

To acquire and manage a system of national parks which represents the indigenous wildlife, vegetation, landscape and significant cultural assets of South Africa for the pride and benefit of the nation.



Ref: KNP 16/1/4

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1 February 2017

Deputy Director
Integrated Environmental Authorisations (Protected Areas)
Department of Environmental Affairs
Private Bag x447
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0001

Dear Mr Smit

SANPARKS CONSENT AND APPROVAL FOR PROPOSED SHANGONI GATE DEVELOPMENT, KRUGER NATIONAL PARK.

This letter serves to confirm that South African National Parks (SANParks) - Kruger National Park (KNP), in terms of Section 50 of the National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act (NEM:PA) Act 57 of 2003, has given its consent and approval for the proposed Shangoni Gate development inside the KNP.

Please find attached a Summary of Decisions and Action List which was tabled at the Shangoni Gate Development Forum held on the 5th June 2013.

Please do not hesitate to contact this office if you have any enquiries.

Yours sincerely,

Supported / Not Supported

MR GLENN PHILLIPS
MANAGING EXECUTIVE:
KRUGER NATIONAL PARK

MR FUNDISILE MKETENI
CE SANPARKS

7/2/2017

- addo elephant
- agulhas
- augrabies falls
- bontebok
- golden gate highlands
- karoo
- kgalagadi transfrontier
- knysna lake area
- kruger
- mapungubwe
- marakele
- mountain zebra
- namagua
- table mountain
- tankwa karoo
- tsitsikama
- /ai-/ais/richtersveld
- vaalbos
- west coast
- wilderness

EXTRACTION EXCO MARCH 2016: SHANGONI GATE

10.3 Phalaborwa Activity Hub and Shangoni Gate Phase 1

Annexure 31

A report was tabled to inform EXCO of the progress made on the Phalaborwa Activity Hub and Shangoni Gate Phase 1 and to request approval to proceed with the detailed planning and construction as per funding allocated by the National Department of Tourism (NDT). NDT has allocated R25 million for each of these two projects as part of the *Destination Development Projects*.

The proposed concepts are still in development phase and will still be expanded. NDT will also be requested to confirm that the funding has been allocated per project and is not linked to a specific financial year.

Decision:

EXCO approved the continued implementation of the Phalaborwa Activity Hub and Shangoni gate Phase 1 development projects as per the MOA's signed between SANParks and the NDT.



**South African
NATIONAL PARKS**

**Business Case
&
Planning fees application**

**SHANGONI ENTRANCE GATE
AND TOURISM INFRASTRUCTURE**

KRUGER NATIONAL PARK

November 2015



South African National Parks
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PROJECT PROPOSAL FOR SHANGONI ENTRANCE GATE

1. BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

Mopani and Vembe are the only two District Municipalities in the Limpopo province which borders the Kruger National Park through their following local municipalities, Ba-Phalaborwa (Phalaborwa Gate), Greater Giyani (no access relationship), Thulamela (Punda Maria Gate) and Mutale (Phafuri Gate).

It is clear that Greater Giyani Municipality does not have a formal gate that creates the access relationship with Kruger National Park. There have been numerous requests from the community leaders especially from the villages within the Greater Giyani Municipality, bordering the western border of the Kruger National Park to create an access at Shangoni ranger's section.

The northern part of the Kruger National Park does not have any entrance gates between Phalaborwa- and Punda Maria Entrance Gates. A new Entrance gate at Shangoni will provide access from Giyani municipal area and create flexibility for visitors in this region to visit the Park.

