



**South African
NATIONAL PARKS**

Progress on the GLFTCA Cooperative agreement

**Portfolio Committee,
26 November 2021**

Background

- Historical fence dropping in private, community, state managed areas open to KNP took place in the late 1990's and 2000s.
- This was done in pursuit of integrated socio-ecological management of landscape and ecosystem services;
- No formal framework to guide relationship and management in a consistent manner;
- Western boundary protected areas straddle both Limpopo and Mpumalanga provinces, and hence two Provincial authorities are responsible for regulating different portions of the protected areas;

Background

- NEMPAA and NEMBA framework were gazetted after the fence dropping, and entities did not keep abreast of the legislation and requirements;
- There was no clear quantification of roles, responsibilities and benefits (conservation, socio-economic, safety and security).
- The Great Limpopo Transfrontier Conservation Park Treaty (GLTP) signed in 2002 allows for the inclusion of community, private and state areas in the Conservation system, but the country specific legislative frameworks need to guide institutionalization.

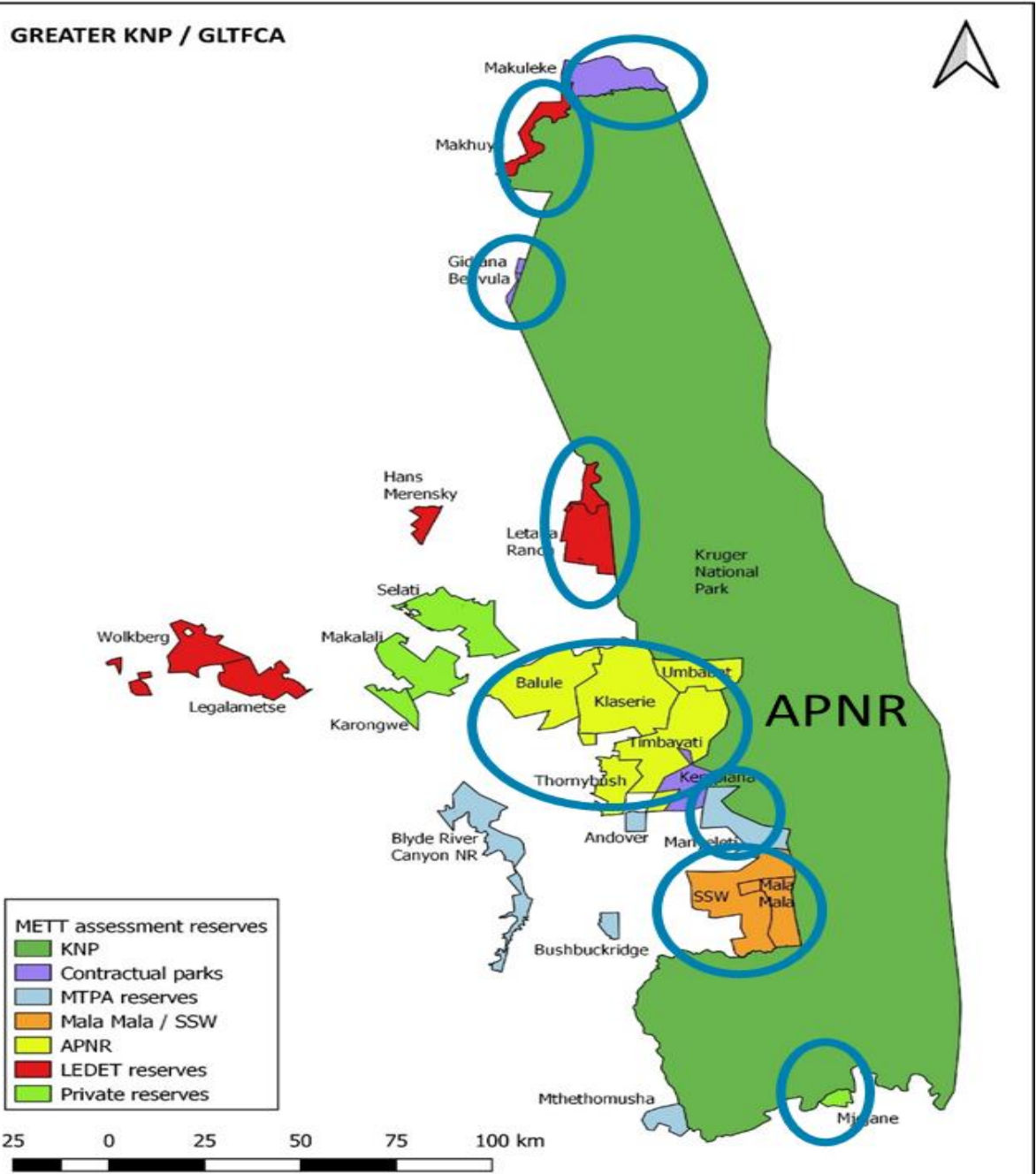
Background

- The Great Limpopo Transfrontier Conservation Area (GLTFCA) Cooperative Agreement was signed in **December 2018 between SANParks and 14 state, community, private entities open to KNP after a consultative process that began in 2015.**
- **360 000 ha conservation** area added to KNP footprint.
- The Agreement is essential to ensure a **uniform framework for the protection, conservation management and socio-economic beneficiation in an open system.**
- More community land is in the process of being included into the Conservation footprint.

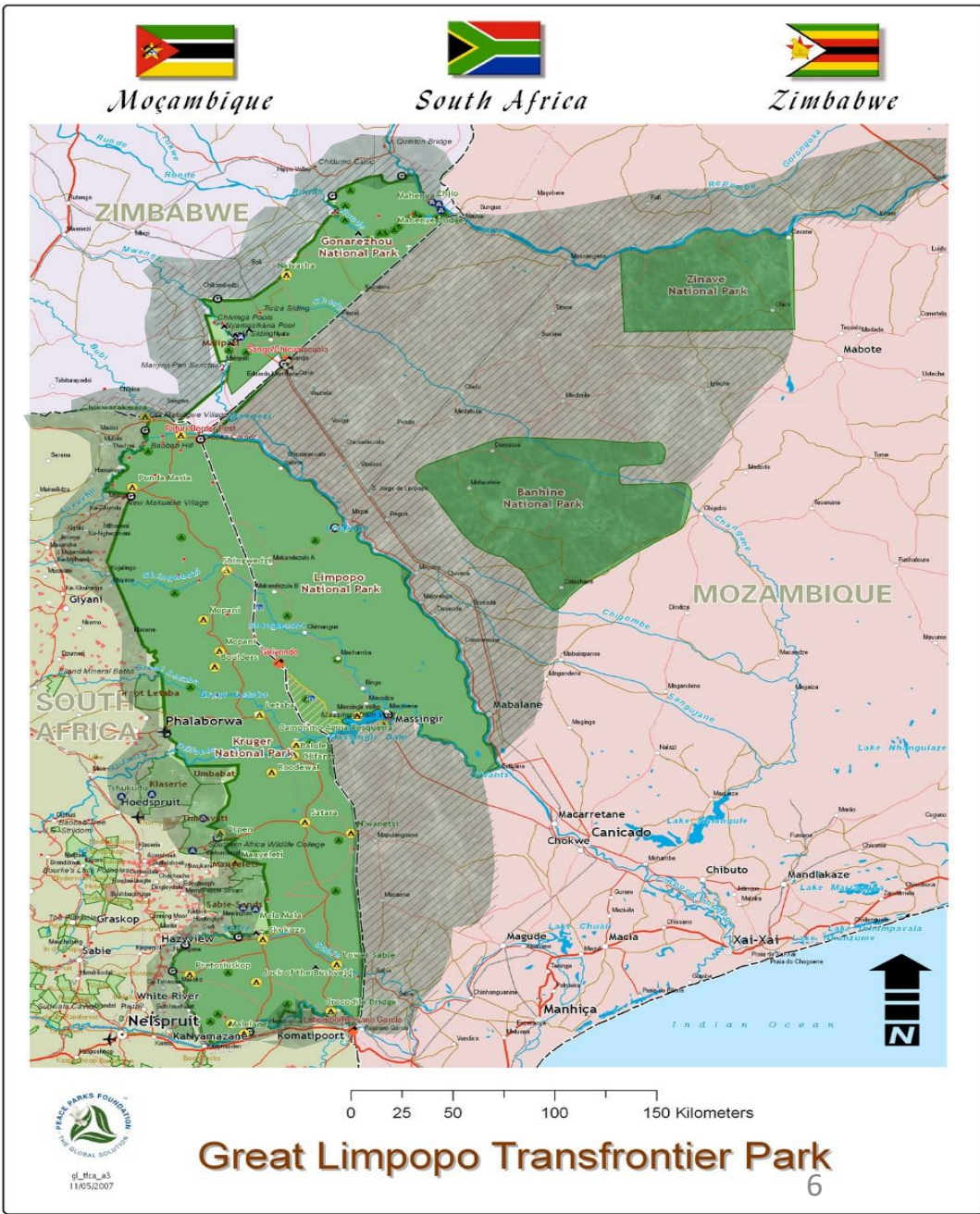
GOALS OF THE GLTFCA COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT

- To enable **an integrated conservation management and development approach** that establishes **cooperative partnerships**.
- **Collective action** in pursuit of resilient communities, ecosystems and unlocking sustainable socio-economic benefits.
- To address **conservation matters and capitalise on opportunities** within the open system of the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park (GLTP) and surrounding GLTFCA conservation and protected areas.
- The Agreement sets out how the Parties will co-operate with each other in order to facilitate the successful implementation of the **GLTFCA Vision and objectives**.
- The Agreement is essential to ensure a **uniform framework for the protection, management and socio-economic beneficiation in an open system**.
- To provide the basis for **consistent management according to legislated norms and standards, and best practice guidelines**, which are operationalised through over-arching management frameworks, protocols and standard operating procedures.

GLTFCA COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT SIGNATORIES



Regularise & constitute western boundary of the GLTFCA



Progress to date

Governance

- Functional Executive GLTFCA **Joint Management Committee (JMC)**
- Signatories are currently being **regularised** as per NEMPAA (Act 57 of 2003).
- **Management authorities** are being assigned, with submissions for 4 Reserves submitted to Mpumalanga Tourism & Parks Agency (MTPA) and Limpopo Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism (LEDET), and the assessment of 3 more reserves in process
- **Management plans**, aligned with the GLTFCA Cooperative Agreement are being developed.
- Review of the **Makuleke Contractual National Park Management** Plan and business plan is in process.
- Engagement with **Department of Agriculture, Land Reform & Rural Development (DALRRD)**, Limpopo Province, in process for the inclusion of more **community land** north of Phalaborwa.

Conservation and land use

- Good progress made in terms of conservation management, with a core focus on **species protection** in the private reserves (rhino, elephant) and KNP.
- Ongoing programmes on Invasive alien species management, as per NEMBAA.
- Monitoring of **wildlife through census** continuing in KNP and all private reserves.
- **GLTFCA Strategic Elephant Management Framework** being developed.
- The **Greater Kruger Strategic Development Programme** was completed in 2020. It was endorsed at Mpumalanga Provincial government and discussions with Limpopo Province are ongoing.
- The Associated Private Nature Reserves (APNR) **resource use protocols for animal off-takes** are reviewed annually. There is a need to consistently apply this for all **state, community and private conservation areas in the open Greater Kruger**, and this has been prioritized as a focus area.

