

Working for Wetlands (South Africa)

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

Quality score: 47/100

Evidence strength: Moderate

Summary

South Africa's national public works programme paying community workers to rehabilitate degraded wetlands through invasive alien plant removal, bio-engineering and re-vegetation; 1,300+ wetlands treated since 2002, 22,500 ha and 12,513 jobs created in five years.

Key dimensions

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

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-06-22

[Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment \(DFFE\)](#) — accessed 2026-06-22

[SAIIA — Africa's Restoration Economy: Insights from SA Wetlands](#) — accessed 2026-06-22

[CapeNature — Working for Wetlands](#) — accessed 2026-06-22

[DFFE — World Wetlands Day 2023](#) — accessed 2026-06-22

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