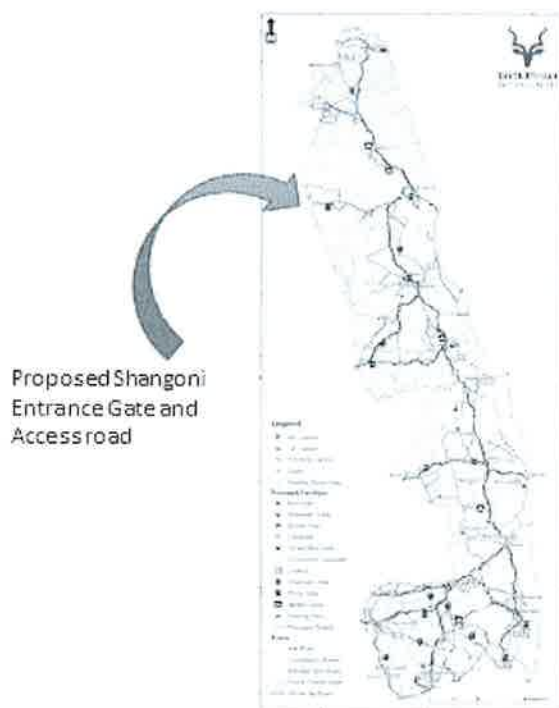


Fig 1: New proposed Shangoni Entrance Gate and access road.

The new Shangoni Entrance gate will deliver the following objectives:

1.1 Alleviate poverty in the neighbouring communities through:

- a) Temporary job creating during the construction of the entrance gate, access roads and tourism infrastructure.
- b) Permanent job creation through the new tourism facilities inside and outside the Park as well as the secondary business opportunities that support the tourism facilities and tourists visiting the area.

1.2 Benefit Sharing:

- a) Work opportunities inside the park in Tourism infrastructure
- b) Private tourism opportunities and activities that links with the Park.

a highly significant role to create work in this area – up to 20% of the unemployed were given jobs by the various projects implemented. The recruitment of permanent staff will also be from the local community, while some management staff will have to be sourced from the larger district and provincial areas.

The following potential jobs can be created through this project:

TYPE	MANAGEMENT	SKILLED	SEMI-SKILLED
Short- term construction jobs	15	71	940
Full-time jobs	43	135	286
TOTAL	58	206	1226

(Shangoni gate Pre-Feasibility Study – STRISA)

Communities

The Kruger National Park (ANP) has an established Park Form that has regular meetings with the communities. A Shangoni Charter was signed by all the community and formal governing entities involved with this project to ensure that a common vision and objectives are reached. It is proposed that a Shangoni Development Foundation and the Shangoni Management Unit be formed to drive the implementation of the broader project:

- o Development of Essential 'skeleton' Infrastructure
- o Development of The Hub (Growth Centre)
- o Development of all other business opportunities
- o Operational Management

Heritage & Cultural

This area is full of wonderful cultural and heritage attributes that needs to be protected and at the same time shared responsibly with visitors to the area. A detailed survey of all the cultural and heritage resources were completed and included in the pre-feasibility study. Many cultural and heritage tourism & business opportunities/activities were identified that could be incorporated responsibly in the development plan to stimulate growth in the surrounding areas. To name a few:

- a) Traditional Agriculture
- b) Art & Design Centre
- c) Academy of African Drums & Drumming
- d) Indigenous plant nursery
- e) Essential oils
- f) Candle & soap-making
- g) Drama and Fireside Theatre

3.2 Role-players

The following are considered to be the main role-player in the project as detailed in the Shangoni Charter:

South African National Parks (SANParks) is a State-owned entity with the mandate to conserve; protect; control; and manage national parks and other defined protected areas including their biological diversity, which mainly generates revenue from its tourism operations. SANParks is committed to use these strengths to extend its product range to the benefit of the development of these and other adjacent communities in relation to its vision of connecting to the society.

Industrial Development Corporation (IDC) is a Development Finance Institution with a specific interest to make an impact on this priority node. The IDC regards the Shangoni Gate Initiative as a

potential *Strategic High Impact Project* for support with a contribution to scoping and pre-implementation planning, which will convert to pro-rata equity by IDC and/or the community.

Department of Rural Development and Land Reform (DRD&LR) focuses on Agrarian transformation, Land reform and Rural Development. The project area includes Muyexe, which is one of the National Pilot sites for Comprehensive Rural Development Programme (CRDP). In a rural development context, the Department is responsible for development planning and the coordination of contributions from all the National Departments towards rural development.

Department of Agriculture; to support the development of sound agricultural practice and models to improve food security, livelihoods, self-sufficiency and assist commercial and urban agriculture to produce for the growing tourist numbers and market.

Department of Water and Environmental Affairs has a specific responsibility to ensure the speedy completion of Environmental Impact Assessments (when required) to facilitate implementation of the plan.

