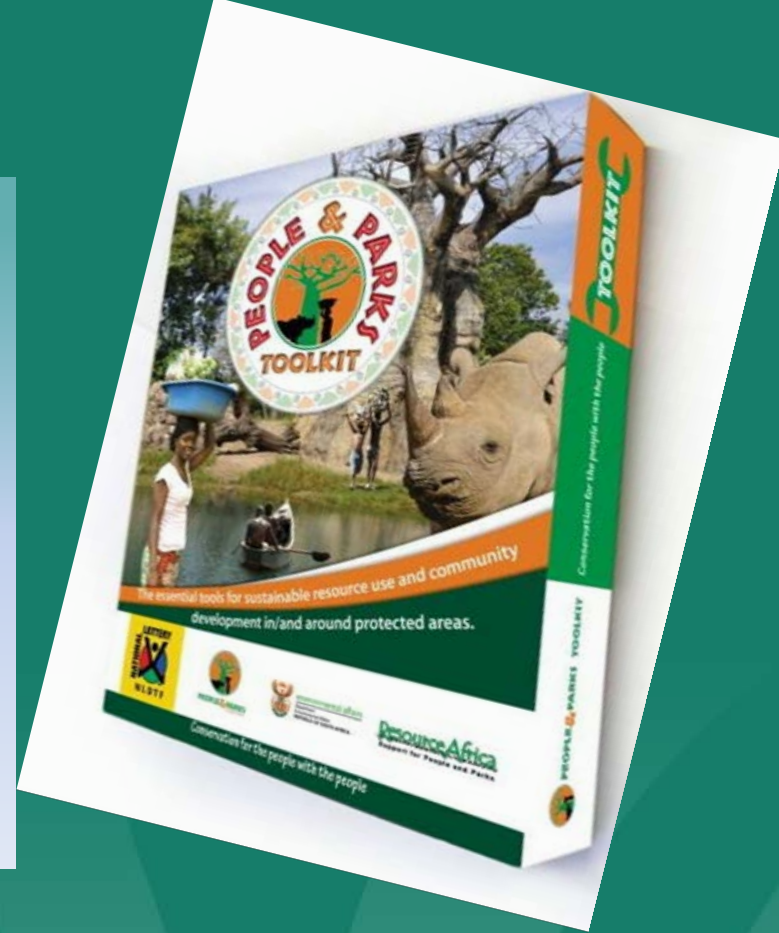


Building Capacity Amongst Stakeholders *Outside* the Park: A People and Parks Toolkit

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Absalom Kotsokoane

Overview

- **South Africa's People and Parks Programme** was developed as a way for communities to work together to protect their natural resources and at the same time bring long-lasting benefits to the community..
- A People and Parks Toolkit was developed as part of this programme to create awareness and build capacity of stakeholders on **both sides of the fence**.
- Most importantly, it provides an approach towards enabling communities to **participate in the management of resources** in collaboration with other integral stakeholders.



PEOPLE ARE A PROBLEM!!!

Who is the Toolkit for?

- **Parks Officials**
 - District Managers,
 - Project coordinators
 - Extension officers
 - Protected Area Managers
- **Local Municipality**
 - Municipal Councilors
 - LED Officers
 - Ward Councilors
- **Local SMMEs**
- **OUR YOUTH!!!**



- **Communities**
 - Traditional Leaders
 - People and Parks Community Reps
 - Land Claimants
 - Resource user Groups
- **NGOs/CBOs**
- **Youth/Youth Groups**
- **Developers**
- **Other**

What's in the Toolkit?

- Definitions of Terminology
- Understanding the P&PP
- Sustainable Resource Use
- Protected Area legislation
- Protected Area governance
- Protected Area management
- Environmental Education
- Creating P&P Awareness
- Understanding Climate Change
- Access and Benefit Sharing
- Stakeholder Dynamics
- Planning for Development
- Good Governance

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS™

The essential tools for sustainable resource use and community development in and around protected areas.



Possible Modules

Module 1: Introduction to People and Parks

Module 2: How to use the Toolkit

Module 3: Touring the Toolkit

Module 4: Understanding Conservation

Module 5: Understanding Climate Change

Module 6: Stakeholder Identification and dynamics

Module 7: Stakeholder Roles and Responsibilities

Module 8: Planning and Implementation

Module 9: Building a relationship with your PA

Module 10: Governance Options



THE POSSIBILITIES ARE ENDLESS

SO WHAT???

