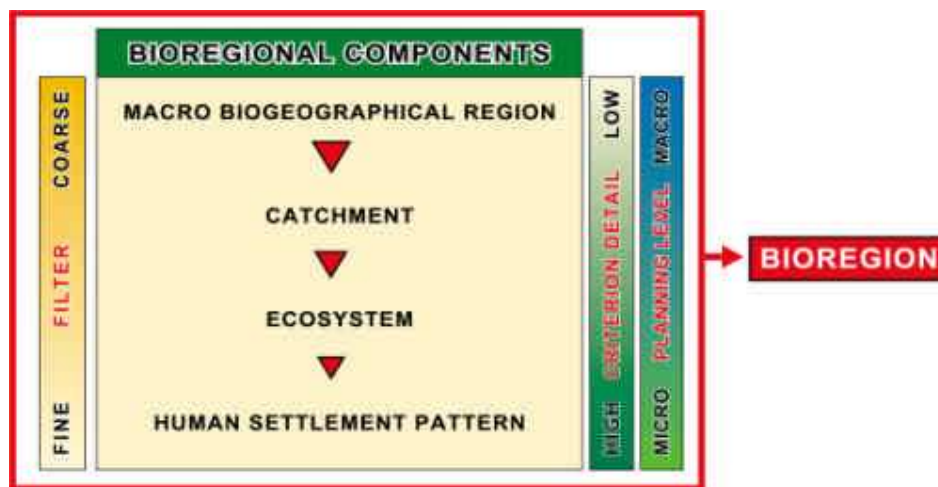


Diagram 3: Bioregional components.

The process of delimiting bioregions follows logical steps, or sequences, the first of which is defining and delimiting the 'broad-brush' 'macro biogeographical region' within which the bioregion is situated, using 'coarse-grain' criteria. The second step is to identify the various catchments and 'quaternary (sub) catchments', followed by ecosystems. The level of detail required for delimiting the bioregional components, and the associated management and planning thereof, increases as the scale decreases. The most detailed component, which is used for refining the delimitation of individual bioregions, is the human settlement pattern (refer to Diagram 3 above).

5.2 PLAN OF THE BIOREGIONS OF THE ODM

A plan was prepared of the bioregions of the ODM (refer to Plan 1). It is important to note that the plan may change due to *inter alia* the delimitation of the neighbourhood areas of the Category B municipalities, and the incorporation of new scientific data from CAPE³, STEP⁴, and SKEP⁵.

³ Cape Action for People and the Environment.³

⁴ Subtropical Thicket Ecosystem Planning.

⁵ Succulent Karoo Ecosystem Plan.

5.2.1 AREAS OF CO-OPERATION

The bioregional delimitation process described above has indicated that there are a number of instances where the boundaries of the bioregions do not correspond with the political or municipal boundaries. This implies that, in terms of the bioregional planning approach, there are areas along the outer parameters of the bioregion in respect of which a co-operative management approach between the relevant municipalities would be required (i.e. *areas of co-operation* {refer to Plan 1.1 and Plan 1.2}).

In the case of *areas of co-operation* between Category B municipalities falling within the ODM, it will be the responsibility of the Overberg District Municipality to facilitate such co-operation. In the case of *areas of co-operation* that span the boundaries between the ODM and its neighbouring district municipalities, it will be the function of PGWC to facilitate co-operation. In the case of areas of co-operation that span the common provincial boundary, it will be the responsibility of the respective provincial governments to facilitate the required co-operation. The ideal is that all provincial and municipal boundaries should be aligned with bioregional boundaries during the next municipal demarcation process.

6 LAND-USE CLASSIFICATION

6.1 SPATIAL PLANNING CATEGORIES

The *Spatial Planning Categories* (SPCs) advocated in the Bioregional Planning Framework for the Western Cape were applied to illustrate the proposed future land-use of the ODM. The SPCs are consistent with UNESCO's Biosphere Reserve Model described in Chapters 14.1 & 16 of the SDF and include all land zonings that are provided for under the existing Zoning Scheme Regulations. The SPCs were used to illustrate the proposed land-use classification plan of the ODM (refer to **Plan 2**). The tables and diagram below define and illustrate the various SPCs.

A key function of Plan 2 is that it provides a standard framework for land-use classification in the various Category B municipalities. It is proposed that Plan 2 be used as a basis for the preparation of the SDFs of these municipalities.

Table 1: The six primary Spatial Planning Categories.

CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	CLASSIFICATION CRITERIA & PURPOSES
Category A	Core Area (Consistent with UNESCO's Biosphere Reserve 'Core Areas').	a) Areas of high conservation importance (highly irreplaceable) that must be protected from change. b) Only <i>non-consumptive land-uses</i> ⁶ may be allowed under strict conditions. c) No development allowed.
Category B	Buffer Area (Consistent with UNESCO's Biosphere Reserve 'Buffer Area').	a) Serving as a buffer between Category A Areas and Category C Areas. b) Providing an appropriate interim classification for conservation-worthy areas that do not have statutory protection, including ecological corridors, and former forestry and agricultural areas that are worthy of rehabilitation. c) Appropriate sustainable development and non-consumptive land-uses may be allowed conditionally.

⁶ Refers to land-use that does not imply harvesting or extraction of products for consumption, e.g. recreation, tourism, religious ceremonies, research, education, etc.

CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	CLASSIFICATION CRITERIA & PURPOSES
Category C	Agricultural areas (Consistent with UNESCO's Biosphere Reserve 'Transition Area').	a) Rural areas where extensive and intensive agriculture is practiced b) Forestry areas.
Category D	Urban-related areas (Consistent with UNESCO's Biosphere Reserve 'Transition Area').	Accommodating a broad spectrum of nodal urban-related settlements and associated services and infrastructure.
Category E	Industrial areas	Representing the industrial areas where very high intensity of human activity and consumptive land-use occur.
Category F	Surface infrastructure and buildings	All surface infrastructure and buildings not catered for in the above categories, including roads, railway lines, power lines, communication structures, etc.

6.2 SUB-CATEGORIES

32 Sub-categories have been provided to facilitate detailed planning. As illustrated by Diagram 4 below, the various SPCs and Sub-categories were numbered in alphabetical order, the purpose being to provide for a system in terms of which each entity in the municipal area can be allocated a coded number that would facilitate effective land-use management by the municipality.

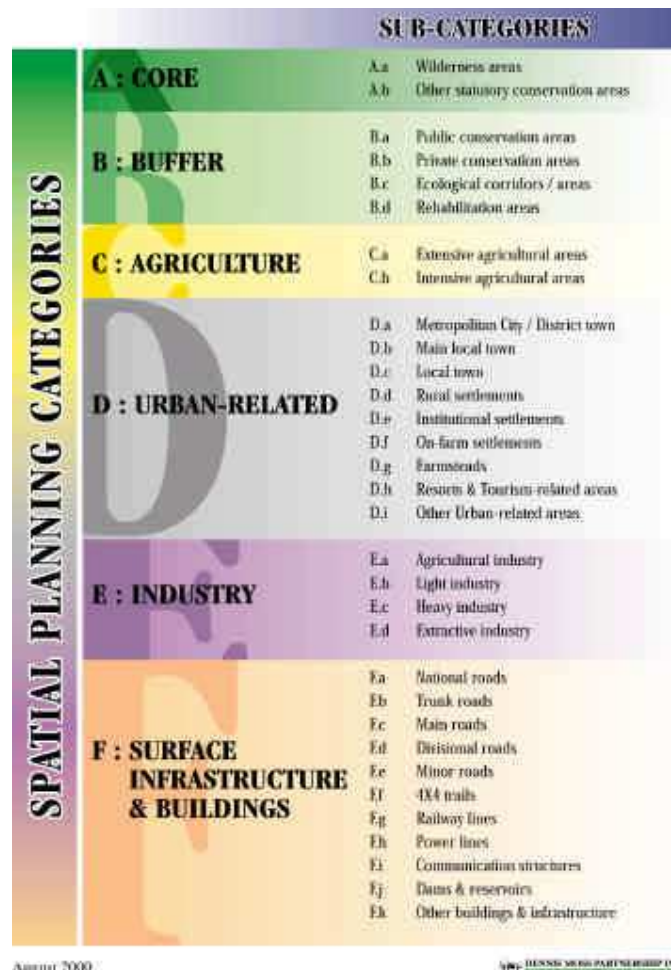


Diagram 4: Spatial Planning Categories and Sub-Categories

6.3 SPATIAL PLANNING CATEGORY DESCRIPTION

Table 2: Summarised description of the Sub-Categories.

SUB-CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION
CATEGORY A: CORE AREAS	
A.a Wilderness areas	Statutory and <i>de facto</i> wilderness areas serving as a benchmark for environmental health and providing primitive, non-consumptive, non-mechanised outdoor recreation.
A.b Other statutory conservation areas	Statutory conservation areas, e.g. national parks, provincial and private nature reserves (zoned Open Space III), etc., providing for biodiversity conservation, outdoor recreation and limited sustainable resource use.
CATEGORY B: BUFFER AREAS	
B.a Public conservation areas	Public conservation areas with statutory conservation status – not qualifying for A.a status, surrounding, or within Core Areas, e.g. contractual national parks, national monuments, local authority nature reserves.
B.b Private conservation areas	<i>De facto</i> conservation areas in private ownership, no statutory conservation status, but ideally within registered conservancies – protecting integrity of core areas.
B.c Ecological corridors /areas	Natural linkages between ecosystems that contribute to the maintenance of natural processes (e.g. rivers) also continuous tracts of natural vegetation, and habitats / broad habitat units that are considered highly irreplaceable ⁷ but do not have official conservation status.
B.d Rehabilitation areas	Areas designated for rehabilitation (i.e. conservation-worthy areas previously degraded by agriculture, mining, forestry).
CATEGORY C: TRANSITION AREAS	
C.a Extensive agricultural areas	Agricultural areas covered with natural vegetation, providing for sustainable low-impact agriculture-related land-uses, e.g. indigenous plant harvesting, extensive stock-farming, game-farming, eco-tourism, etc.
C.b Intensive agricultural areas	Agricultural areas used for multiple agriculture-related resource uses, including cultivated areas, forestry areas, etc.
CATEGORY D: URBAN-RELATED AREAS	
D.a Metropolitan/District Town	Category A Municipality and the location of a Category C Municipality authority.
D.b Main Local town	Location of a Category B Municipality authority.
D.c Local town	Town that previously had municipal status, now forms part of a larger municipality and has a municipal office.
D.d Rural settlements	Rural settlements that fall under the jurisdiction of a Category A or B Municipality (settlements that had no municipal status in the past).
D.e Institutional settlements	Nodal settlements and infrastructure associated with institutions, such as educational centers, prisons, etc.
D.f On-farm settlements	On-farm settlement nodes comprising more than 5 units, together with the communal infrastructure, e.g. school, church, etc.