Department of Tourism to make a specific contribution towards (more detailed) tourism planning, access to tourism products and promotion of the tourism node and the specific tourism businesses.

Department of Human Settlements to prioritise the upgrading of the three villages to become fully fledged "sustainable human settlements". This means that other Departments such as Health, Education, and South African Police Services need to be involved in the extension of the range of services required to enable wholesome rural living.

Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) is responsible for enterprise development and can assist in establishing and registration of Community Trusts, Co-ops and can provide grants for incubation and business infrastructure. The Department also has special funds for Employment Creation and women empowerment.

Limpopo Department of Economic Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism (LEDET) is responsible for the coordination of inputs and implementation by all the relevant provincial departments. In this initiative, the involvement and contribution of the *Provincial Roads Agency* to plan and implement the projects that will provide access to the gate and the villages is a pre-condition to success. LEDET also supports enterprise development through LIBSA. The department will contribute to the cost of the Feasibility Study.

Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA) is a Development Finance Institution with a key mandate in infrastructure finance. The DBSA has played a facilitation and neutral coordination role to advance the initiative and to that end committed seed funding of R360,000 towards the feasibility study. The facilitation of the partnership between stakeholders through this Development Charter is considered its main contribution and the DBSA will remain involved to ensure that the spirit and intent of the Charter is adhered to.

Municipalities include the Mopani and Vhembe District Municipalities and the Greater Giyani and Thulamela Local Municipalities. The municipalities have a very broad responsibility for "social and economic development" and a very specific responsibility to ensure that people participate in the democracy so that government can respond to the "will of the people".

Traditional Authorities govern communal land within the project area and need to be in agreement with any development proposals. They are, importantly, also the custodians of traditional values, with a key role to play in the promotion of good values and preservation of history. They are an integral part of government and are thus jointly responsible for service delivery to the larger community and have a unique role to play in land planning and community mobilisation.

Communities of Altein, Mininginisi, Muyexe (and surrounding villages) are the targeted beneficiaries of the initiative.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Project Cost Estimate

The following outlines the project cost estimate for Phases 1 and 2 of the project (Phases 3 and 4 will be costed later):

Phase 1: Planning and Design fees – R 6,325 mil and will include the following:

- EIA costs – The consultant was appointed and is busy with the EIA
- Architect costs – The Architect to be advertised as soon as the MOA between SANParks and NDT is signed. Architect will be requested to do a 2 stage design. Stage 1 will be a rustic low impact and low cost design. Stage 2 will be a full scale entrance gate design with all the rustic and green aspects, only when additional funding is secured.
- Roads, storm water & bridge designs as well as other support services for the rustic entrance gate, picnic site and camping site will be done in-house with additional contract engineers, surveyors and draftsman.

(SANParks to make use of interns to assist where possible to showcase this project as a development project where experiential training and development for young professionals is created. This will be backed with experienced structural bridge and services engineers through the Honorary Rangers to assist with the designs where needed. Any savings should be re-allocated to the implementation phase).

Phase 2: Implementation / construction allocation – R 18,675:

The allocated funding will be utilized as follows:

- Rustic minimum external and internal entrance gate facilities (Support services included): R 2 mil
- Bridge across the Shingwedzi River between the two entrance gates: R 6,5 mil
- Rustic picnic site and camping site (Support services included): R 1,2 mil
- Create a class c (all-weather) 2 spoor track with minimum storm water structures, patch gravelling, access to the picnic and camping sites as well as viewing loops: R 8,975 mil

Phases 3 and 4: To be completed once funding becomes available.

4.3 Pre-feasibility

A Pre-feasibility study was completed by STRISA and the study shows that the construction of the Shangani Entrance Gate will unlock many sustainable tourism and other business opportunities in and around the Park and will contribute to the poverty alleviation in this area.

The Pre-feasibility study also included an environmental report that indicated that there were no physical or fatal flaws that would hinder the implementation of the project.

5. CONCLUSION

The funding from the NDT will allow SANParks to complete Phases 1 and 2 of the project. This will create a destination and be an enabler to growing the gate and area into a much greater entry point with much greater benefits to the community.