

South African National Biodiversity Institute

Guideline For Integrating Biodiversity into Land Use Schemes



South African National Biodiversity Institute

#### NATIONAL LAND USE SCHEME GUIDELINES

#### ADDENDUM

#### IN RESPECT OF INCORPORATING BIODIVERSITY INTO LAND USE SCHEMES

SEPTEMBER 2019







# **Reason for Guideline**

- SPLUMA requires wall to wall Land Use Schemes by June 2020
- DRDLR published National Land
  Use Scheme Guidelines in 2017
  - Indicate that biodiversity should be incorporated into Schemes but fails to say HOW
  - SANBI Guidelines is a step-by-step guideline for integrating biodiversity into Land Use Schemes
  - Biodiversity information is freely available from SANBI's Biodiversity GIS portal (<u>https://bgis.sanbi.org/</u>)





LAND USE SCHEME GUIDELINES MARCH 2017





# **Reason for Guideline**

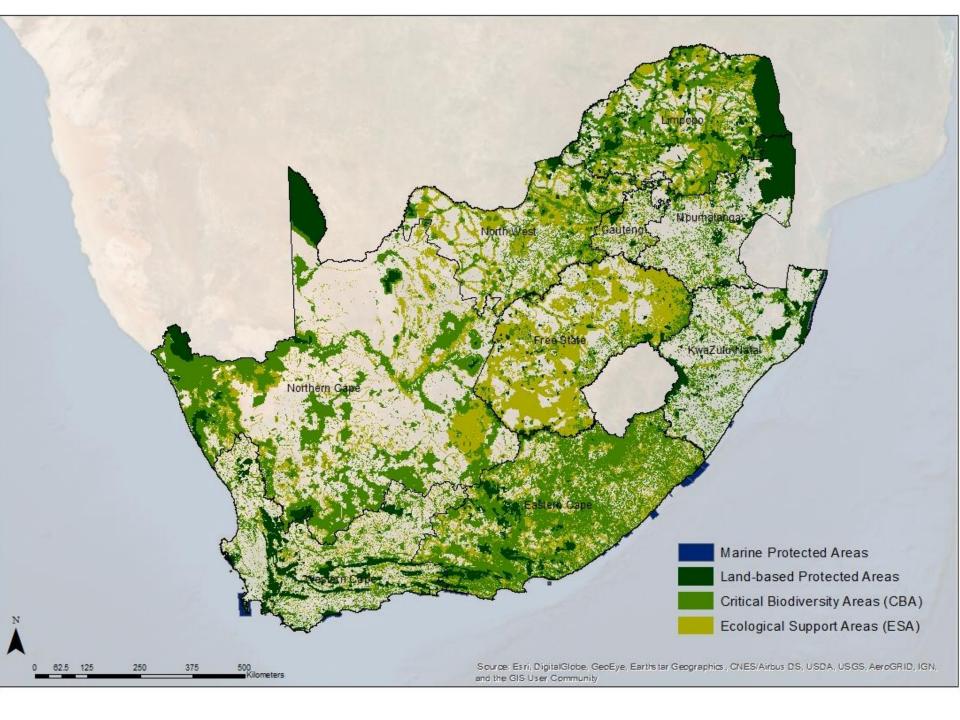
- Guideline is aimed at poor municipalities that do not have resources
- Aim is for "good" practice instead of "best" practice
- Guideline proposes Base Open Space Zones and an Environmental Management Overlay Zone