Socio-economic transformation

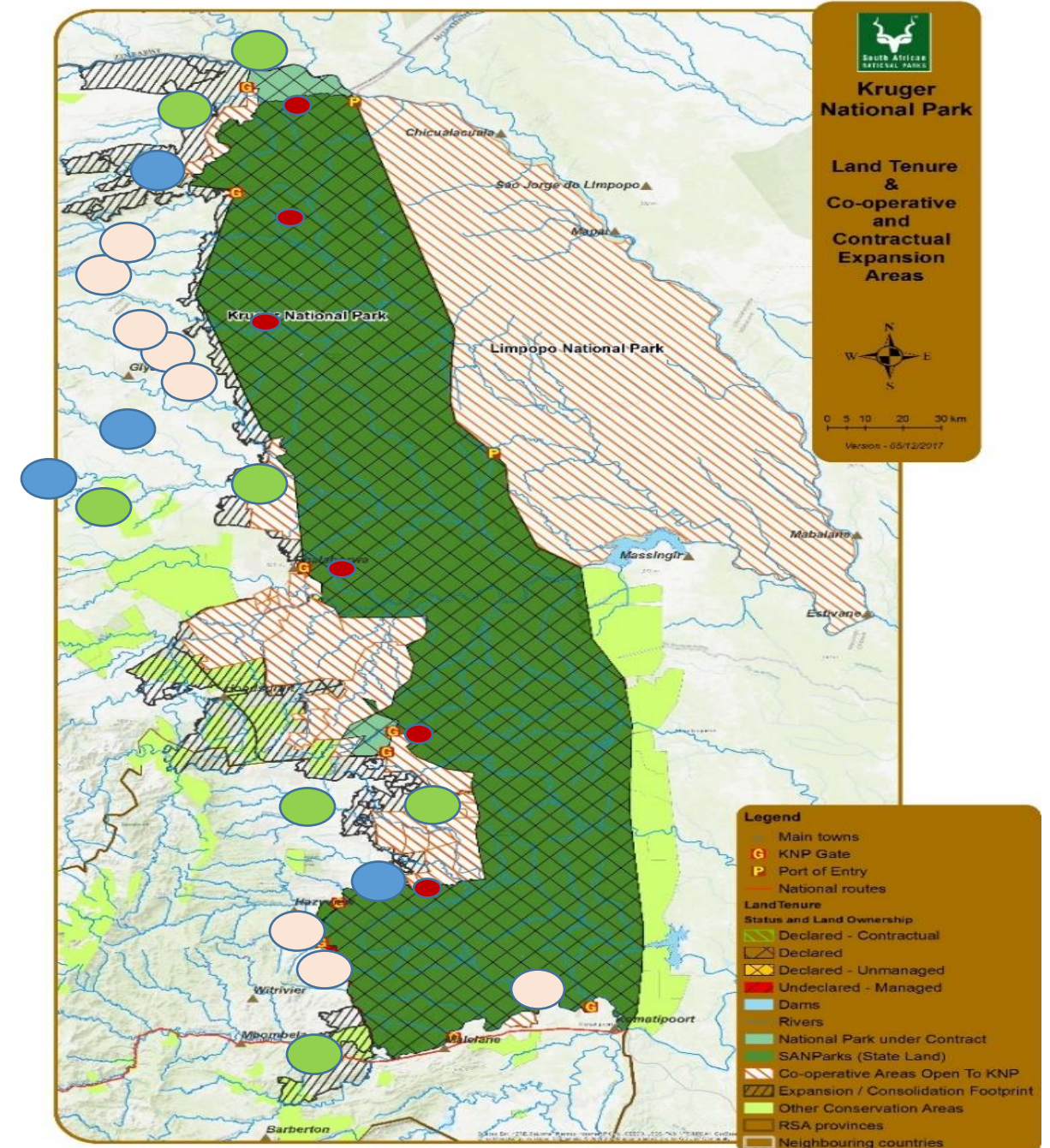
- **The Greater Kruger socio-economic impact assessment** was completed. It quantifies the economic impact of private, community and state managed reserves.
- The **Greater Kruger Strategic Development Programme**, a multi-partnership framework for inclusive rural economic development was completed and presented to MINMEC, approved by Mpumalanga Government. Consultations with Limpopo Provincial government ongoing.
- Pipeline funding through the **GEF-7 for Biodiversity Economy, and GIZ E4D for enterprise development** are being finalised.
- **KNP Socio-economic development programme** presented to the Limpopo Economic Summit.
- **GEF-6 (Reducing wildlife crime, improving community governance and livelihoods)** - in implementation in three community clusters bordering KNP, with a key focus on training interventions, governance interventions, and enhancing livelihood projects.

Landscape based Greater Kruger Strategic Development Programme




Several of economic activities - effective resource mobilization and governance key

