AfriSam

Saldanha Cement Project

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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



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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









- 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



Making a success of No Net Loss

- 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



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Why use ratios in offsets? The 'endgame' scenario







50% of remaining habitat is conserved



67% of remaining habitat is conserved

Ecosystem Threat Status (basis of offset ratios)