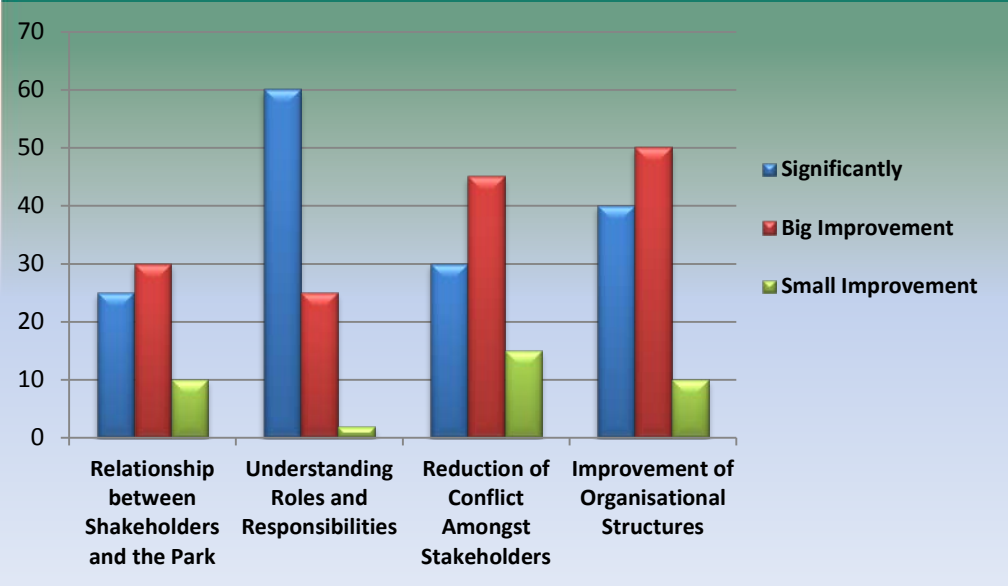


Fig.1: Effect of Toolkit Workshops on Relationship Dynamics and Organisational Structures

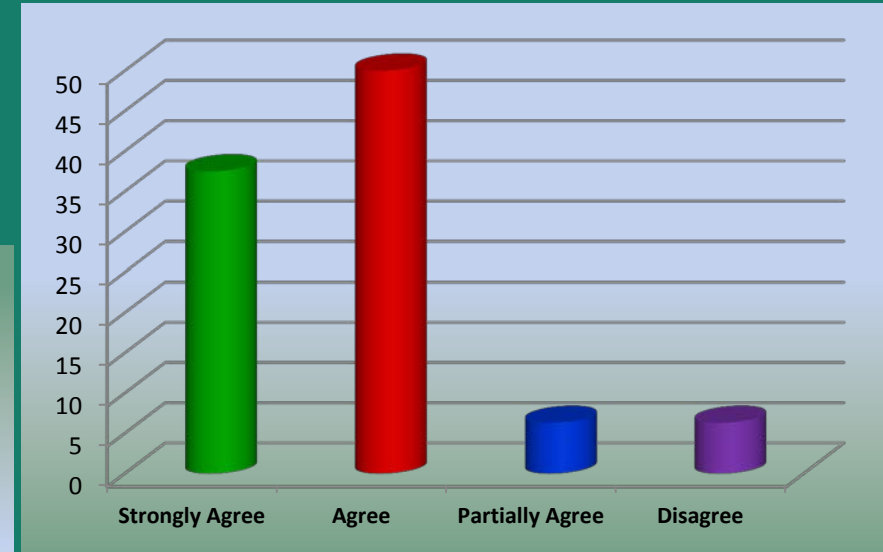


Fig.2: Degree of Improvement in understanding Conservation Principles

AN INSPIRING SOLUTION???

- The Toolkits proved to be extremely versatile
- Despite the literacy level, participants were able to grasp the activities completely and participated fully in all exercises.
- There were sufficient materials within the Toolkit to create this kind of enabling environment.
- Good platform for various role-players to discuss their roles and responsibilities and to openly debate many of the burning issues.
- The Toolkit was relevant to diverse stakeholders
- Participants responded enthusiastically to all sessions pertaining to Climate Change
- There was a lot of interest in expansion, Biodiversity Stewardship and Community Conservation Areas. Most participants had no knowledge of these concepts before attending the workshops.



PEOPLE ARE A PROBLEM!!!

What makes it work?

Components that lead to success

- Bringing diverse stakeholders together in one space.
- Understanding of personality types and group dynamics (UNITY IN DIVERSITY)
- Using innovative activities to impart knowledge (such as theatre skits and role playing exercises)
- Multiple stakeholders increase the institutional knowledge in the room (Indigenous, Technical & Academic)



Enabling factors

- Creating a 'protected' space by using neutral facilitators
- Encourage debate and dialogue
- Use a range of teaching styles
- The development of a facilitators manual to encourage 'paying it forward'
- Authorities buy into the process
- Improving governance and organisational development is the key to success.