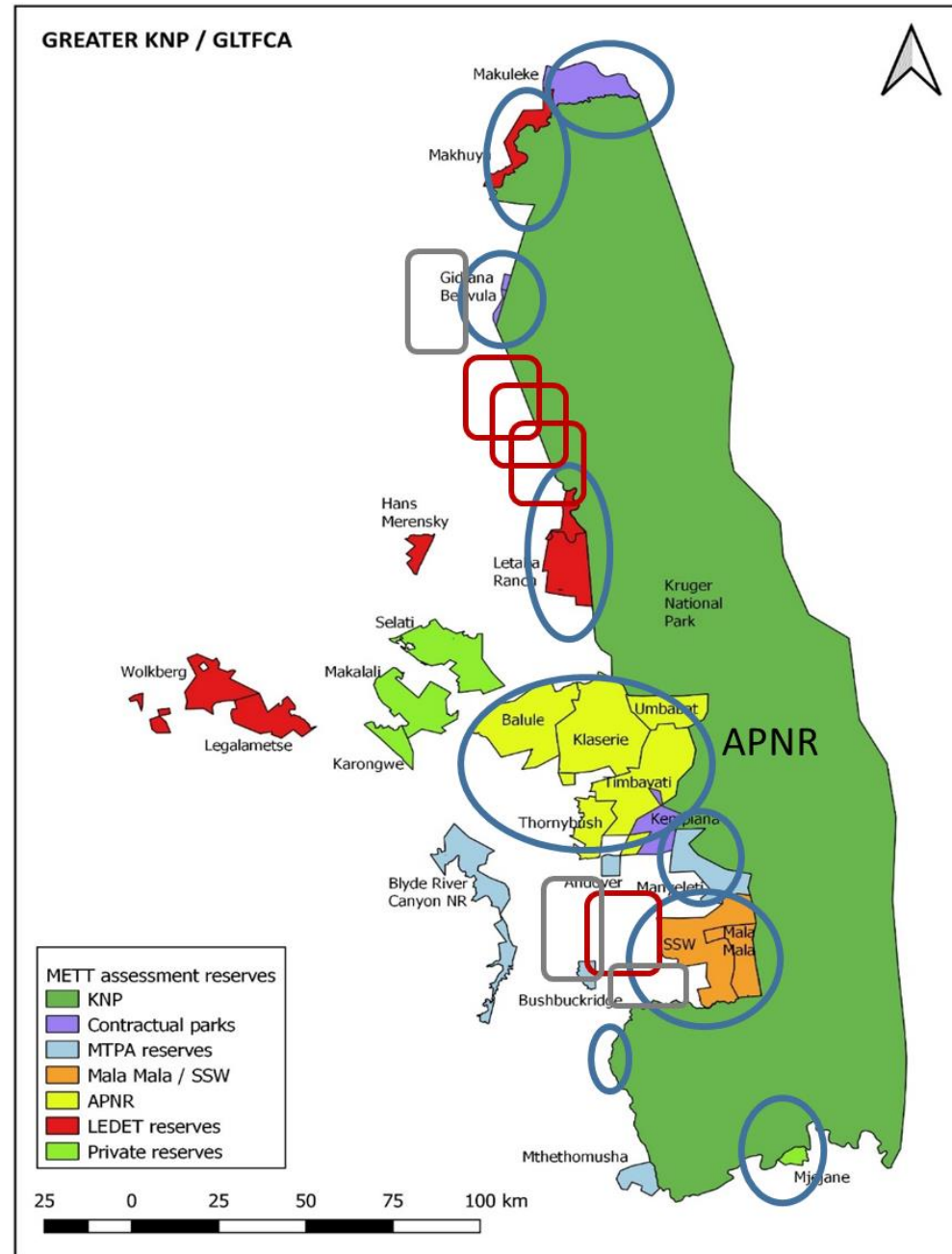
- ✓ Hub Developments
- ✓ Biodiversity economy
- ✓ Conservation compatible agriculture – livestock and crops
- ✓ Waste management economy
- ✓ Responsible Tourism Programme
- ✓ Ecological Infrastructure economies
- ✓ Workplace development
- ✓ SMME and supply chain linkages
- ✓ Expanded public work programme

- Current Land Inclusion
- Pipeline land biodiversity economy
- Gate Hub development – various enterprises
- Improved Protected area management and sustainability processes



Broader socio-economic integration process and project underway





- GLTFCA Cooperative Agreement**
- Legend**
-  *Community land inclusion*
 -  *Livestock –wildlife economies*
 -  *State, private, community conservations areas open to KNP*