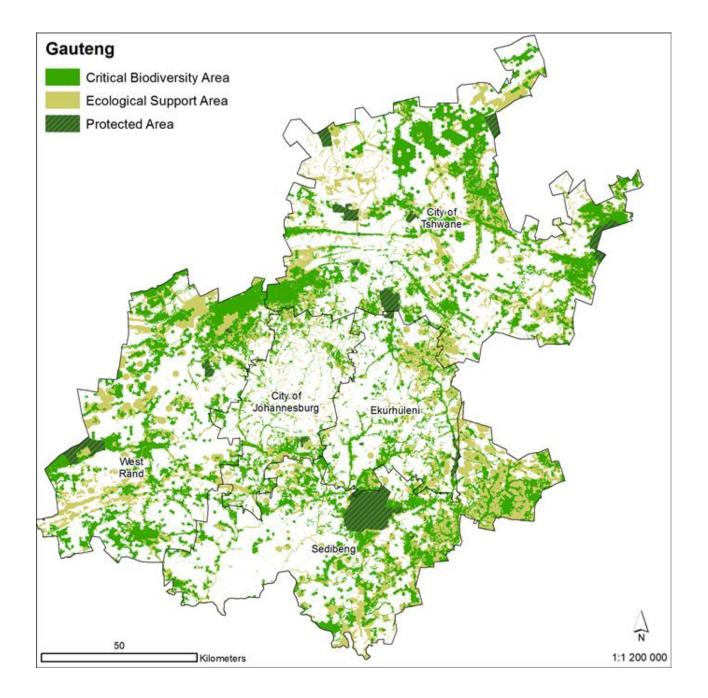


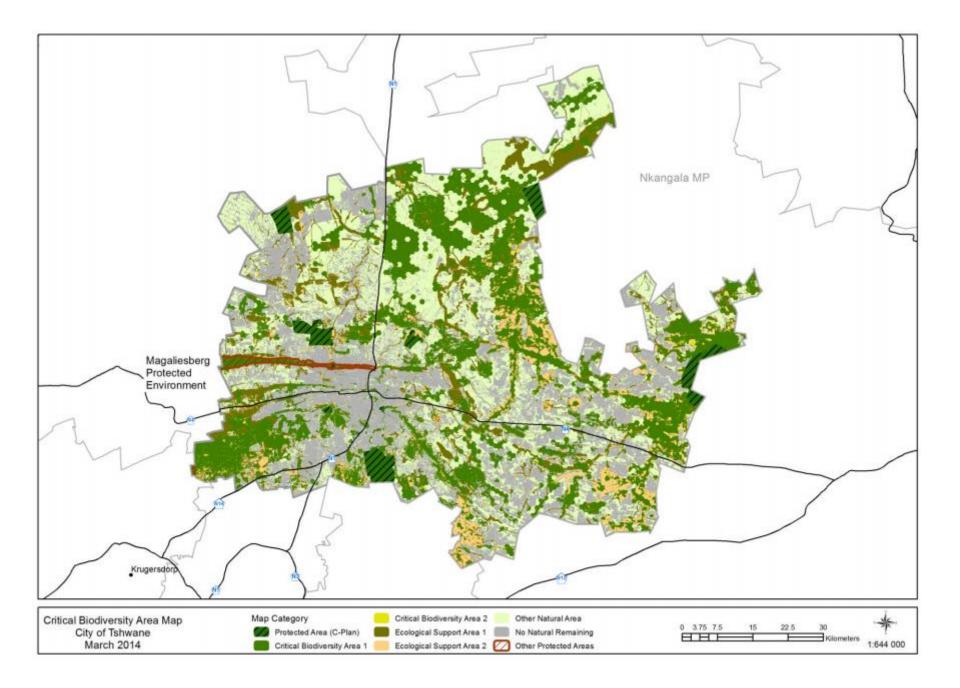
# **Structure of Guideline**

- Introduction
- Biodiversity information
- Integrating Biodiversity into Land Use Schemes
- Building Capacity to Integrate Biodiversity into Land Use Schemes
- Integrating Biodiversity into Higher Order Plans
- Annexures
  - Legal opinion on municipalities taking biodiversity decisions
  - Permissible land uses in Open Space 2 and 3
  - Template for Land Use Guidelines
  - Learning from Cape Town Tribunal









Code: OSI	Open Space I			
Purpose: To provide for the conservation and sustainable use of land declared as a Protected Area under the National Environmental Management: Protected Area Act No 57 of 2003 (NEMPAA) and/or other relevant legislation.				
ι	ISE OF LAND AND BUILDINGS			
PRIMARY USES	CONSENT USES	LAND USES THAT ARE PROHIBITED		
Land uses legally conducted at the time of declaration of the PA or as permitted in terms of a zonation map in a NEMPAA compliant Management Plan	Land uses aligned with an approved PA management plan or land uses approved by the provincial department responsible for environmental affairs and/or Conservation Authority Note: if a PA does not have a management plan, the municipality is to consult with the relevant provincial department responsible for environmental affairs and/or conservation agency before approving a change in land use	All other land uses		

Code: OSII	Open Space 2			
Purpose: To provide for the conservation and sustainable use of critical biodiversity areas, ecological support areas and ecological infrastructure.				
USE OF LAND AND BUILDINGS				
PRIMARY USES	CONSENT USES	LAND USES THAT ARE PROHIBITED		
Conservation Purposes Conservancy, Open Space, Biosphere Reserve buffer area, Botanical Garden, Environmental Facilities	Caretaker Accommodation, Telecommunication Mast/Station, Tourist Accommodation, Harvesting of Natural Resources,	All other land uses		

Code: OSIII

**Open Space 3** 

Purpose: To provide for the managed use of largely undeveloped open space areas for the purposes of (a) sport and recreation; (b) parks and landscaped gardens; (c) preserving cultural and historical values.

USE OF LAND AND BUILDINGS		
PRIMARY USES	CONSENT USES	LAND USES THAT ARE PROHIBITED
Golf Courses,	Caretaker Accommodation,	All other land uses
Heritage	Telecommunication Mast/Station, Tourist	
Purposes, Arts	Accommodation, Green Infrastructure,	
and Culture	Harvesting of Natural Resources, Airstrip,	
Markets,	Resort, Game Reserve, Camp Sites	
Botanical		
Garden,		
Environmental		
Facilities,		
Nursery, Animal		
Refuge, Low-		
impact		
Agricultural,		
Agricultural		
Building,		
Recreational		
Purposes,		
Tourist Facilities,		
Arts and Culture		
Workshop		

# **Overlay Zones**

- Environmental Management Overlay
  - Made up of Critical Biodiversity Areas and Ecological Support Areas and Ecological Infrastructure if its been mapped
  - For areas outside the urban edge
  - Will require some sort of assessment if an areas falls within this category
    - i.e. move proposed buildings away from Critical Biodiversity Areas



# **Public Participation**

- Guideline sent to National SPLUM Forum mailing list on 19 August
- Invited to present at 3 Provincial SPLUM Forums
  - Mpumalanga
  - Gauteng
  - North West
- Presented at 2019 National Biodiversity Planning Forum and Metro and Provincial Biodiversity Planning Meeting



# **Comments Received**

- Department of Environment, Forestry & Fisheries (Forestry & Legal sections)
- NC Dept. of Agriculture, Land Reform & Rural Development
- Western Cape (DEADP & CapeNature)
- KZN COGTA
- Provincial SPLUM forums (Mpumalanga, Gauteng and North West)
- eThekweni Municipality
- City of Mbombela Local Municipality
- Friends of Faerie Glen Nature Reserve
- Private Planners and EIA consultants



# Key issues raised

- Will this Guideline not take away land use rights if its applied?
- Linking biodiversity areas with Spatial Planning Categories
- What happens if municipalities have better information than the Province
- Concerns that CBA's don't align with cadaster boundaries
- Who's responsibility will it be to update biodiversity information and the overlays



### **Questions?**

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