

UCPP PARTNERS TRAINING – 9 & 10 March 2017:

ECOSYSTEM SERVICES REVIEW OF COMMUNITY LIVELIHOODS AND COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF LAND USE SCENARIOS IN THE UPPER UMZIMVUBU

Humanity's disconnection from the vital life supporting goods and services that are produced and delivered from and through good quality ecosystems has resulted in an **increase in social and economic vulnerability** to natural resource depletion and increasing risk of natural disasters. It is essential that all sectors of society, such as high powered decision-makers, non-renewable resource prospectors, commercial and subsistence farmers, etc. build an understanding and appreciation for the opportunities inherent in looking after and integrating nature into all aspects of life and living. **A long-term vision that holds social and economic resilience as its focus** is necessary, and if this vision is to succeed, it needs to have natural systems as its foundation.

This training is aimed at building the capacity necessary to begin formulating this vision for the Upper Umzimvubu area, its people and their livelihood strategies. In addition to this it will produce outcomes that help to communicate the extent to which the natural environment in the catchment currently contributes to these livelihood strategies, and what will happen to this under a low and high road scenario, i.e. continued unsustainable utilisation and degradation, coupled with an increase in extractive industrial activity primarily associated with natural gas; and one in which more sustainable land use and management options are selected and nature's capacity to deliver the vital life supporting goods and services is enhanced and sustained.

In order to achieve this in the time available, the training will be structured as follows:

Thursday, 9 March 2017, 09h00 – 16h00:

- Introduction to put the training and the ecosystem services review and comparative analysis into context with the WWF Green Trust project "*Securing the southern Drakensberg watershed (eastern uMzimvubu-Senqu catchments) through effective stewardship practice and good governance of communal rangelands*". This will include clarity on the geographic and social focus of the project.
- A presentation and open discussion on the concept of ecosystem goods and services in general, to ensure that there is a common understanding and the shared capacity to move into the review and analysis.
- A presentation and open discussion on the approach to be taken with the review and the analysis, to ensure that there is familiarity with the working of the tool and the thinking that needs to go into populating the spreadsheets necessary to provide the review and analysis outcomes.
- An open facilitated discussion aimed at the identification and qualification of the ecosystem goods and services of relevance within the study area.
- If time allows, a start will be made on the review and analysis process, so that participants have some practical exposure to the process before the end of the day. In this way, any questions that arise in hind-sight can be addressed the following day before continuing with the process.

Friday, 10 March 2017, 08h30 – 12h00:

- Recap of the previous day's proceedings and addressing any questions that have arisen overnight.
- Continuation of the review and analysis process.
- Confirmation on the way forward required to complete the process with communities in the study area.

Note that this training is a 'means to an end' in that the data captured from the community engagements will require further processing to ensure that the review and analysis process is complete and that the outcomes are generated. Finally, the outcomes, i.e. graphic illustrations of the review and analysis, will be captured in a way that facilitates easy communication with relevant role players, and those responsible for this communication will receive training in the interpretation of the outcomes. It is envisaged that this process will be completed by the end of April 2017.