

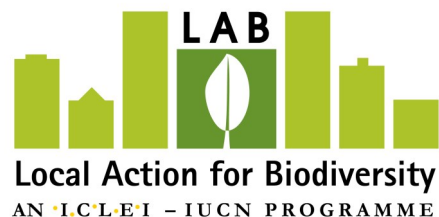
BOJANALA PLATINUM DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY



LOCAL ACTION FOR BIODIVERSITY:

WETLANDS SOUTH AFRICA

BOJANALA PLATINUM DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY



ABOUT THE PROJECT

The LAB: Wetland SA is being implemented by the ICLEI's Cities Biodiversity Center, which is coordinated by the ICLEI Africa Secretariat.

Through enhanced awareness of wetlands, and the integration of wetlands and biodiversity considerations into local government planning and decision-making, the project will build the capacity of 11 municipalities to prioritise and effectively manage wetlands and biodiversity at the local level. The project will focus on government departments and working with community stakeholders to increase awareness and community buy-in.

PROJECT OUTPUTS

The project has several key outputs that will enhance knowledge and build capacity within each municipality. These include general outputs such as:

- Wetland Report Guidelines
- Wetland Strategy and Action Plan Guidelines
- Wetland Awareness Raising Video
- Local Government Wetland Management Guidelines

And municipality specific output such as:

- Wetland Reports
- Wetland Strategy and Action Plans
- Bankable Project Proposals

For more information, please scan the code to the right, or visit our website here:
www.cbc.iclei.org/project/lab-wetlands-sa



ABOUT ICLEI

ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability is the leading global network of over 1,500 cities, towns and regions committed to building a sustainable urban future. ICLEI promotes local action for global sustainability, supporting cities to become sustainable, resilient, resource-efficient, biodiverse, and low-carbon.

ICLEI Africa Secretariat is the Sub-Saharan office of ICLEI and serves our local and sub-national government members across the region in line with the ICLEI Strategic Plan. ICLEI Africa also hosts the global ICLEI Cities Biodiversity Center.

OUR PARTNERS



environmental affairs
Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



SANBI

Biodiversity for Life

South African National Biodiversity Institute



OUR FUNDER



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WHO WE ARE AND WHAT MAKES US UNIQUE?

Bojanala Platinum District Municipality is located in the North West Province of South Africa and covers an area of 18 332 km². The municipality falls largely within the Savannah biome, with a small portion falling within the Grassland biome. A large number of wetlands are found throughout the municipality each of which provide critical habitat for flora and fauna endemic to the region.

WHY WETLANDS ARE IMPORTANT TO BOJANALA PLATINUM DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY?

The wetlands within Bojanala Platinum District Municipality are considered to be high-value 'ecological infrastructure', in that they provide vital habitat for flora and fauna, but also provide critical ecosystem services to the municipality. These include:

- Flood attenuation
- Water filtration
- Erosion control
- Water storage
- Food provision
- Supply of raw materials
- Clean drinking water

The wetlands within the municipality also play a pivotal role in disaster risk management as well as reducing the impacts of climate change within the district.

THREATS TO THE WETLANDS WITHIN BOJANALA PLATINUM DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

Within Bojanala Platinum District Municipality, a significant number of the wetlands are threatened. This is largely due to:

- Historical degradation
- Mining and Quarrying
- Deliberate draining of wetlands to make way for development and agriculture
- Inappropriate development without including suitable buffer zones around the wetlands
- Poorly regulated agricultural practices (overgrazing and ploughing)
- Contamination through sewage and stormwater seeps
- Pollution and dumping within wetlands
- Spread of invasive alien plants

Degraded wetlands are unable to function to the same degree as healthy wetlands and as such ecosystem service provision from these wetlands is severely hindered or even lost altogether.

"Wetlands are the most threatened of all of South Africa's ecosystems with 48% of wetland ecosystems being critically endangered."

- South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI), National Biodiversity Assessment, 2011.