⁷ Irreplaceability refers to the potential contribution of a site to a preservation or representation goal. It is a fundamental way of measuring the conservation value of any site. An irreplaceable site will appear in every analysis of alternative combinations of sites. In other words, it is one which must be included in a conservation area because significant options for preservation are lost if the site is excluded.

D.g	Farmsteads	Main farmsteads including on-farm infrastructure required for farm logistics, e.g. sheds, packing facilities, etc.
D.h	Resorts & Tourism-related areas	Resorts and tourism-related developments and areas, including hotels, motels etc.
D.i	Other urban-related areas	Urban-related areas not included in Sub-category D.a – D.h. (e.g. settlements within District Management Areas under the jurisdiction of a Category C Municipality).
CATEGORY E: INDUSTRIAL AREAS		
E.a	Agricultural industry	Agriculture-related industrial developments, such as silos, wine cellars, packing facilities, dairies, saw-mills, etc.
E.b	Light industry	Areas designated for light industrial activities, such as small factories, brick-yards, saw-mills, metal-works, etc.
E.c	Heavy industry	Areas designated for heavy industrial activities, such as steel mills, etc.
E.d	Extractive industry	Settlements and infrastructure associated with multiple consumptive resource extraction, e.g. mining.
CATEGORY F: SURFACE INFRASTRUCTURE & BUILDINGS		
F.a	National roads	National roads proclaimed in terms of the National Roads Act, 1998 (Act 7 of 1998).
F.b	Trunk roads	Provincial and regional roads proclaimed in terms of the Roads Ordinance, 1976 (No. 19 of 1976).
F.c	Main roads	Provincial and regional roads proclaimed in terms of the Roads Ordinance, 1976 (No. 19 of 1976).
F.d	Divisional roads	Provincial and regional roads proclaimed in terms of the Roads Ordinance, 1976 (No. 19 of 1976).
F.e	Minor roads	Provincial and regional roads proclaimed in terms of the Roads Ordinance, 1976 (No. 19 of 1976).
F.f	4X4 trails	4X4 trails within Category B and C.
F.g	Railway lines	Railway lines and associated infrastructure.
F.h	Power lines	Power lines and associated sub-stations and infrastructure.
F.i	Communication structures	Cellular network towers, radio towers, telecommunication infrastructure, etc.
F.j	Dams & reservoirs	Major dams and reservoirs.
F.k	Other buildings & infrastructure	Buildings & infrastructure not included in Sub-Category F.a-F.j.

In the SDF a comprehensive description is provided of the SPCs and the Sub-Categories.

7 ESTABLISHMENT OF INTEGRATED LAND MANAGEMENT AREAS

It is recognised that sustainable development will not be achieved by only conserving natural areas. It therefore is imperative that strategies be implemented to establish formally protected nature areas on conservation-worthy private land or to promote integrated land-use on such land.

In this regard, the Overberg District Municipality has directed that UNESCO's MAB Programme be adopted as a general basis and premise for the implementation of bioregional planning and management throughout the ODM.

It is proposed that all of the integrated land management programmes and areas advocated in the *Manual for the application of Bioregional Planning in the Western Cape* (PGWC, 2003) be implemented throughout the ODM in order to promote sustainable development and obtain global support in this regard. In the chapters below, a description and guidance is provided in respect of the establishment of appropriate integrated land management areas, including:

- a) **Biosphere Reserves.**
- b) **System of protected nature areas.**
- c) **Conservancies.**
- d) **Special Management Areas.**

7.1 BIOSPHERE RESERVES

7.1.1 PROVINCIAL POLICY ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF BIOSPHERE RESERVES

PGWC supports the establishment of biosphere reserves as a mechanism for implementation of bioregional planning and management. The *Western Cape Biosphere Reserve Draft Bill* is currently being finalised by PGWC. The Draft Bill *inter alia* makes provision for the establishment of a provincial MAB Committee and will facilitate the establishment and management of biosphere reserves.

The establishment of biosphere reserves will be undertaken in collaboration with all I&APs and with due recognition of social, economic and ecological criteria. The establishment of biosphere reserves will furthermore be based on the *cluster* biosphere reserve plan prepared by Cape Nature Conservation during 1991 (refer to Figure 15 on the following page).

Given the strategy of this province pertaining to the establishment of a clustered system of biosphere reserves throughout the province, the following Seville Strategy objectives are of particular importance, namely:

- Objective 1.1: *Improve the coverage of natural and cultural biodiversity by means of the world network of Biosphere Reserves.*
- Objective 1.2: *Integrate Biosphere Reserves into conservation planning.*
- Objective 1.3: *Integrate Biosphere Reserves into regional planning.*
- Objective 1.4: *Improve education, public awareness and involvement.*

