

Community Leaders Network of Southern Africa Strategy Workshop Report

18-21 May 2023

Kaponong Hotel, Johannesburg, South Africa



With support from:



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Introduction

In May 2023 the Community Leaders Network of Southern Africa (CLN) convened in Johannesburg, South Africa, to formulate their development strategy for the next six years. The workshop served as a platform for the CLN Board and key decision makers to collaboratively develop the framework of the strategy and a Theory of Change. Stakeholder engagement continued after the workshop, and the draft strategy document was finalised at the end of July 2023. Further stakeholder input will be sought to enhance the strategy in future.

Attendance

Consultants attended the workshop to provide guidance on strategy formulation and developing the theory of change:

- Zoë Boshoff, Flametree Fundraising (South Africa)
- Shylock Muyengwa, Resource Africa (Zimbabwe)
- Ms. Tafadzwa Magarachi, Resource Africa (Zimbabwe)

The following CLN Members attended:

- Mr. Rodgers Lubilo, CLN Chairperson (Zambia)
- Mr. Siyoka Simasiku, CLN Treasurer (Botswana)
- Ms. Maxi Pia Louis, CLN Secretariat (Namibia)
- Ms. Viona Mwanawina, CLN Finance/Admin (Namibia)
- Mr. Malidadi Langa, CLN Executive Committee (Malawi)
- Mr. José Monteiro, CLN Executive Committee (Mozambique)
- Mr. Mohammedi Ally Kamuna, CLN Executive Committee (Tanzania)
- Mr. Kevin Mfishani (Zimbabwe)
- Mr. Aubrey Maluleke (South Africa)
- Mr. Siphon Nkhambule (Swaziland)
- Ms. Vatsoe Rakotondrazafy (Madagascar)
- Ms. Nthapeliseng Nthama (Lesotho)

Outcomes

General Steps in CLN Strategy Formulation

The workshop, ably facilitated by Zoë Boshoff and Shylock Muyengwa, resulted in significant progress in the CLN strategy development. Key components of the strategy, namely the Theory of Change and the programme framework, were collaboratively developed during the workshop. The Theory of Change mapped out the pathway to achieving the CLN vision, encompassing challenges, assumptions, mechanisms, outputs, and outcomes. Building upon this foundation, the programme framework articulated draft objectives for further refinement.

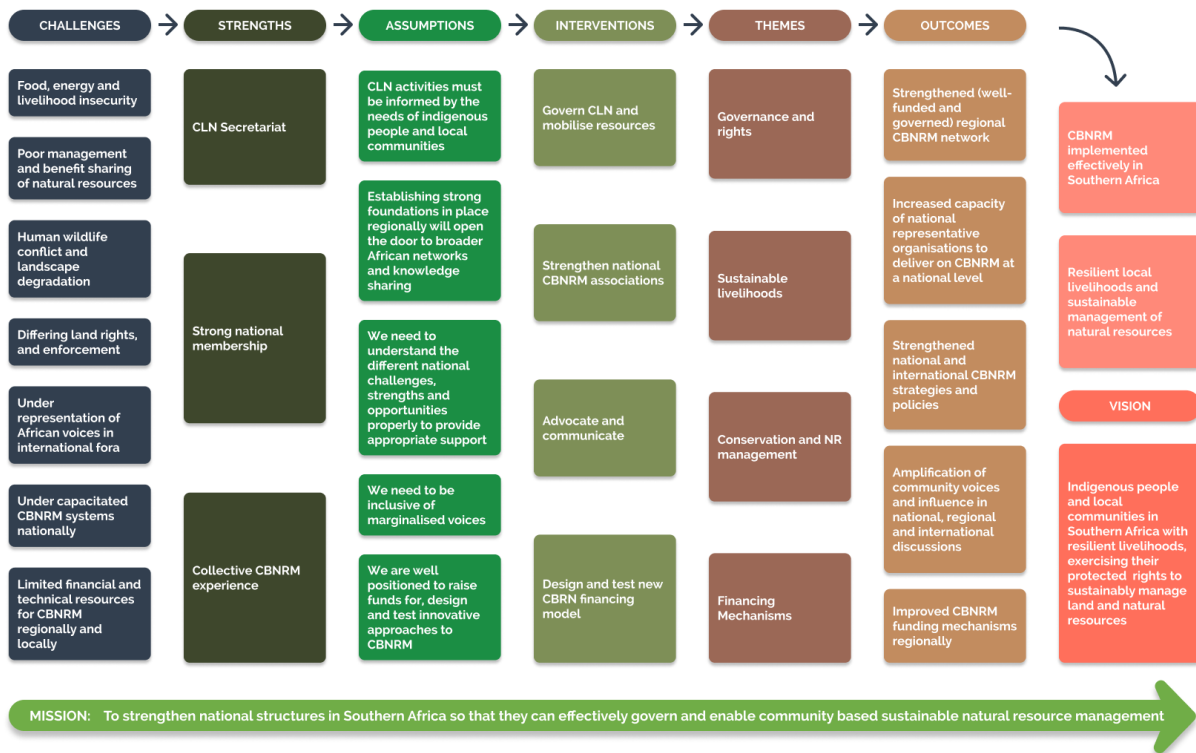
Vision and Mission statements

During the workshop, the CLN vision and mission were discussed and updated to reflect the latest thinking. The current drafts of the vision and mission statements are as follows:

- CLN Vision: Indigenous people and local communities in Southern Africa with resilient livelihoods, exercising their protected rights to sustainably manage land and natural resources.
- CLN Mission: To strengthen national structures in Southern Africa so that they can effectively govern and enable community-based sustainable natural resource management.

Theory of Change

COMMUNITY LEADERS NETWORK - THEORY OF CHANGE



The programme framework derived from the key mechanisms identified in the Theory of Change, leading to the formulation of draft objectives, as follows:

- Objective 1: Strengthening CLN management and increasing resource (human and financial) mobilisation.
- Objective 2: Strengthening national CBNRM (Community-Based Natural Resource Management) associations.

- Objective 3: Advocating for indigenous people and local communities of Southern Africa in regional and international fora.
- Objective 4: Designing and testing innovative models and approaches for financing CBNRM in the region.

Support for Country Focal Point Persons

The needs of focal persons in various countries were identified, and targeted support measures were proposed, such as capacity building and establishment of forums for CBNRM.

CLN Communication and Lobbying Updates, and Upcoming Events

The workshop highlighted the importance of recruiting a qualified communication officer or programme officer to enhance CLN's communication and lobbying efforts.

Organisational Structure and Staffing

The workshop recommended developing a comprehensive human resource manual and establishing a more formal organisational structure within CLN.

Way Forward and Conclusion

Another workshop scheduled in Namibia during July will focus on developing an Action Plan for the first year of strategy implementation. This plan will guide the strategy rollout, including detailed costing and fundraising plans.

In conclusion, the workshop covered various critical aspects of CLN's strategic development process. The outputs and outcomes achieved during the workshop will serve as a solid foundation for further refinement and implementation. Stakeholder input will continue to play a vital role in shaping the development strategy moving forward.