

D'MOSS — Durban's Metropolitan Open Space System

PES & Nature-Based Solutions · Good practice · South Africa

Quality score: 60/100

Evidence strength: Observational / pre–post

Summary

Since 1982, Durban's eThekweni Municipality has protected a statutory open-space network now covering roughly 940 km² of the city; a 2017 World Bank-commissioned valuation put the ecosystem services it provides at R4.2 billion a year and its natural-capital asset value at R47.8 b

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Carbon — sequestration / storage, evidenced	1/3
Biodiversity — conservation / improvement, evidenced	3/3
Water & soil — retention, infiltration, erosion control	2/3
Fire resilience — risk reduction, evidenced	0/3
Governance, certification & transferability	3/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

C-NAPSE web research — accessed 2026-08-24

eThekweni Municipality — Environmental Planning and Climate Protection Department — accessed 2026-08-24

eThekweni Municipality — Durban Metropolitan Open Space System — accessed 2026-08-24

PeerJ — Spatial analyses of threats to ecosystem service hotspots in Greater Durban, South Africa (2018) — accessed 2026-08-24

World Bank / Anchor Environmental — A Spatial Valuation of the Natural and Semi-Natural Open Space Areas in eThekweni Municipality (Turpie et al., 2017) — accessed 2026-08-24

SAGE Journals — Urban environmental challenges and climate change action in Durban, South Africa (Roberts & O'Donoghue, 2013) — accessed 2026-08-24

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