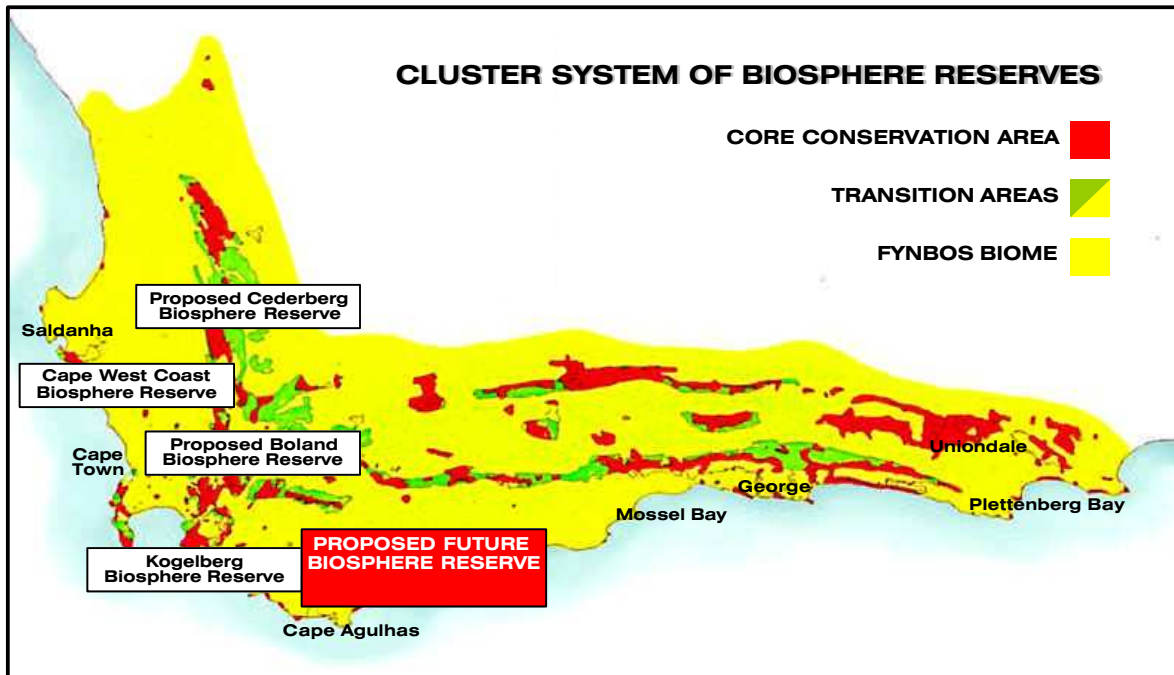


Figure 2: Proposed Fynbos Cluster Biosphere Reserve Network (Department of Environmental and Cultural Affairs, 1991).

A fundamentally important aspect of the buffer area of a biosphere reserve, which can have an immense impact on the effective functioning of any biosphere reserve, is that it generally consists of privately-owned land. In this regard, the following is noted:

- (i) Such private land is included into a biosphere reserve on a voluntary basis.
- (ii) The biosphere designation does not take away any existing rights, nor does it grant any rights to the owner.
- (iii) Land-use that is compatible with the biosphere reserve principles is not mandatory on the owner of such land.
- (iv) The parameters of a buffer area of a biosphere reserve are, in terms of UNESCO's demarcation criteria, considered to be 'soft boundaries'. This implies that there is no official cadastral boundary of a biosphere reserve applicable to privately-owned land.

The premise is therefore that the initial designation of private land as part of a biosphere reserve is merely an ideal. In order to formalise such designation, it is imperative that innovative strategies be implemented and that such strategies should make landowners enthusiastic about being included into the biosphere reserve. In addition, effective biosphere reserve management includes the formulation and implementation of strategies to encourage the appropriate management of such private areas.

PGWC believes that the biosphere reserve is an excellent model for land management and the promotion of effective and practically achievable approaches to sustainable development. To achieve success in the long-term it is, however, important to recognise that the act of establishing biosphere reserves, on its own, will achieve very little in the long term. The challenge is to utilise the opportunity and status that biosphere reserves offer in an innovative and strategic manner in order to foster a spirit of co-operation between stakeholders (including private landowners, inter- and intra-government,

communities etc.). This co-operation is a prerequisite to achieve tangible positive results in the promotion of sustainable development.

7.1.2 BIOSPHERE RESERVE PROPOSAL FOR THE ODM

Having considered UNESCO's criteria for the nomination of biosphere reserves as well as the key characteristics of the ODM, it is submitted that there is conclusive evidence that a biosphere reserve could and should be established in the ODM. Such an initiative would give effect to the provincial policy on the establishment of biosphere reserves and its cluster biosphere reserve programme illustrated by **Plan 3**.

It is therefore proposed that a programme be initiated to establish a biosphere reserve in the ODM, using Plan 3 as a basis and supplementing it with detailed scientific data to be obtained from continued research by amongst other STEP, SKEP and CAPE.

8 SYSTEM OF PROTECTED NATURE AREAS

A fundamental principle of bioregional planning is that **biodiversity conservation** is a prerequisite for sustainable development, and that for biodiversity conservation to succeed, the maintenance of environmental integrity (as defined by ecological, economic and social criteria) must be one of the primary determinants of bioregional delimitation and land-use planning.

In this regard, the Overberg District Municipality supports the notion that a system of protected areas is a key element of any strategy to maintain biodiversity and ecosystem functions (e.g. the provision of a sustainable stream flow of high quality water). It is imperative that such a system should be designed and managed to represent and protect the diversity of ecological processes, communities, species and gene pools (Global Biodiversity Strategy, 1992). The functions of protected nature areas go far beyond the usual perception of the term 'protection'. Such areas are immensely valuable, beyond their boundaries, in providing for the rehabilitation of environments, as nutrient sinks, for landscape stability, and the replenishment of species, populations and communities. The primary objective of any system of protected nature areas would be as much to restore ecosystems and their functions as to protect them.

