Saldanha Cement Project

BBOP No Net Loss Summit
London, 3 June 2014

Amrei von Hase
(Forest Trends)
Context

- Saldanha Peninsula
- Limestone mining & cement processing project
- Significant expansion of existing quarry operation
- Saldanha – designated development node (IDZ)
Context

- Saldanha of conservation interest – esp. botanically
- Mosaic of limestone, granite, dune strandveld
- Special flora (species of cons concern)
- High endemism

- Landscape planning & good biodiversity data (e.g. maps of priority areas)
**SA: NNL & offset ratios linked to conservation targets**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ecosystem Threat Status</th>
<th>Outcome of offsets</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&gt;60% of ecosystem remains: Least Threatened</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt;Conservation Target plus 15%&lt;60% remains: Vulnerable</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservation Target plus 15% remains: Endangered</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt;Conservation Target remains: (16-36%) Critically Endangered</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Graph:**
- **Outcome of offsets**
  - Percentage of remaining habitat protected
  - Ratio of offset (x:1)

**Key Points:**
- **2:1 offset:** 67% of remaining habitat secured
- **3:1 offset:** 75% of remaining habitat secured
- **5:1 offset:** 83% of remaining habitat secured
- **10:1 offset:** 91% of remaining habitat secured
- **20:1 offset:** 95% of remaining habitat secured
- **30:1 offset:** 97% of remaining habitat secured
Approach

• In line with requirements by the regulator
• Complementing 2013 EIA
• Offset work two-phased:

1. High-level info review (EIA, etc.) & discussion with selected stakeholders:
   • Alternatives, application of mitigation hierarchy?
   • Full scope of impacts considered?
   • Risk of irreplaceable loss?
   • Stakeholder engagement?
   • Main threats in area, trends?

→ Offset feasibility

Now:

2. Offset Design & specific implementation requ’s

→ Offset Report
Phase 1 Review

Main focus:
- Application of mitigation hierarchy?
- Risk of irreplaceable loss – species, vegetation?

Mining Option 3 (2013 EIA) superimposed on biodiversity-related data layers (flora, veg communities & ecosystem threat status).
Making a success of No Net Loss: Observations & Recommendations

1. Better EIA is needed - NNL and offsetting can trigger more rigor & accountability:
   • Pinning down Mitigation hierarchy (Evidence!)
   • Quantification, outcomes-orientation
   • NB: Explicit ToR, training, certification / peer-review

2. Caution regarding restoration potential

3. Explicit conservation targets are a powerful tool.
   • Provide context for impacts and conservation outcomes
   • Support goal of NNL/NG at regional scale & beyond individual projects
4. Landscape planning excellent foundation – but there will be conflicts. How to deal with these?
   • Planning indicates options/flexibility & limits
   • But, need clear guidance / policy on how to interpret and apply plans
   • And need follow-through: consider options, apply limits.

5. Transparency and stakeholder consultation matters!
THANK YOU

Dr Amrei von Hase
Science Advisor: Forest Trends Biodiversity Initiative and Business and Biodiversity Offset Programme
avonhase@forest-trends.org
Why use ratios in offsets?
The ‘endgame’ scenario

1x multiplier: One unit area development
And one unit area offset.

2x multiplier: One unit area development
And two unit areas offset.

50% of remaining
conserved

67% of remaining
conserved

1: Developed 1: Conserved

1: Developed 2: Conserved

50% of remaining
habitat is conserved

67% of remaining
habitat is conserved
Ecosystem Threat Status (basis of offset ratios)

National Biodiversity Assessment 2011

Aquatic ecosystems / wetlands

Terrestrial

Rivers

Wetlands

Estuaries

Coastal & inshore

Offshore

% of ecosystem types

Coastal and marine ecosystems

Terrestrial ecosystems