Greater Kruger Socio-economic assessment





Leisure Tourism

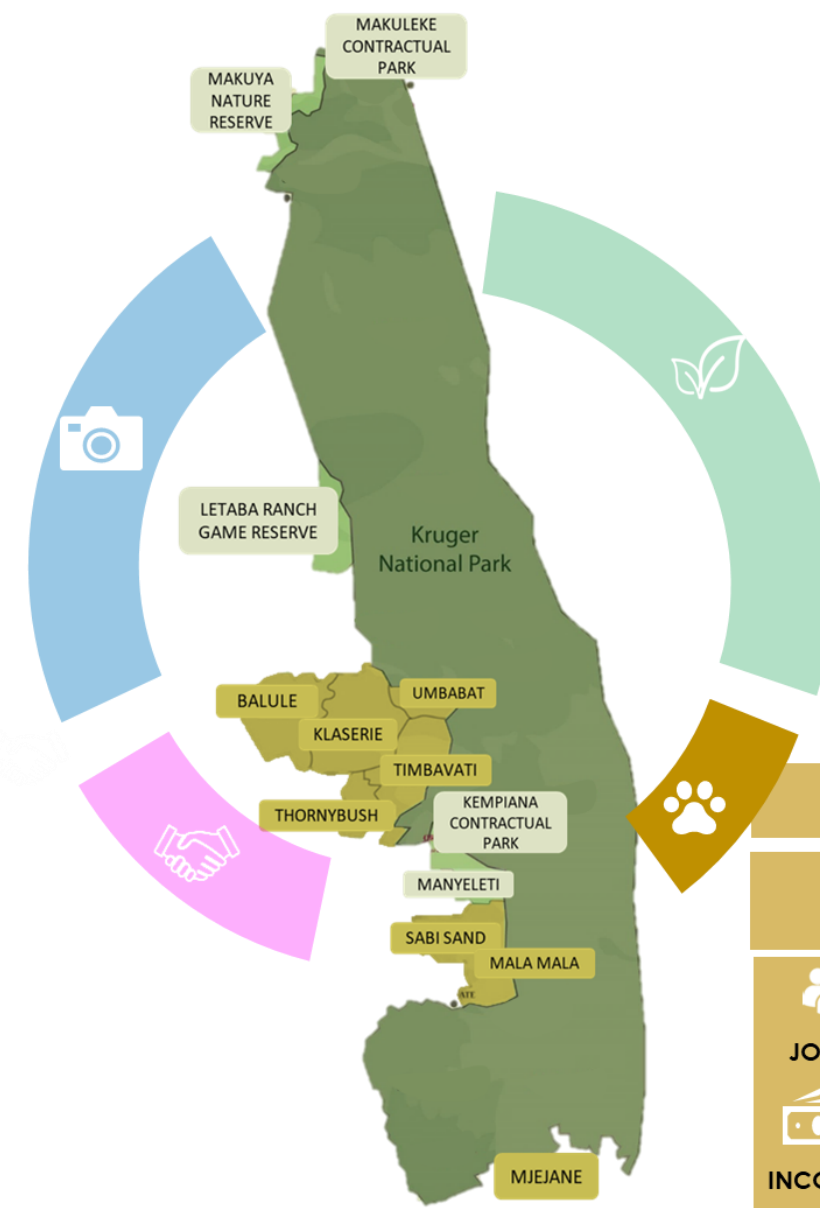
Roughly 230 Lodges with 8,625 beds
1.482m day-visitors
1.125m overnight-visitors

 18 724 JOBS Supported	 R 2.3 bn Value added to GDP
 R 4.7 bn INCOME Generated	 R 698m TAXES Generated

Social Investment





R15.6m in donations, capital expenditure & community programmes
15,189 direct beneficiaries

 69 JOBS Supported	 R 17.8 m Value added to GDP
 R 11.6m INCOME Generated	 R 2.5m TAXES Generated







Protected Area Management

2.3m Hectares of Open Conservation Estate
1 National Park
2 Contractual National Parks
3 Provincial Co-Managed Nature Reserves
8 Private Nature Reserves

 6 674 JOBS Supported	 R 960m Value added to GDP
 R 460m INCOME Generated	 R 51m TAXES Generated

Hunting Tourism

Six Protected Areas
119 hunters

 135 JOBS Supported	 R 33.5m Value added to GDP
 R 15.6m INCOME Generated	 R 4.6m TAXES Generated

Safety and security

- SANParks KNP **area integrity programme roll-out** is in process.
- **Greater Kruger Environmental Protection Forum (GKEPF)** – review of current SOPs , Agreements and Strategies, with a key focus on rhino protection, and broader wildlife protection. A partnership between private sector, provincial conservation authorities, SANParks, DFFE, Mozambique parties, Safety and Security Cluster structures.
- **Integrated wildlife monitoring and management actions in progress** – partnership between private and state areas: **rhino (dehorning, monitoring)** – assessment of effectiveness of various interventions, not limited to dehorning.
- **Leadership training for Rangers** from the GLTFCA Cooperative Agreement signatories – Braveheart (supported by WWF Khetha, the SAWC).

SAFETY AND SECURITY COOPERATIVE INTERVENTIONS

Rhino management workplan review



Integrated rhino management interventions



Braveheart ranger training – GLTFCA reserves



Strategic alliances



Land inclusion

- **Greater Kruger land inclusion guidelines** adopted by GLTFCA JMC.
- GLTFCA Cooperative Agreement signatories to **align their own Land inclusion plans with the guidelines.**
- SANParks is currently pursuing the **inclusion of community land** as requested by community structures. This will be guided by the Legal framework, due diligence processes, engagement with DALRRD and Community structures, and DFFE.
- GEF-7 programme Agreements being concluded between DFFE, SANParks, World Bank and other agencies, which will provide momentum for land inclusion and integrated land use models for community areas from Phalaborwa to the north of Shangoni gate.

Land inclusion

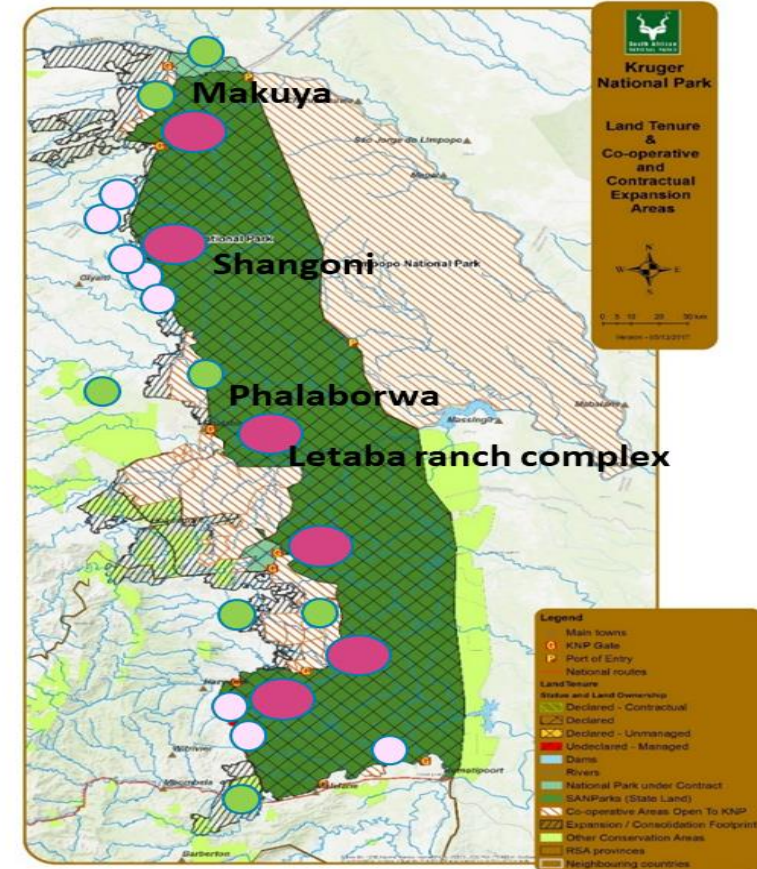
Basket 1
Land inclusion and mixed land use models

Current land inclusion processes (assessments in process for some)

- Gidjana
 - Bevhula
 - Mahlathi
 - Hlomela/Ndindane
 - Mthtiti (to be assessed)
- Limpopo
-
- Mdluli
 - Nkambeni
 - Mjejane
- Mpumalanga

Basket 2
Protected area management collaboration for areas open to KNP

- ○ Gate hub developments: Shangoni, Phalaborwa
- Pipelines for consideration: Pafuri, Punda Maria?



Next steps

- GLTFCA Cooperative Agreement workplan review and progress report to completed by December 2021.
- Submission of the above to the MECs and Minister.



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THANK YOU