The objective is to facilitate the establishment a system of protected nature areas that radiate out from core reserves and that are connected through a network of ecological corridors and buffer areas where people pursue livelihoods subject to an agreed-upon system of values and environmental ethics. The establishment and management of such a system are to be undertaken in accordance with the bioregional planning approach described in this document. It is envisaged that the statutory protected areas will form the core areas of the biosphere reserved proposed for the ODM.

8.1 PLAN FOR PROTECTED NATURE AREA SYSTEM

It is proposed that a programme be initiated by the Overberg District Municipality to establish a system of protected nature areas that include the existing statutory conservation areas (SPC A, B.a, and B.b), *de facto* SPC B.c areas (ecological corridors), designated SPC B.d areas (rehabilitation areas), and specifically the *priority conservation areas* (i.e. highly irreplaceable habitats and broad habitat units) indicated by the maps of STEP, SKEP and CAPE.

In order to establish such protected nature areas on private land, it is proposed that the conservancy programme described in Chapter 9 be implemented wherever appropriate, and that full use be made of the **Special Management Area (SMA)** concept.

9 CONSERVANCIES

The Overberg District Municipality supports the establishment of conservancies as a mechanism or strategy to promote sustainable land-use over a group of larger land units. Although conservancies are generally associated with natural areas, they can also include urban or developed areas (in the form of an 'urban conservancy'). The establishment of conservancies is a voluntary action and conservancies have no statutory status.

A conservancy is broadly defined as a group of farms, or natural areas, on which the landowners have pooled some (or all) of their resources for the purpose of conserving natural resources on the combined properties. These resources include wildlife and their habitats, indigenous vegetation, forests, catchments, sites of geological and archaeological importance, and generally undisturbed natural and scenic landscapes.

In conservancies, the actual landowners become involved (at community level) in the conservation of their resources. The conservancy model, thus, implies that the conservation of resources is in the hands of the people who are directly affected by the condition of those resources and who care about them (or should be caring about them).

Further motivation for the establishment of conservancies includes the following:

- a) A key advantage of the conservancy model is that it can contribute to the establishment of a system of protected nature areas (refer to Chapter 8 above).
- b) The conservancy model is considered to be a viable mechanism for conserving natural resources on private land and for promoting integrated land management on a broad scale. The establishment of a conservancy improves the status, and variety of wildlife and other natural resources in an area, by means of sound conservation management principles. A conservancy can include statutory conservation areas and other forms of protected land.
- c) Conservancies can serve as '*building blocks*' and 'set the table' for including suitable private land-holdings into a biosphere reserve in a coherent and constructive manner and provide for the rehabilitation of such land to the extent that it will fulfil a meaningful role in respect of all three of the roles of a biosphere reserve as contemplated by the Seville Strategy on Biosphere Reserves.
- d) Conservancies can provide a framework for collective decision-making in respect of *inter alia* rezoning applications, density and nature of proposed development, placement of potentially detrimental infrastructure and facilities (e.g. refuse dump sites, roads, electricity networks, etc.).
- e) A combined effort, extending across the boundaries of individual farms, will ensure more extensive areas under conservation management. This is in accordance with the bioregional planning concept, which promotes *holistic* environmental planning.
- f) The conservancy, with its larger size implications, will be better able to conserve a wider diversity of natural habitats and promote integrated environmental management practices on a broad scale.
- g) A co-operative conservancy approach provides a broader and more viable basis for economic benefits for landowners within the conservancy through, amongst others, integrated eco-tourism, fynbos harvesting and hunting.

- h) The conservancy model encourages effective application of conservation objectives on land that is marginal for agriculture, thereby enabling large areas of land to remain in a pristine condition or to recover to such a condition.

For a conservancy to be optimally effective as a bioregional planning mechanism, it is imperative that the conservancy be delimited in accordance with the delimitation criteria proposed for bioregions (refer to Chapter 5 above) and, in particular, the neighbourhood area as a key component of the bioregion.

10 SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREAS

A primary overarching goal of the Overberg District Municipality is to improve the general status and sustainability of both the natural and the human-made environment throughout the ODM. In this regard, the aim is to create positive precedents through the implementation of innovative mechanisms or strategies.

The establishment of a Special Management Area (SMA) is considered by the ODM as a fundamentally important mechanism in this regard, which is of relevance to land owners, authorities, planners, and developers.

An SMA is defined as '*an area of excellence and good practice*', where the ethos of sustainable development is served in practice. An SMA is further described as a cadastral geographical unit, which is formally recognised and managed as an area where environmental sustainability is promoted in practice and in accordance with international standards for environmental sustainability.

The SMA can be required as a condition of approval where new or additional land-use rights or rezoning have been granted. In such instance the contractual agreement would *inter alia* ensure compliance with the conditions of approval. The establishment of an SMA could be a viable mechanism for ensuring long-term environmental sustainability on the relevant property, as such presenting a positive precedent as is promoted by PGWC.

In an SMA, the landowner will manage the environment and its resources in accordance with an Environmental Management System (EMS) or an Environmental Management Plan (EMP) that conforms to international standards for environmental management (e.g. ISO⁸14001).

An important aspect of the establishment of an SMA is that the landowner will be required to establish a trust fund, which will ensure that the necessary financial resources are available for effective long-term management of the SMA.

