The uMzimvubu Catchment Partnership Programme (UCPP) Learning Exchange on Communal Rangeland Stewardship

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Ecological Infrastructure

Naturally functioning ecosystems that generate and deliver valuable services to people
Water-related ecosystem services

- Water quality enhancement
- Flood attenuation
- Maintenance of dry season flows (baseflow)
- Erosion control & sediment trapping
Alignment with Policy

Unlocking biodiversity benefits through development finance in Critical Catchments

– Integrating biodiversity and ecosystem services into planning, finance and development in the water sector to improve water security

changing the way people think and make choices about the role of ecosystems in the water supply chain

managing change – a social learning process
Component 1: Enabling

1.1 Natural capital accounting
1.2 Policies & institutions
1.3 Financial mechanisms

Component 2: Application

2.1 Berg-Breede
2.2 Greater uMngeni

Component 3: Knowledge Management & Social Learning

3.1 Social learning, credible evidence, and knowledge management
Governance

• Accountable institutions for water governance:
  ➢ Catchment Management Agency (structures)
  ➢ Catchment Management Strategy development
  ➢ Catchment Management Committees (Fora), Water User Associations etc.

• Land and water stewardship

• Functional approaches to the maintenance and restoration of water-related ecological infrastructure
Financial Mechanisms

- **Mechanisms for financing** ongoing restoration and maintenance of ecological infrastructure and securing financial resources

- **Infrastructure financing principles and instruments** (public and private)
Water Resource Management

• Integrated approach
• Planning and development
• Research – policy – implementation
• Regulation, compliance and enforcement
Key Policy Messages

- Ecological infrastructure has the ability to supplement and/or sustain built infrastructure investments for water resource management.

- Utilizing ecosystems to provide water related services to people also generates other services beyond water security.

- Ecological infrastructure becomes particularly useful for delivering water services to people that are not serviced by built infrastructure.

- Water related policies and strategies should incorporate ecological infrastructure options.

- Large built infrastructure investments should incorporate ecological infrastructure options.
THIS IS YOUR HOUSE ON THE FLOODPLAIN

THIS IS THE FLOODPLAIN ON YOUR HOUSE... ANY QUESTIONS?