The sustainability of the trust fund could be ensured by providing for funds to accrue to the fund over time. In the case of housing development, provision could, for example, be made for a percentage of the selling price of land, upon transfer, to accrue to the trust fund. In addition, provision could be made for a percentage of the total revenue turnover of the enterprises operative within the SMA to accrue to the trust fund.

⁸ ISO (the International Organisation for Standardisation) is a world-wide federation of national standard bodies (ISO member bodies).

11 FORMULATION OF STRATEGIES AND IDENTIFICATION OF PROJECTS

11.1 INTRODUCTION

A primary objective of the Overberg SDF is *to put forward development and management strategies, proposals and guidelines that will promote sustainable development in the ODM, including, without being limited to, development objectives, proposals for land reform, urban renewal, reconstruction, integration, environmental planning, transport planning, infrastructure planning, and urban design, so as to promote the general well-being of the people of the area in the most effective manner.* Section G of the SDF has been prepared to address this objective. The purpose and structure of Section E, as well as some basic guidance in respect of its use are summarised below.

SYNOPSIS AND USER'S MANUAL FOR SECTION E OF THE SDF

Section G comprises the following:

- a) A synopsis of the key issues that emerged from the planning process, the various IDPs (ODM and Category B Municipalities), and the maps and data base provided by *inter alia* STEP, SKEP and CAPE. These key issues were categorised in order to facilitate coherent planning. Diagram 5 illustrates the various key categories.
- b) Tables that describe the following in respect of each key issue:
 - (i) Objectives.
 - (ii) Strategies and projects in respect of each key issue. (*Distinction is made between strategies that have spatial implications {Group 1 Strategies} and strategies with no spatial implications {Group 2 Strategies}*).
 - (iii) Institution responsible for implementation.
- c) An 'inventory' chapter that illustrates how the key issues raised in the Overberg IDP (also the IDPs of the various Category B Municipalities) have been addressed in this document. A primary advantage of these 'inventory' chapters is that they serve as a direct link between the IDPs and this document, enabling constant updating of this document, and serving as a basis for prioritisation of actions on a district level.

This section should be read together with the preceding sections, especially Sections D to F, which put forward fundamentally important implementation strategies.

11.2 KEY ISSUES AND KEY CATEGORIES ADDRESSED IN THE SDF

Numerous key issues emerged from the planning process, the various DPs (ODM and Category B Municipalities), and the maps and data base provided by *inter alia* STEP, SKEP and CAPE. In order to facilitate coherent planning, these key issues were categorised into five key categories. Diagram 5 below illustrates the various key categories.

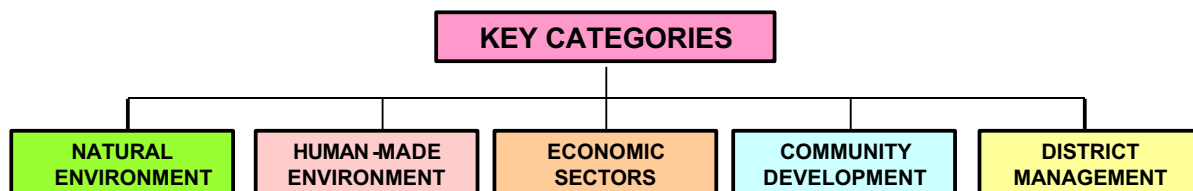


Diagram 5: Key categories addressed in the SDF.

The key categories and the chapters of the SDF within which they were addressed, are summarised in Table 3 below.

Table 3: The key categories and the relevant chapters of the SDF.

CHAPTER	KEY CATEGORY
24	NATURAL ENVIRONMENT:
24.1	Protected Nature Areas and Conservation-Worthy Natural Areas
24.2	Natural Resources
	a) Rocks, soils and minerals
	b) Water
	c) Flora
	d) Fauna
25	HUMAN-MADE ENVIRONMENT:
25.1	Cultural Resources
25.2	Rural Development
25.3	Urban Development
26	ECONOMIC SECTORS:
26.1	Tourism
26.2	Agriculture
26.3	Forestry
26.4	Fishing
26.5	Manufacturing
27	COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:
28	DISTRICT MANAGEMENT:
28.1	Disaster Management
28.2	Bioregional Management
28.3	Spatial Planning Information System
28.4	Performance Management
28.5	Neighbourhood Area Planning and Management
28.6	Development Facilitation and Funding

11.2.1 KEY ASPECTS THAT EMERGED FROM THE IDP PROCESS

A primary requirement of the SDF was to address all of the key issues that emerged from the Overberg IDP process. A total of **22** key aspects were identified and are listed in Table 4 on the following page. The table also indicates in which chapter of the SDF the various aspects have been addressed and what strategies have been proposed for each aspect. It is important to note that some of these aspects have not been addressed in specific terms, but that broad guidelines have been provided that address those aspects together with other similar aspects or categories.

Table 4: Key aspects that emerged from the IDP process.

NO	ASPECT	RELEVANT CHAPTER & STRATEGIES
1	Provision of water	Chapter 24.4, Strategy 24.4-02 and 24.2-20 to 24.4-24
2	Provision of houses to informal settlements	Chapter 25.3, Strategy 25.3-05
3	Provision and proper maintenance of roads	Chapter 25.2, Strategy 25.2-01; Chapter 25.3, Strategy 25.3-18 and 25.3-19
4	Airports and air-fields	Chapter 25.3, Strategy 21.3-20
5	Upgrading of harbours and boat slipways	Chapter 26.4, Strategy 26.4-01 and 26.4-02
6	Fire Fighting & Disaster Management	Chapter 28.2, Strategy 28.2-11
7	Integrated transport plan	Chapter 27.1, Strategy 27.1-08
8	Integrated waste management plan	Chapter 25.3, Strategy 25.3-23 and 25.3-24
9	Refuse recycling	Chapter 25.3, Strategy 25.3-25
10	Electricity supply	Chapter 25.3, Strategy 25.3-26 and 25.3-27
11	Provision of regional crematorium	Chapter 25.3, Strategy 25.3-07
12	Strategy for regional development & inter-sector co-operation	Chapter 28.1, Strategy 28.1-01 to 28.1-05
13	Community health programme	Chapter 27.1, Strategy 27.1-08, 27.1-12 and 27.1-14
14	Human development strategy	Chapter 26.1, Strategy 26.1-11 to 26.1-15 Chapter 27.1, Strategy 27.1-01 and 27.1-14
15	Promotion of environmental health	Chapter 27.1, Strategy 27.1-12 and 27.1-32
16	Sustainable environmental management	Chapter 24.1, Strategy 24.1-15 to 24.1-18 Chapter 27.1, Strategy 27.1-16 and 27.1-21
17	Control of alien vegetation	Chapter 24.3, Strategy 24.3-05 and 24.3-06 Chapter 24.5, Strategy 24.5-08
18	Effective environmental law enforcement	Chapter 24.1, Strategy; 24.1-05 Chapter 24.6, Strategy 24.6-13 Chapter 26.2, Strategy 26.2-13 Chapter 26.4, Strategy 26.4-06
19	Environmental rehabilitation	Chapter 24.3, Strategy 24.3-04 and 24.3-12 Chapter 25.3, Strategy 25.3-16 Chapter 27.1, Strategy 27.1-25
20	Compilation of Regional Economic Development Framework	Chapter 27.1, Strategy 27.1-16
21	Training & empowerment to promote economic & human development	Chapter 27.1, Strategy 27.1-02, 27.1-03 and 27.1-14
22	Crime prevention & rural protection	Chapter 27.1, Strategy 27.1-10 and 27.1-11

11.3 TYPES OF STRATEGIES AND PROJECTS

Although an SDF, per definition, essentially addresses the **spatial** implications of the IDP, it is recognised that holistic governance and management of any area (as is contemplated for the ODM) will also require the implementation of strategies that will not have any spatial implications. Subsequently, the key issues and proposed strategies and projects addressed in this section were divided into two distinct groups, namely:

- a) **Group 1: Issues / strategies with Spatial Implications**
(Most of the Group 1 strategies were translated into GIS mapping, producing sectoral plans).
- b) **Group 2: Issues with No Spatial Implications**
(Although the Group 2 issues will not have any spatial implications, they could have an impact on sustainable development and were, therefore, addressed in this section).

The inclusion of Group 2 strategies implies that the SDF could also serve as a **management framework** for the ODM.

12 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SDF

The Overberg District Municipality sees its SDF as the first step towards the implementation of holistic and integrated regional planning and management throughout the ODM. In this regard, the municipality believes that the SDF will promote the ideals of sustainable development through the strategies and programmes proposed in the document. It is recognised that the SDF is by no means completed or final. However, it presents the opportunity for all I&APs to assist with the preparation of a model development and management framework, which will over time, ensure a sustainable future for all the people of the ODM.

The municipality however recognises that the SDF is not the solution in itself and that its ultimate success will depend on a range of factors, in particular, the following:

12.1 I&AP INVOLVEMENT AND EMPOWERMENT

The SDF addresses the challenge to create *places* where the people of the ODM can live with dignity and pride and to manage these places in a manner, which would ensure long-term environmental sustainability. In this regard, the IDPs, SDFs and SDPs should be an expression of the wishes of the people of the ODM in respect of **what kind of places** they want to live in and **what kind of future** they are aspiring for.

In order to achieve the above, the involvement and co-operation of all I&APs is of fundamental importance, as they are essentially the *'custodians'* of their environment(s). An imperative in this regard is to enable all I&APs to participate meaningfully in the planning and management of the areas where they live. The District Municipality believes that the strategy through which this can be achieved is the implementation of neighbourhood area planning as a supplement to the municipal ward system.

Furthermore, the effective implementation of this document depends on an understanding and appreciation of the need for integrated forward planning and integrated environmental management. *'Ignorance and inadequate knowledge'* were identified as fundamental key

issues that influence the involvement and co-operation of I&APs. In order to promote an appropriate understanding of the environment as our 'home' the following strategies are proposed:

- a) All SDFs and SDPs prepared for areas within the ODM must recognise the need to develop this understanding.
- b) The Overberg District Municipality and the Category B Municipalities must facilitate the provision of quality spatial data and interpretation to land managers to assist decision-making and adaptive management, and make regional natural resource information and knowledge widely available or accessible.
- c) Implement and sustain education programmes pertaining to the delicate relationships between places (environments) and their inhabitants, focussing on the responsibilities of the inhabitants regarding the protection of the ability of such places to sustain life.
- d) Encourage education institutions (e.g. schools) to incorporate appropriate environmental studies into curricula.
- e) Develop and conduct compulsory environmental courses for all municipal officials that are involved with land-use management and development.
- f) Develop a system of values and increase recognition and understanding of the above. Promote recognition of these values in all decision-making pertaining to land-use and land management.

12.2 COLLABORATION AND CO-OPERATION

A key function of the Overberg District Municipality will be to undertake and sustain a programme to explain the intentions and application of the SDF to all I&APs, and facilitate the implementation of the proposals and recommendations put forward in this document through the SDFs of the various Local Municipalities.

12.2.1 LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES

As stated above, the ODM has adopted bioregional planning and management as a basis for the implementation of the SDF, which implies that...*'government and communities, corporate and individual interests share responsibility for co-ordinating land-use planning and for defining and implementing development options that will ensure that human needs are met in a sustainable way. This necessitates innovative forms of institutional integration and social co-operation, dialogue amongst all interested parties, participatory planning and institutional flexibility'*.

The implementation of the Overberg SDF lies in the responsibility sphere of a number of institutions, from the national level, through to the local level. As stated above, cross-sectoral and cross-institutional co-operation is crucial, given that the identified key issues are of relevance to virtually every government and non-government institution.

A key objective of the SDF is to ensure effective environmental planning and management of the ODM. Environmental legislation underpins the integrated management of an area, with the primary objectives being the **prevention** of environmental degradation and the **rehabilitation** of existing environmental damage. In this regard, inter-institutional co-ordination and integration of environmental management functions is necessary in making and implementing policy, and to achieve integrated and holistic environmental management.

It is the function of the Overberg District Municipality to facilitate the required collaboration and co-ordination between the various Category B Municipalities regarding the planning and management of their areas of jurisdiction in accordance with a standard format, namely the bioregional planning approach, while still allowing each municipality the autonomy to interpret and apply this standard format in a manner that is innovative and incorporates the place-specific characteristics of each municipality. This has been achieved in a manner, which is commendable and exemplary for the entire Western Cape Province. In this regard, the SDF provides the following standard planning basis that should be refined and implemented through the SDFs of the Category B Municipalities, namely:

- a) A district-wide and rough grain land-use classification.
- b) Broad strategies and implementation guidelines.

It is imperative that each municipality fulfills its obligations and commitments in the above regard and contributes to the well-being of the ODM as a whole.

A primary requirement is that close collaboration be established between the various municipalities in respect of the joint management of the 'areas of co-operation' illustrated by Plan 1.1 and Plan 1.2. In order to ensure the required collaboration, it is important that the relevant Local Municipalities should build on the strategies put forward in this document

12.2.2 STATE DEPARTMENTS

Government departments are required to comply with the policies and strategies put forward in the SDF and to maintain effective administration of their respective spheres of responsibility. Institutional commitment to achieve effective administration and implementation is imperative. In this regard, reference is made *inter alia* to the allocation of adequate budgets as a primary requirement.

12.2.3 NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS

An important requirement is that the actions of NGOs such as STEP, SKEP, CAPE, WCNCB and SANParks pertaining to the conservation of the natural environment, as well as any community programmes, be properly co-ordinated and channelled, or connected, to the IDP process as the statutory vehicle for the implementation of such initiatives. All actions in this regard, are subject to the approval or endorsement of the relevant municipality and are to be undertaken in close collaboration with those municipalities. In this regard, it is important that NGOs make full use of this document as the framework for the implementation of their strategies and action plans and that such strategies and action plans be implemented in accordance with the bioregional planning and management approach.

12.2.4 COMMUNITIES

The involvement of the people of the ODM is seen as a key requirement for the implementation of the SDF. The communities are *inter alia* required to develop and entrench a set of agreed-upon values and environmental ethics, and to facilitate the implementation of the strategies proposed in the SDF 'on the ground'.

In order to enable the communities to contribute constructively in this regard, it is imperative that they be empowered appropriately and that the structures be created that

would encourage enthusiastic participation. In this regard, it is imperative that urgent attention be given to the implementation of empowerment strategies put forward under the Key Category of Community Development and that neighbourhood area planning and management be implemented through the SDFs of the Local Municipalities.

12.3 RESEARCH AND MONITORING

It is important that this document be periodically updated in accordance with new information, improving technology and changing human and environmental needs. It is therefore important that need-driven research and constant monitoring be undertaken in a coherent manner.

In this regard, the research undertaken by *inter alia* STEP, SKEP, CAPE, DWAF, SANParks and WCNCB is of utmost importance. It is imperative that existing and future research projects be effectively co-ordinated in order to prevent duplication and address the identified research requirements of the ODM.

It is imperative that all new information be entered into the *Spatial Planning Information System* of the District Municipality, which is to be linked with those of the various Local Municipalities. This will assist with the constant updating of the SDF plans and similarly benefit the various Local Municipalities.

A further key requirement, is that thorough research and/or surveys be undertaken in order to give substance to the principles of critical regionalism that are to provide a framework for any urban and rural development throughout the ODM (refer to Par. 21.2.1 in the SDF). This is to be undertaken through the SDFs of the various Local Municipalities and SDPs that may be prepared for specific areas or places.

As stated above, authorities and designers will be required to understand the principles of critical regionalism and play a creative role in facilitating the restoration of the existing human-made environment and the development of high quality places in accordance with these principles. In this regard, it is imperative that the Overberg District Municipality and the various Category B Municipalities show the way by developing institutional capacity to apply the principles of critical regionalism.

**EXECUTIVE MAYOR
OVERBERG DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
OVERBERG DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY**