



# National Environmental Management Plan



St Helena Island  
2012-2022

---

*"The environment is a large part of the island, and we should all come together to protect our unique and spectacular surroundings."*

Kayleigh Harris, Prince Andrew School.

St. Helena National Environmental Management Plan (NEMP)

Published September 2012.

Citation: **St. Helena Island National Environmental Management Plan 2012-2022.**  
Environmental Management Directorate, St. Helena Government.

Drafted by Tara Pelembe – Director Environmental Management Directorate (EMD)

## CONTRIBUTORS

The creation of the draft National Environmental Management Plan has been a collaborative process with input received from:

**Info Legco and National Resources, Environment and Development Committee:** Hon Tara Thomas; Hon Bernice Olsson; Hon Cyril Gunnell; Hon Rodney Buckley; Hon Brian Isaac; Hon John Cranfield; Hon Mervyn Yon; Hon Derek Thomas; Hon Raymond Williams; Hon Anthony Green; Hon Stedson Francis; Hon Earl Henry; Mrs M A C Hopkins MBE; Mr Eric Benjamin.

**Corporate Management Team:** Mr Owen O’Sullivan, Chief Secretary; Mr Peter Coll, Director of Police; Mrs Carol George, Director of Health and Social Welfare; Mrs Barbara George, Director of Human Resources; Mrs Susan O’Bey, Director of Strategic Policy and Planning; Mr Colin Moore, Director of Education & Employment; Mr Darren Duncan, Director of Agriculture & Natural Resources; Mrs Tara Pelembe, Director of Environmental Management; Mr Barry Hubbard, Ag Director of Infrastructure & Utilities; Dr Corinda Essex, Director of Corporate Procurement; Mr Colin Owen, Chief Auditor; Mr Tony Earnshaw, Lands Executive; Miss Helena Bennett, Head of Internal Audit; Mrs Gillian Francis, Deputy Chief Secretary; Mr Paul Blessington, Financial Secretary; Ms Jean Shaw, Human Resources Support Executive; Miss Janet Lawrence, Airport Project Director.

**EMD Staff Workshop (4<sup>th</sup> July 2012):** Nature Conservation Division: Dr Nikki Chapman, Vanessa Thomas, Chris Wade, Jeremy Henry, William Crowie, Graham Leo, Darrell Leo, Elizabeth Clingham, Leeann Henry, Annalea Beard; Environmental Advocacy and Assessment Division: Isabel Peters, Jenny Williams; Environmental Risk Management Division: Ian Rummery, Mike Durnford, Marcos Henry, Marvin Benjamin, Gary Mercury.

Prince Andrew School work experience students Rhianna Henry and Nico Benjamin

Business Workshop (18<sup>th</sup> July 2012): Marcus Fowler, Veronica Joshua (Retail operator) Earl Henry (St. Helena Growers) Mike Benjamin (Recycled glass creations) Matt Joshua (ESH/arts & craft) Cyril Fowler (Fast Food + retail operator) Anselmo Pelembe (Lupa Design) Mercia George (ESH/Get Carters) Martin George (ESH/gel) Terri Brady (Work experience (ESH) Grant Pearson (SLR consulting) Sophie Thorpe (Thorpes); Simon Green (Printech) Stasia Plato (Printech) Geoff Knipe and Betty Knipe (ABOVO investments) Julian Morris (ESH)

Youth Workshop (14<sup>th</sup> July 2012): MYP: Zedella Young, Gemma Yon; Prince Andrew School: Scott George, Neil Francis, Kerisha Francis, Myrell Clingham, Keegan Yon, Kayleigh Harris, Andrew Turner, Jodie Scipio-Constantine, Roberta Thomas, Daphne Greentree; St Pauls Primary School: Mic-hail Harris, Jade Leo; Pilling Primary School: Demi George, Nandele Pelembe, Matthias Young, Mike Greentree, Melinda Mudangwe.

Civil Society Workshop (16<sup>th</sup> July 2012): Wendy Anthony, Linda thomas, Woody Stevens, Lolly Young, Martin Joshua, Wendy Essex (Shape); Mike Durnford, Tara Pelembe (EMD); Cathy Hopkins (Arts and Crafts); Nick Stevens, Tina Yon-Stevens, Gary Benjamin, Shane Benjamin (New Horizons); Catherine Turner (Human Rights Forum); Ian Rummery, Brenda Williams, Basil George (Disabled Society); Ross Thomas, Rory Foster, Martina Peters, Kenickie Andrews, Adam Woods, Mikko Paajanon (St. Helena National Trust); Lionel Williams (Farmers Association); Father Dale Bowers (Anglican Church).

**External specialist advice:** Elizabeth Moore (JNCC), Deanna Donovan (JNCC), Vin Fleming (JNCC), Grant Pearson (SLR), Christine Rohrer (DFID), Dick Beales (DFID), James Whittle (IMC)

**Feedback from public consultation** (in addition to the above): Tony Leo; Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB); Shelco; St, Helena National Trust; Youth Parliament.Solomon and Company.

**Relevant sections reviewed by:** Environmental Management Directorate Senior Management Team: Dr Nikki Chapman, Isabel Peters, Ian Rummery; St. Helena Government Staff Barry Hubbard, Dave Malpas, Dr Corinda Essex, Martin Squibbs, Paul Blessington, Glen Westmore,Susan Obey, Darren Duncan, Stuart Planner (ESH)

**Proof reading by:** Mike Durnford (EMD).

**Front and back cover:** Lupa Design Ltd

## FOREWORD



I am extremely pleased that St. Helena has developed its first National Environmental Management Plan.

For Saints, looking after the environment is no new thing. We grew up fishing, farming, fetching animal food, and sometimes fetching water, basically living very closely with the natural environment. We know that the environment is important for our lives, our livelihoods and our well-being.

As the airport project progresses and the island develops its' economy, we will need to ensure that the environment, one of St. Helena's key tourism products, is effectively managed.

As chairman of the Natural Resources, Development and Environment Committee, Environmental Management falls under the portfolio of my Committee. I am very keen that we are successful in taking forward this new focus area, which is now one of 3 of our National Goals under St. Helena's new Sustainable Development Plan.

The environment impacts us all, and this plan is not, and cannot be, just a St. Helena Government Plan, it is a plan for the whole island. Having branded our island as 'green', we all need to take environmental management seriously. This is something that we all need to do in partnership and collaboration - between government, businesses, youth, civil society, residents and visitors. We need to mainstream the environment.

I am looking forward to working with all of you to effectively manage St. Helena's wonderful environment.

***Honourable Councillor Raymond Williams – Chair of Natural Resources Development and Environment Committee***



It is pleasing to see that St Helena has developed its first National Environmental Management Plan and, as Miss St Helena 2012, I feel privileged to represent the youth and provide a foreword from a young person's perspective.

St Helena is such an inimitable island with a rich biodiversity. Our environment is one of the most significant facets of the island that appeals to tourists, and with the current economic development of the island we need to ensure that the appropriate measures are taken to ensure our environment is protected and

managed efficiently.

Many of us associate the environment with wirebirds and the endemic plants however we need to realise that the environment in a broader context is everything around us: the sea, the air we breathe, all vegetation, and all of it needs to be protected from pollution and degradation.

The environment is part of the island and we all are responsible for sustaining and protecting it. This plan aims to inform every one of the dangers our environment faces and how we can work collectively in order to minimise any impact.

***Leoni Ellick Miss St Helena 2012***

## CONTENTS

<b>CONTRIBUTORS</b> .....	3
Foreword.....	4
Contents.....	5
1. INTRODUCTION, background and context.....	7
2. Approach of this plan .....	8
Four KEy components of the natural environment .....	8
3. Vision.....	9
4. Aim .....	9
5. Objectives.....	9
Target Audience .....	9
7 Links to social development National Goal.....	10
7.1 Civil Society.....	11
7.2 Youth .....	12
8. Links to Economic growth national goal.....	15
9. Cross cutting environmental components: PEOPLE.....	17
9.1 Communications and stakeholder engagement.....	17
Cross Cutting Environmental Components: Litter .....	17
10. CROSS CUTTING environmental components: Mainstreaming Environment Across Government and Society .....	18
11. CROSS CUTTING environmental components: LEGISLATION.....	18
12. Cross cutting environmental components: AIRPORT .....	19
13. Cross cutting environmental components: Environmental Risk and Disaster Management .....	19
14. CROSS CUTTING environmental components: CLimate change .....	20
15. natural environment key component 1: Land and Land Use.....	21
16. natural environment key component 2: Sea and coastal zone .....	24
17. natural environment key component 3: Water.....	26
18. natural environment key component 4: Air and sky .....	27
19 Mechanisms for implementation .....	28
19.1 Financing .....	28
19.2 HUMAN RESOURCES.....	29
19.3 Evidence base .....	30
20. Assessment and monitoring.....	31

Enforcement..... 32

20. Environment scrutiny board..... 32

21. Risks and Mitigation..... 33

Annex 1: Glossary..... 34

Annex 2: Detailed Youth Plan..... 35

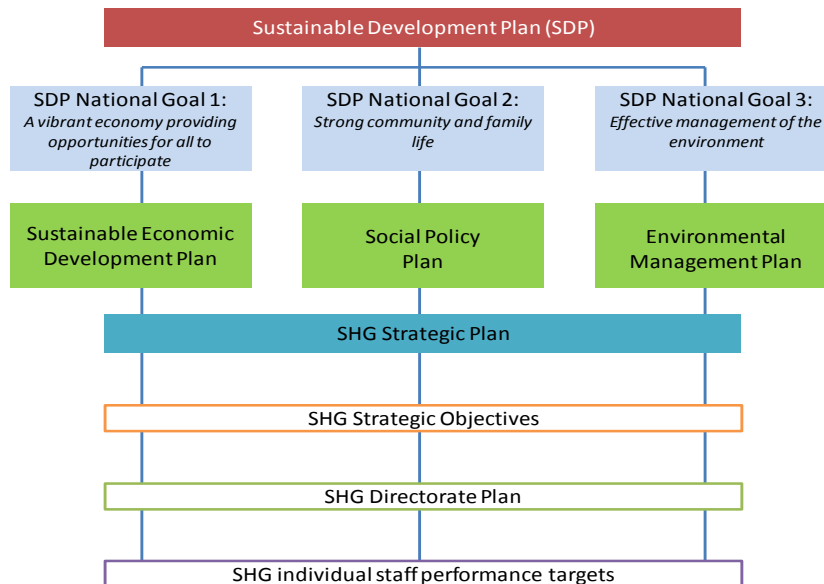
Annex 3: Implementation Plan..... 38

Endnotes ..... 44



# 1. INTRODUCTION, BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

St. Helena has a rich natural and cultural environment and Saints are at the heart of this environment. In recognition of the value of the environment to St. Helena and its people, ‘effective management of the environment’ is one of St. Helena’s 3 National Goals outlined in the Sustainable Development Plan (SDP). The SDP requires the production of this Environmental Management Plan to implement its environmental goal.



The very nature of life on St. Helena means that we are all closely in touch with the natural environment. We might walk up the road to catch the bus to work, take care of the garden around our house, drive a 4x4 off road, play football or rounder’s on Francis Plain, go for walks in the National Conservation Areas, catch fish, dive or swim in the sea, boat trips to Lemon Valley... the list is endless. But a lot of what we do is done outside, in the natural environment. Our life indoors too is closely linked and we all depend on the water that the springs and reservoirs provide, rubbish collections and energy provisions (e.g. solar/wood/diesel and wind generated electricity) in our homes.

Because the space we live on is only 47 square miles, we can often see immediately how we impact the environment by what we do either at work or at home. We all know examples of how that impact is really positive (e.g. reusing tyres in gardens, recycling glass for tables, solar panels, habitat restoration at the Millennium Forest) and we all know examples of how that impact is not so positive (e.g. litter in some areas,).

St. Helena is also host to land plants and animals that are found only here e.g. 45 endemic vascular plants, c.400 endemic land invertebrates, c. 26 endemic bryophytes, endemic lichens and algae . In the sea there are more than a dozen endemic coastal fish species and research into marine invertebrates will commence shortly. Our pride in this uniqueness is shown through us choosing the Saint Helena Wirebird (*Charadrius sanctaehelanae*) as our National Bird and the Gumwood as our National Tree.

St. Helena has entered a new phase in its history. The airport project and accompanying economic development means that there will be more activity on island, and subsequently greater pressures on our

environment. This plan has been written to ensure there is effective environmental management, during this phase and on into the future. This will be done primarily through the provision of a robust policy and legislative framework with systems for assessment of new projects and initiatives to ensure they adhere to these policies and legislation. Regular monitoring will ensure that policies and legislation are complied with. These systems will be built on the foundation of stakeholder engagement and communication and sound evidence base.

Environmental and Natural resources have the potential to become the key drivers of future economic growth, in particular they are a key resource for a developing the tourism sector.

St. Helena is signatory to a number of International Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs). Most of the components of this plan will contribute to MEA implementation.

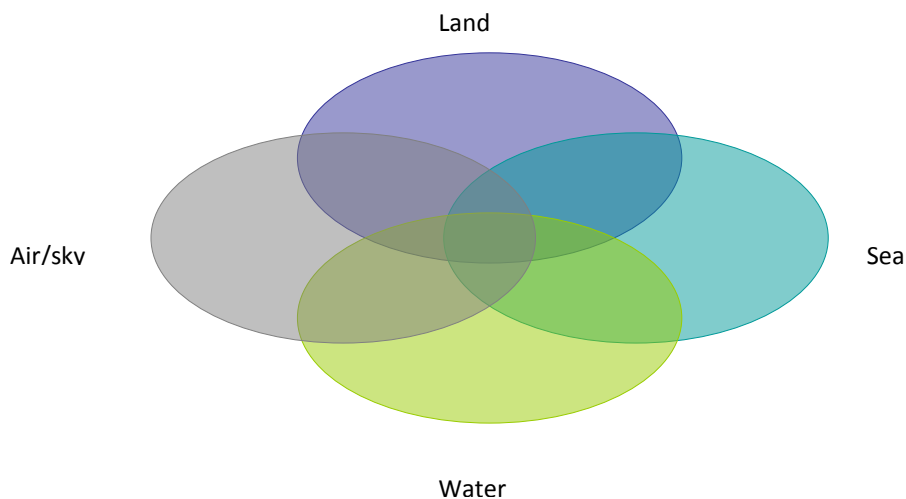
## 2. APPROACH OF THIS PLAN

This is a 10 year plan. A comprehensive review of the plan will be done after 5 years.

10 key objectives will form the basis of this plan. Cross-cutting approaches/areas will be addressed at the beginning of the plan. This will be followed by 4 sections addressing the four key components of the natural environment as outlined in the following Venn diagram. Mechanisms and processes for implementing policies and targets will be outlined at the end.

This plan will not provide detail on implementation. Policies and Strategies identified will have their own implementation plans where much of the detail will be provided.

### FOUR KEY COMPONENTS OF THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT





### 3. VISION

The vision for this plan is the vision for the future of the island as set out in the Sustainable Development Plan i.e. strengthened community and family life through vibrant economic growth, a healthy environment with opportunities for all to participate, within a framework of effective government and law.

### 4. AIM

This plan aims to implement St. Helena's third National Goal: Effective Management of the Environment. This will be done by mainstreaming the environment<sup>i</sup> through the establishment of a set of high level environmental objectives and targets for St. Helena<sup>ii</sup>, and the creation/confirmation and implementation of systems and processes for ensuring that these environmental objectives are meaningfully considered in legislation, policy, planning and decision-making.

### 5. OBJECTIVES<sup>iii</sup>

- A. Engage the island community and stakeholders in effective environmental management including through **promotion of the benefits** of the environment for Island Residents and Tourists and through **sustainable use**.
- B. Enhance implementation of the NEMP through **participatory planning, knowledge management** and **capacity building**.
- C. Address the underlying causes of environmental degradation by **mainstreaming the environment** across government and society.
- D. Safeguard St. Helena's environment, both terrestrial and marine, **for future generations** through effective environmental management<sup>iv</sup> including through improving the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity.
- E. Improve and maintain environmental conditions through **better management of solid waste<sup>v</sup>**.
- F. Minimise the impact of **climate change** through effective mitigation and adaptation including through increased generation of energy from renewable sources<sup>vi</sup>.
- G. Ensure that the quantity and quality of **potable water** supplies on St. Helena more than adequately address the needs of the population. Economic and social requirements arising from the predicted growth in demand for domestic, commercial and agricultural water met<sup>vii</sup>.
- H. **Minimize air, light and noise pollution** through research policy and legislation.
- I. **Protect Cultural Heritage<sup>1</sup>** including through ensuring the availability of open spaces for recreation.
- J. Create a system of evidence provision, monitoring, reporting, resourcing and enforcing to adequately enable effective environmental management.

### TARGET AUDIENCE

The environment is important for us all, and as such the National Environmental Management Plan is for everyone on St. Helena i.e. the Public Sector, the Private Sector, Business Community, Civil Society, Youth, the Public, Residents and Visitors.

---

<sup>1</sup> SDP Strategic Objective 6.4

## 7 LINKS TO SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT NATIONAL GOAL

**Strong Community and Family Life** is another of St. Helena's three National Goals. A **Social Policy Plan** is being developed to outline in more detail how this goal will be implemented.

The environment is a key component of strong community and family life.

Sustainable practise in homes can make a significant contribution to making savings for houses. This includes:

- Reductions in energy bills e.g. through using low energy light bulbs, energy efficient appliances, possibilities for household energy generation can also be explored.
- Reductions in water bills e.g. through using water from rainwater tanks for gardens.

More sustainable ways of building homes<sup>2</sup> will be promoted via section 1.4 of the 'Laying the foundation for future generations – A housing strategy for St. Helena 2012-2022'.

The natural environment is vital for health and well-being providing mental and physical benefits – it also provides the opportunity and space for exercise and recreation for both individuals and families.

- A number of footpaths within and outside National Conservation Areas will be maintained for use by all.
- Francis Plain sports field will continue to be maintained for use by schools and the community.
- Green spaces in districts will continue to be maintained for use by all (these include Longwood Green, Sandy Bay Community Centre, Blue Hill Community Centre, Horse Pasture, Jamestown Public Gardens).
- Future significant development will provide for additional green space for community use.
- Areas for off-road biking and driving and mountain biking will be formalised so that the popular activities continue within parameters that ensure that areas of biodiversity and environmental importance are not negatively impacted.
- Marine-based recreation will be supported where sustainable.
- Public awareness campaigns for healthy living will be supported.

### TARGETS AND LEAD IMPLEMENTERS

**TARGET:** Green guidelines for homes created and implemented by March 2015

**LEAD:** EMD/ H&SW

### TARGETS AND LEAD IMPLEMENTERS

**TARGET:** Footpaths maintained at least once a year

**LEAD:** ESH, ANRD, Crown Estates

**TARGET:** Francis Plain sports field regularly maintained

**LEAD:** Education and Employment

**TARGET:** Areas for off-road biking and driving and mountain biking formalised by 2016

**LEAD:** Crown Estates, EMD,

**TARGET:** Healthy living public awareness campaigns run annually

**LEAD:** H &SW

---

<sup>2</sup> Eg. bioclimatic architecture, water harvesting using environmentally sustainable and/or renewable building materials where possible.

The natural environment also provides opportunity for healthy eating for both individuals and families. The 'buy local' campaign will be supported and local business producing fresh food products for individuals, families and businesses will be supported. The National Agriculture Production Plan will provide the policy framework for this.

#### TARGETS AND LEAD IMPLEMENTERS

**TARGET:** 10 year agricultural production plan produced and implemented by 2013

**LEAD:** ANRD

#### Case Study: Roddy's Chicken Farm



Roddy started his chicken farm in 2010. The aim of the business is to provide St. Helena with fresh local eggs and in doing so reduce our carbon footprint. As a result of this innovative business, Solomons and Company no longer import eggs. Roddy now supplies Solomons with 180 dozen eggs per week. The farm is supplying an average of 250 dozen eggs weekly in total to private outlets and caterers.

### 7.1 CIVIL SOCIETY

Civil Society plays a major role in social development and Civil Society input into environmental initiatives will be supported and encouraged. Environmental work does not necessarily have to be delivered by SHG. Other institutions such as the St. Helena National Trust and SHAPE make significant contributions and will continue to be supported and encouraged. A process for working with Civil Societies to 'green' their organisations will also be developed (see section 10). Clear guidelines for organisations who want to carry out best practise will be developed.

Civil Society are the eyes of the environment, and along with the public will be encouraged to recognise and report negative impact on the environment e.g. pollution.

#### Case Study: St. Helena National Trust

The St. Helena National Trust's current strategic vision is to work with others to protect the island's built, natural and cultural heritage assets. The Trust aims to:



1. Preserve St. Helena's world class built heritage;
2. Help St. Helena's Unique flora and fauna to thrive again;
3. Support a sustainable tourism-based economic future for St Helena;
4. Enhance St. Helena's traditional skills as a basis for growth;
5. Reconnect St. Helena to the world: and
6. Increase awareness of St. Helena's built and natural assets and work in partnership to conserve them.

Contact: Adam Wolfe, Director, St Helena National Trust, Broadway House, Jamestown, St Helena Island, STHL 1ZZ, SOUTH ATLANTIC. Tel: +290 2190; [sth.nattrust@cwimail.sh](mailto:sth.nattrust@cwimail.sh) or [director@shnt.org.uk](mailto:director@shnt.org.uk)

## Case Study: St. Helena Active Participation in Enterprise

SHAPE is a social enterprise and a registered charity.

### Why recycle?

SHAPE is environmentally conscious. We hope to do our bit to reduce the carbon footprint on the island whilst providing meaningful employment for disabled and vulnerable people.

### Machinery

- Commercial Shredder
- Hollander Beater  
Presently producing 15 Kg a day  
Looking to purchase a Hydra-pulper which has capacity to produce 2-3 tonnes of pulp per day

### What do we recycle?

- Paper
- Card
- Materials (jeans)



### What do we make?

- Paper
- Cards
- Bowls
- Photo Frames
- Fuel Bricks
- Packaging for products
- Jewellery



Figure 1: Jewellery from recycled paper

### We are also using

- Flax
- Aloe
- Wool

### Data

**We do not have much data at the moment as we are compiling this at present**

- 1 bundle of firebricks equivalent to one bundle of wood
- 5kg of paper will make 12/13 fire bricks
- We sell 10 fire bricks for £1.00.

## 7.2 YOUTH

St. Helena's youth are the future of the island and young people's thinking, behaviour and attitudes towards the environment will form an important part of the implementation of this plan. Working with young people through the Education and Employment directorate will be an important part of the communications and stakeholder engagement strategy, as will collaboration with youth organisations such as New Horizons and the Youth Parliament.

The Youth Parliament has coordinated youth input into this plan, school, youth ideas and targets are presented here with more detail outlined in **Annex 2**. All of the youth targets, with the exception of desalination and an additional tennis court, will be addressed through implementation of the NEMP.

## Summary of Youth Targets:

- Continue and expand St Helena's recycling projects
- Protect the endemic flora, fauna, Wildlife and marine life
- Reforestation – Make selected areas on St Helena 'Green'
- More play areas for children around the island, and make the available play areas safer
- More bike trails around the island, including trails to school
- Introduce more renewable energy resources and desalination plants
- Another tennis court on the east side of the island
- Trails through St Helena's green-land
- Getting the youth more involved in the environmental projects
- Public transport and carpooling
- Eco-friendly buildings

### *Save the Environment*

Nandeli Pelembe

Pilling Primary School

### *Protect St Helena*

Mic-hail Harris

St Pauls Primary School

### *Follow us to a Greener Future*

David Owen and Annika Roberts

Harford Primary School

### *A Clean Environment is Best*

Scott George

Prince Andrew School

*"The environment is a large part of the island, and we should all come together to protect our unique and spectacular surroundings."* Kayleigh Harris, PAS

### **Demonstration Projects**

To promote the natural environment, its links with society and businesses, 2 new green spaces will be created in Half Tree Hollow.

One of these will be included in the development brief of the Comprehensive Development Area Development. This green space will be primarily focussed on recreation. It will be a community-based project and will, ideally, be led by a Civil Society Organisation.

The second green space will be a community garden, where fresh food will be grown for the community by the community.



Figure 2: Half Tree Hollow copyright Edward Thorpe

## 8. LINKS TO ECONOMIC GROWTH NATIONAL GOAL

**A vibrant economy providing opportunities for all to participate** is the first of St. Helena's three National Goals

The natural environment is seen as a key component of the economic growth plan for St. Helena. The Sustainable Economic Development Plan recognises that 'sustainability has to be a central consideration in all economic activities. St. Helena's environment is one of its key selling points in terms of its tourism and fishing products. Protecting and enhancing these resources will be vital. In order for the island to move towards financial self-sufficiency it must ensure that its overall tourism and fishing products improve over time. **Branding of St. Helena as a green location** will also be an important part of its strategy to attract people to the island<sup>3</sup>.

The branding of St. Helena as a green location means that 'green' needs to be mainstreamed across all of St. Helena – including government, businesses and individuals.

The policies and processes outlined in this plan will take the island forward in developing its 'green' credentials.

The **Tourism Strategy** is the overarching policy document for the development of tourism and an environmental review of the strategy has been carried out and will be fed into the development of tourism.

The two major developments on the island at present are both abiding by 'green' practices. The detail of environmental management for the airport project has been outlined in section 12. Shelco, the other major investor aims to be the 'greenest hotel in the world'. This sets a precedent for the island and is a big step towards the 'green brand' that we are aiming for.

These initiatives will provide economic drivers for other businesses on the island to consider their 'green' credentials. As potential sub-contractors and suppliers, other businesses will need to show that they are environmentally friendly.

The Environmental Management Directorate will be working with Enterprise St. Helena and the business community to prepare and provide advice on **green guidelines and best practice for large and small businesses**.

A **'green rating/certification' system** for businesses will be introduced to enable individuals, government and other businesses to make informed environmental decisions when choosing suppliers, buyers etc. and Section 10 outlines a target for businesses to 'go green' by 2014

Businesses that focus specifically on, and contribute to, effective management of the environment will also be encouraged.

### TARGETS AND LEAD IMPLEMENTERS

**TARGET:** Environmental review of the tourism strategy incorporated into an updated tourism strategy by March 2013

**LEAD:** ESH and EMD

**TARGET:** Green guidelines and best practice for large and small businesses produced by March 2013

**LEAD:** ESH and EMD

**TARGET:** Green rating/certification system for businesses created and implemented by 2016

**LEAD:** ESH

---

<sup>3</sup> Sustainable Economic Development Plan (SEDP) Pg 10.

### Case Study: Michael Benjamin Glass Recycling

In 2010 Michael Benjamin created an innovative green business to St. Helena. His business focuses on recycling glass. Used glass (bottles, jars, containers etc.) are put through a machine called a Krysteline GP5 and come out the other end as a product that has multiple uses. Currently Michael uses the product as aggregate in the creation of outdoor furniture (tables, stools), outdoor tiles, plant pots and paving tiles. Trials are being done to explore the use of recycled glass as aggregate for blocks for house-building.

**Reduction in the creation and generation of waste** will be encouraged through green guidelines for procurement. Implementation of these guidelines will contribute to green certification.

Reduction in **carbon footprint** will be encouraged, through support for the 'buy local' campaign and through **green guidelines for procurement**. Implementation of these guidelines will contribute to green certification.

The St. Helena Government Corporate Procurement strategy contains a section that references sustainability.

The 'greening businesses' initiative will be supported by **regular training programmes**.

#### TARGETS AND LEAD IMPLEMENTERS

**TARGET:** Green guidelines for procurement created and implemented by March 2015

**LEAD:** ESH and Corporate Procurement

**TARGET:** Greening your business training programmes will be held every six months

**LEAD:** ESH

Figure 3: we can go green too copyright Edward Thorp





## 9. CROSS CUTTING ENVIRONMENTAL COMPONENTS: PEOPLE

People are at the heart of the environment. What people do and how people interact with the environment is the basis of effective environmental management.

Working with people will be a core component of the implementation of the National Environmental Management Plan, communications and stakeholder engagement will be an integral part of this.

All Objectives relate to people – however those with particular focus on this area are:

- A. Engage the island community and stakeholders in effective environmental management including through promotion of the benefits of the environment for Island Residents and Tourists including through sustainable use.
- B. Enhance implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity building.
- C. Address the underlying causes of environmental degradation by mainstreaming environment across government and society.

### 9.1 COMMUNICATIONS AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Stakeholder engagement and communications with the community, key stakeholders and visitors will be key to the successful delivery of this plan. A communications and stakeholder engagement strategy will be developed<sup>4</sup>. A key component of this strategy will be working with schools and young people.

All new policies will include public consultation, in line with the established SHG policy development processes.

An environmental advisory group will be established bringing in national and international expertise.

EMD will provide a 'one stop shop' for environmental queries within St. Helena Government.



Figure 4: working together copyright Edward Thorpe

## CROSS CUTTING ENVIRONMENTAL COMPONENTS: LITTER

Litter has been identified as a serious issue and public awareness, regulation and enforcement with respect to marine and terrestrial litter will be an important part of the implementation of this plan.

---

<sup>4</sup> Ideas for what this strategy should contain include: Promoting responsible use of the marine environment.

#### TARGETS AND LEAD IMPLEMENTERS

**TARGET:** Create a communications and stakeholder engagement strategy by March 2013

**LEAD:** EMD

**TARGET:** Implement communications and stakeholder engagement strategy 2013 – 2022

**LEAD:** EMD, Education and Employment, ESH

## 10. CROSS CUTTING ENVIRONMENTAL COMPONENTS: MAINSTREAMING ENVIRONMENT ACROSS GOVERNMENT AND SOCIETY

All objectives relate to the mainstreaming of environment however the one with particular focus on this area is:

C. Address the underlying causes of environmental degradation by mainstreaming environment across government and society.

There are a number of positive steps that are currently taken to mainstream environment across policy, and decision-making in St. Helena. However there are still some gaps and the targets for SHG to address these gaps.

### TARGETS AND LEAD IMPLEMENTERS

**TARGET:** Environmental mainstreaming policy framework adopted by SHG by April 2013 **LEAD:** EMD

**TARGET:** Environmental decision-making framework adopted by SHG by April 2013

**LEAD:** EMD

### TARGETS AND LEAD IMPLEMENTERS

**TARGET:** Environmental mainstreaming policy framework adopted by ESH, Private Sector and Civil Society by December 2014

**LEAD:** ESH, Private Sector, Civil Society

**TARGET:** Environmental decision-making framework adopted by ESH, Private Sector and Civil Society by December 2014

**LEAD:** ESH, Private Sector, Civil Society

There are some steps that are taken by individual businesses and civil societies to mainstream environment within the business including in planning and decision-making (e.g. Michael Benjamin glass recycling, SHAPE paper recycling, Shelco's proposed approach to development, Aarons Adventure Tours) however 'green' considerations are not adopted by the majority of businesses and civil societies. The targets are for businesses and civil societies to 'go green' by December 2014.

## 11. CROSS CUTTING ENVIRONMENTAL COMPONENTS: LEGISLATION

A review of the existing environmental legislative framework was carried out in 2008 and identified requirements and gaps. This National Environmental Management Plan creates the policy framework upon which additional legislation will be built as required. Environmental legislation will be developed. This will include Multilateral Environmental Agreement (MEA) legal requirements e.g. Convention on international trade in endangered species (CITES)

Compliance with existing environmental ordinances and regulations will of course be required.

### TARGETS AND LEAD IMPLEMENTERS

**TARGET:** Environmental legislation enacted and legislative framework adopted by SHG by December 2013

**LEAD:** EMD

## 12. CROSS CUTTING ENVIRONMENTAL COMPONENTS: AIRPORT

The airport project is a defining project for this period of St. Helena's history and development. Prosperous Bay Plain, the site for the airport is ecologically sensitive and unique. Effective management of the environment is an integral part of the airport project.

An Environmental Impact Assessment of the airport project proposal resulted in an Environmental Statement and 3 advance environmental mitigation projects.

The detail from the Environmental Statement formed the basis of an Airport Environmental Management Plan (EMP), which has fed into a Contractors Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) for airport construction, with a separate CEMP to be developed for airport operation.

These plans are implemented and monitored as follows: the contractor (Basil Read) has an Environment team on island who implement the requirements of the CEMP, this implementation is monitored by an independent environment monitor as part of the independent Project Management Unit (Halcrow). The St. Helena Government Environmental Management Directorate coordinates SHG's advisory and regulatory input.

### TARGETS AND LEAD IMPLEMENTERS

**TARGET:** Coordinate SHG environmental responsibilities under the airport project.

**LEAD:** EMD, air access



Figure 5: the airport, Prosperous Bay copyright Edward Thorpe

## 13. CROSS CUTTING ENVIRONMENTAL COMPONENTS: ENVIRONMENTAL RISK AND DISASTER MANAGEMENT.

Currently there is no Environmental Risk Management. Processes for Environmental Risk Management will be established. There is also no comprehensive preparedness for environmental disasters. Risk assessments of natural hazards will be mainstreamed in relevant government policies such as the Disaster Management Plan. This is both to reduce the vulnerability to these hazards and to anticipate the environmental consequences of disaster.

**TARGET:** Mainstream risk assessment by natural hazards by December 2014

**LEAD:** EMD

## 14. CROSS CUTTING ENVIRONMENTAL COMPONENTS: CLIMATE CHANGE

Consideration of the impacts of climate change is important for effective management of the natural environment.

Objective that relates directly to climate change is:

- F Minimize the impact of climate change through effective mitigation and adaptation including through increased generation of energy from renewable resources.

**Delivery of this objective will be through the creation of new policy/policy statements where relevant policy/legislation does not exist.**

There is no **Climate Change Policy**. In the absence of any policy the following statement provides a high level approach to climate change management:

*Climate Change adaptation and mitigation needs to be considered in all relevant policy, planning and decision-making. There will be a requirement for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and reduction in carbon footprint where feasible.*

Baseline data and regular weather monitoring data will also need to be collected to feed into the development of the climate change policy.

An **Energy Generation Strategy** will be developed to progress development of renewable energy to adding to the wind and solar power currently used on island.

The island wide **Transport Plan** is required under the sustainable development plan. An environmental review of the plan will be carried out<sup>5</sup> which will include consideration of reduction of carbon emissions



Figure 6: measuring cloud cover copyright Robyn Sim

### TARGETS AND LEAD IMPLEMENTERS

**TARGET:** Climate Change policy created by December 2014

**LEAD:** EMD

**TARGET:** Develop data set and collect data relevant to climate change research. Work with the UK Meteorological Office and other international organisations to strengthen Climate Change predictions for St. Helena by March 2014

**LEAD:** EMD

**TARGET:** Energy Generation Strategy implemented

**LEAD:** Energy Division

**TARGET:** Environmental review of the Island transport plan developed in 2012

**LEAD:** SPPU

<sup>5</sup> Note: To include consideration of carbon emission standards for vehicles, minimization of private car use, environmentally efficient transport, minimisation of congestion.

## 15. NATURAL ENVIRONMENT KEY COMPONENT 1: LAND AND LAND USE

Land is a key component of the natural environment, and effective management Land use by people, plants and animals - wild and domestic is key to effective management of the natural environment.

Objectives that relate directly to the effective management of land are:

- D. Safeguard St. Helena's environment both terrestrial and marine **for future generations** through effective environmental management<sup>viii</sup> including through improving the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity<sup>ix</sup>.
- E. Improve and maintain environmental conditions improved and maintained through **better management of solid waste**<sup>x</sup>.
- I. **Protect Cultural Heritage**<sup>xi</sup> including through ensuring the availability of open spaces for recreation.

**Delivery of these objectives will be through the implementation of existing policy/legislation where relevant policy/legislation exists.**

The core policy document on St. Helena for Land development is the **Land Development Control Plan (LDCP)**. The St. Helena Land Development Control Plan 2012-2022 underwent a robust strategic social and environmental assessment process, the majority of environmental recommendations were incorporated into the final version of the LDCP. The LDCP therefore provides a robust policy framework<sup>xii</sup> for environmental considerations relating to land planning, which includes an **Environmental Impact Assessment** process<sup>xiii</sup>.

Under the LDCP 23 **National Conservation Areas (NCAs)** have been established. National Conservation Area Management Plans will be created and implemented for these areas, and will provide the policy framework for land use management within National Conservation Areas. 14 National Conservation Areas have been designated primarily because of their Natural Heritage<sup>xiv</sup>.

There are also **Species Action plans** for some high priority endangered plant and bird species. All species assessed as 'critically endangered' on the IUCN red list should be top priority for species action plan development. As yet species plans have not been developed for land invertebrates. Consideration will be given to bees. Species Action Plans will be implemented.

### TARGETS AND LEAD IMPLEMENTERS

**TARGET:** Continue to implement the requirements of the Land Development Control Plan for all planning applications

**LEAD:** SHG Planning with Environmental input from EMD

**TARGET:** Develop National Conservation Area Management Plans: Diana's Peak National Park by July 2012; Sandy Bay National Park by December 2012; Broadbottom Important Wirebird Area (IWA) and Deadwood Plain IWA by December 2013. All NCA Natural Heritage management Plans developed by 2016

**LEAD:** EMD, Civil Society

**TARGET:** Implement – prioritised species action plans for IUCN critically endangered species by 2015 and create new ones where required

**LEAD:** EMD, ANRD, Civil Society

A large proportion of the land on St. Helena is currently owned by the St. Helena Government. A **Land Disposal Policy** has been created to *establish a framework for the disposal of Crown Land in support of the St. Helena Government's principles of economic growth through Investment and Tourism development. SHG will make Crown Land and Buildings available for private and commercial use, so far as it is consistent with the overall need to secure the optimum **sustainable use of St. Helena's natural resources.***

**TARGET:** Crown estates strategy to include provision for making best use of existing land and buildings

**LEAD:** SHG Crown Estates with Environmental input from EMD, Householders, ESH

**Case study:** Current NCA management plan and species action plan delivery includes control of invasive species in Diana's Peak National Park and the propagation of endemic species within the ANRD nurseries. This work will be continued.

A **Housing Strategy** has been developed and there is a presumption within this strategy in favour of using **sustainable building materials** and creating **sustainable homes.**

A new **National Agriculture Policy** will be developed and this will be reviewed to ensure the environment has been objectively considered.

A **Solid Waste Management Strategy** is being developed and there is a presumption in this strategy in favour of reducing waste production and recycling<sup>6</sup>.

Recycle target: 10% reduction in glass, paper/card and aluminium cans going to landfill by December 2014

**TARGET:** An environmental review of the draft Agricultural policy is undertaken

**LEAD:** ANRD, EMD.

**TARGET:** Create the solid waste management strategy and implement accompanying plan by December 2013

**LEAD:** EMD, H&SW, ESH, Private Sector, Public

**TARGET** Implement priority areas of the invasive species strategy and develop biosecurity strategy by 2013

**LEAD:** ANRD, EMD

**TARGET:** Review roads policy to provide a framework for the management of the roads environment by 2015

**LEAD:** EMD/Roads Section

St. Helena is signed up to a regional **Invasive Species Strategy**. This outlines an approach to managing invasive species on St. Helena. This will be complimented by a **Biosecurity Strategy**<sup>7</sup>

St. Helena's **Roads Policy**<sup>8</sup> has recently undergone an environmental review and this will be fed into the development/update of the policy.



Figure 7: St. Helena ebony copyright Edward Thorpe

<sup>6</sup> LDCP section 14 'Solid Waste' outlines planning policies for solid waste Pg 24-26.

<sup>7</sup> Note: the biosecurity strategy will include both marine and terrestrial invasive species.

<sup>8</sup> LDCP section 15 'Roads and Transport' outlines planning policies for roads Pg 26-28.

**Delivery of these objectives will be through the creation and implementation of new policy/policy statements where relevant policy/legislation does not exist.**

There is currently no policy on **footpaths and recreation areas** although consideration is given to them in the LDCP and Post Box walks are an important component of the tourism strategy. In the absence of a policy, the following statement provides a high level approach to footpaths:

*Footpaths shall be kept open wherever reasonably practicable. Where it is not possible to keep footpaths open, a reasonable alternative shall be sought and provided as part of the overall development..*

There is currently no **Cultural Heritage Policy**. Similarly there is no policy for archaeology. In the absence of a policy the following statement provides a high level approach to cultural heritage:

*St. Helena has a rich **cultural heritage** evolving from its discovery in 1502. This is reflected in Saints and 'Saint culture' which create the uniqueness of St. Helena of which we are all very proud. St. Helena's cultural heritage needs to be considered in policy, planning and decision-making.*

There is a **Built Heritage Policy** in the LDCP<sup>xv</sup> which relates to planning and 9 of the National Conservation Areas are focused on conservation of the built heritage. **National Conservation Area Management Plans** will provide the policy framework for built heritage conservation in these areas.

The cultural heritage components of this plan can be pulled together through a single cultural heritage policy and implementation plan that covers both marine and terrestrial cultural heritage.

There is no **Carrying Capacity Policy**. In the absence of any policy the following statement provides a high level approach to carrying capacity on the land:

*Carrying Capacity of National Conservation Areas and of the island as a whole need to be considered in policy, planning and decision-making<sup>xvi</sup>.*

**TARGET:** Baseline data collection will be commissioned as required

Requirements for policies relating to footpaths, public rights of way, cultural heritage, archaeology and carrying capacity explored by December 2013.

**LEAD:** SPPU

**TARGET:** Carrying capacity study commissioned by 2012.

**LEAD:** EMD, ESH (tourism)

Figure 8: creating products from recycling paper at SHAPE copyright Edward Thorpe



Figure 9: our island our people copyright Edward Thorpe

The sea and the coastal zone are key components of the natural environment and effective management of use by people is key to effective management of the natural environment. St. Helena’s marine environment includes its 200nm EEZ.

Key objectives that relate to the effective management of the sea are:

- A. Engage the island community and stakeholders in effective environmental management including through **promotion of the benefits** of the environment for Residents and Tourists and through **sustainable use**<sup>9</sup>.
- D. Safeguard St. Helena’s environment both terrestrial and marine **for future generations** through effective environmental management<sup>xvii</sup> including through improving the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity<sup>xviii</sup>.
- I. **Protect cultural Heritage**<sup>10</sup> including through ensuring the availability of open spaces for recreation.

**Delivery of these objectives will be through the implementation of existing policy and legislation where it exists.**

The **Commercial Fishing Policy** exists but needs to be reviewed to ensure that St. Helena’s Fishery is sustainable<sup>11</sup>.

**TARGETS AND LEAD IMPLEMENTERS**

**TARGET:** Environmental Review of the Commercial Fishing Policy by Dec 2012

**LEAD:** EMD.ESH, ANRD

**Delivery of these objectives will be through the creation of new policy/policy statements where relevant policy/legislation does not exist.**

There are currently no **marine protected areas**<sup>12</sup> in the absence of marine protected areas and a marine management plan<sup>13</sup>, the following statement provides a high level approach to considering conservation and sustainable use of the marine environment:

**TARGETS AND LEAD IMPLEMENTERS**

**TARGET:** Create and implement a marine management plan by March 2015

**LEAD:** EMD

<sup>9</sup> This will include:

- A. Conserving endangered species and habitats through the development of strategic direction of conservation works, studies, education and policy.
- B. Undertaking and/or commissioning research to fill priority evidence gaps and ensuring evidence is incorporated into decision making.
- C. Ensuring that marine and terrestrial biological resources are sustainably managed through works, studies, assessment, monitoring, policies and programmes.

<sup>10</sup> SDP Strategic Objective 6.4

<sup>11</sup> NOTE initial thinking includes identifying gaps in fishing licensing scheme and add conservation measures and penalties to licenses with robust and realistic enforcement.

<sup>12</sup> Note: The LDCP provides for a marine biological reserve (MBR) – Section 24.15 Pg 43.

<sup>13</sup> Note: Ensure that NCAs include protection and policies pertaining to the safeguarding of habitats e.g. guano collection **ensure that rats and alien plants are not introduced to islands by visitors or boats**



*Sustainable use of the marine environment and conservation of marine habitats and species must be considered in all policy planning and decision-making relating to the marine environment.*

**Species Action Plans** will also be developed for coastal and marine species.

There is no **Marine Archaeology Policy**. In the absence of any policy the following statement provides a high level approach to marine pollution:

*Marine archaeology must be considered in policy, planning and decision-making relating to the marine environment*

There is no **Marine Pollution Policy**. In the absence of any policy the following statement provides a high level approach to marine pollution:

*Minimization of marine pollution needs to be considered in policy, planning and decision-making relating to the marine environment*

There is no **Carrying Capacity Policy**. In the absence of any policy the following statement provides a high level approach to carrying capacity in the sea:

*Carrying Capacity of Marine Protected Areas and of the sea around the island needs to be considered in policy, planning and decision-making.*

**TARGET:** Baseline data collection will be commissioned as required

Requirements for policies relating to marine archaeology, marine pollution and carrying capacity explored by December 2013

**Lead:** SPPU

**TARGET:** Marine and Coastal species action plans developed. At least 3 SAPs developed by 2015 for critically endangered species

**Lead:** EMD

Figure 10: Dolphin research copyright EMD marine section



A sub-tidal research-based marine project will commence in autumn 2012 to provide an inventory of St. Helena's marine and coastal life. Other projects that will investigate the state of the surrounding sea and monitor important marine life will also be implemented.

## 17. NATURAL ENVIRONMENT KEY COMPONENT 3: WATER

Water is a key component of the natural environment, and effective management of water use by people, plants and animals is key to effective management of the natural environment.

Objectives that relate directly to the effective management of water are:

- G. Ensure that the quantity and quality of **potable water** supplies on St. Helena more than adequately address the needs of the population. Economic and social requirements arising from the predicted growth in demand for domestic, commercial and agricultural water met<sup>14</sup>.

**Delivery of this objective will be through the implementation of existing policy/legislation where relevant policy/legislation exists.**

Sustainable abstraction of water and provision of potable water is delivered through the water resources plan currently being developed.

All new commercial developments should provide a sustainable drainage strategy at the design/planning stage

### TARGETS AND LEAD IMPLEMENTERS

**TARGET:** Water management best practice developed and implementation begins by 2016

**LEAD:** I&U Water Division

**Delivery of these objectives will be through the creation of new policy/policy statements where relevant policy/legislation does not exist.**

There is no **Sewage, Storm Water and Surface Drainage Policy**. However the LDCP outlines planning policies for sewage<sup>15</sup>. In the absence of any policy the following statement provides a high level approach to sewage management:

*Management of sewage, storm water and surface drainage needs to be considered in policy, planning and decision-making relating to the marine environment*

There is no **Freshwater Ecology** Management Plan. In the absence of any policy the following statement provides a high level approach to freshwater ecology:

*In areas where freshwater ecology sits outside of National Conservation Areas and is subsequently not addressed through National Conservation Area Management Plans, conservation of freshwater species and habitats needs to be considered in relevant policy, planning and decision-making*

### TARGETS AND LEAD IMPLEMENTERS

**TARGET:** Develop and implement a sewage policy by 2016

**LEAD:** I&U

**TARGET:** Research freshwater ecology by 2016

Create Freshwater Ecology Management Plan by 2017 to include habitat restoration

**LEAD:** EMD

<sup>14</sup> SDP Strategic Objective 5.3

<sup>15</sup> LDCP Section 13 'sewerage and storm drainage' outlines policies for sewerage and storm drainage. Pg 22-24.

## 18. NATURAL ENVIRONMENT KEY COMPONENT 4: AIR AND SKY

The air and the sky are key components of the natural environment, and effective management of both is key to effective management of the natural environment.

Objectives that relate to the effective management of air and sky are:

**H. Minimize air, light and noise pollution** through research policy and legislation<sup>16</sup>.

**Delivery of this objective will be through the creation of new policy/policy statements where relevant policy/legislation does not exist.**

There is no **Air/Dust (atmospheric) Pollution Policy**. In the absence of any policy the following statement provides a high level approach to air/dust (atmospheric) pollution management:

*Minimization of sources of air/dust pollution needs to be considered in all relevant policy, planning and decision-making.*

There is no **Noise Pollution Policy**. In the absence of any policy the following statement provides a high level approach to noise pollution:

*Minimization of noise pollution needs to be considered in all relevant policy, planning and decision-making.*

There is no **Light Pollution Policy**. In the absence of any policy the following statement provides a high level approach to light pollution:

*Minimization of light pollution needs to be considered in all relevant policy, planning and decision-making.*

### TARGETS AND LEAD IMPLEMENTERS

**TARGET:** Atmospheric pollution policy created and implemented by 2014

**LEAD:** EMD

**TARGET:** Noise Pollution Policy created and implemented by 2014

**LEAD:** EMD

**TARGET:** Light Pollution Policy created and implemented by 2014

**LEAD:** EMD/I&U Energy Division

---

<sup>16</sup> See also Section 13 for cross-referenced links with climate change

## 19 MECHANISMS FOR IMPLEMENTATION

This section (19.1, 19.2, 19.3) addresses the implementation of objective J:

- J. Create a system of evidence provision, monitoring, reporting, resourcing and enforcing to adequately enable effective environmental management.

### 19.1 FINANCING

A number of the initiatives and policies promoted in this plan are already linked to funded implementation plans. However there are a number of new policies, collaborations and initiatives that require financing.

Sustainable financing mechanisms for effective management of the environment will also need to be considered. Current funding for government directorates comes through SHG recurrent and capital budgets. SHG funding also supports some civil societies, and recently government announced a new £50,000 Civil Society Fund. Enterprise St. Helena provides financial support for the growth of businesses on the island.

There are a number of additional funding sources available for environmental projects on St. Helena - this includes the Bank of St. Helena Community Fund, the Overseas Territories Programme Fund, the Overseas Territories Environment Programme, the Darwin Initiative Funds, the Flagship Species Fund, the Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) Research and Training Programme, the European BEST Programme. A number of these funds have been used for projects on St. Helena however they are for one-off projects only. As part of the 'greening' process, financial incentives for 'going green' will be explored, and a green financing mechanism established<sup>17</sup>. Economic valuation of the environment will also be considered as will the 'Polluter Pays' principle.

#### TARGETS AND LEAD IMPLEMENTERS

**TARGET:** Funding sources for environmental projects sign-posted on SHG website by December 2012

**LEAD:** EMD

**TARGET:** Green financing mechanism established by March 2014

**LEAD:** Finance

---

<sup>17</sup> Current ideas for areas to be considered in this financing mechanism include an environment fund from some/all of the following sources:

- Fines; A component of visitors landing fee.; A fee for research permits and licensing and for reviewing environmental assessments and providing input into the scoping opinion; A visitors National Conservation Area roving pass for unlimited access to all National Conservation Areas.; A fee for business whose product is the natural environment; A percentage of existing fees for businesses go to the environment; Sponsorship: Plant a tree/adopt a wirebird/historic building/important habitat; Charging for endemic plant seedlings and tours of SHG endemic plant nursery; Development contributions.

And 'green incentives' to include some/all of the following: Subsidies on environmentally-friendly products e.g. solar panels and for 'green' businesses.; Planning gain/trade off; Grants for recycled equipment; Green tariffs

Funding management: Special Environmental Management fund created – overseen by the NRDEC (with advice from EMD).

Don't forget that a lot of people don't have a lot of money – need to find the right balance and consider the social impact.

## 19.2 HUMAN RESOURCES

A number of the initiatives and policies promoted in this plan are already linked to directorates and organisations that have specialist and appropriate human resources to deliver on targets.

However to build environmental skills and expertise across the board, it is important that training programmes are developed and offered. There are currently a small number of environmental courses that are run on the island; these include an Environmental NVQ course provided by the National Trust and the Introduction to Data Management developed by the Environmental Management Directorate. Additional training courses in gap and new areas<sup>18</sup> will need to be developed as an important component of the implementation of this plan.

Some of the new areas of development might require additional/reallocation of staff within St. Helena Government<sup>19</sup>.

Innovative ways of tapping into external expertise will also be explored this includes through:

- Developing links with other Overseas Territories through existing networks such as the JNCC Overseas Territories Training and Research Programme and the UK Overseas Territories Conservation Forum.
- Formalising individual links with experts to create a St. Helena Environmental Advisory Group.
- Sign-posting relevant e-networks will be sign-posted on the St. Helena Government website.
- Collaborative working: good examples of this will be developed through participatory approaches to National Conservation Area Management Planning and through the community-based demonstration projects.
- Exploring volunteerism/scientific tourism as a potential research resource.

### TARGETS AND LEAD IMPLEMENTERS

**TARGET:** Environmental Training programme developed by March 2015

**LEAD:** EMD, Education and Employment .

**TARGET:** External expertise channels formalised by March 2014

**LEAD:** EMD, Education and Employment.

### Environmental Management Directorate (EMD)



Figure 11: EMD launch April 2012

St. Helena Government launched its new Environmental Management Directorate in April 2012. Its mission is to be the focus of environmental management for the St. Helena Government through the creation and implementation of policy and regulation and the provision of advice; underpinned by a clear, transparent research-led evidence base; supported by systematic monitoring and evaluation and a comprehensive communications and stakeholder strategy.

EMD will spearhead delivery of the National Environmental Management Plan

<sup>18</sup> Including archaeology,

<sup>19</sup> For example Marine Protection Officers with specific powers will be required to enforce Marine Management Plans.

### 19.3 EVIDENCE BASE

It is important that policy, legislation, assessment and action are all built around a robust evidence-base. A National Environmental Data Management System will be developed this will include:

- Building on the existing spatial data system SHEIS.
- Developing a research permitting system.
- Developing National Data Standards.
- Developing a Data Share Protocol.
- Data checks to ensure data accuracy, reliability and validity

Required research will be identified and commissioned to address knowledge gaps. This will include new scientific projects to support an evidence base for the protection of vulnerable terrestrial and marine species and habitats.

Core staff will underpin works including data collection and analysis will continue with core staff to provide evidence required to feed in to planning and decision-making.

Baseline data will be sourced to be able to set measurable government targets relating to areas such as national recycling scheme, water conservation, renewable energy and marine archaeology protection.

#### TARGETS AND LEAD IMPLEMENTERS

**TARGET:** National Environmental Data Management System created and implemented by March 2013

**LEAD:** EMD and I&U GIS

**TARGET:** Research projects commissioned and/or undertaken by core staff

**LEAD:** EMD

**TARGET:** Baseline data collected to be able to set measurable government targets for recycling by December 2014 for water conservation, renewable energy and marine archaeology protection.

**LEAD:** EMD, water division, energy division.

Figure 12: Papanui copyright EMD marine section



## 20. ASSESSMENT AND MONITORING

This section (19.1, 19.2, 19.3) addresses the implementation of objective J:

- J. Create a system of evidence provision, monitoring, reporting, resourcing and enforcing to adequately enable effective environmental management.

An **Environmental Assessment and Monitoring Framework** will be developed which will outline how all plans, policies and projects will be assessed.

The **Environmental Assessment and Monitoring Framework** will outline:

- What needs to be assessed?
- The parameters for assessment including **environmental standards**.
- How results of the environmental assessment will be included in decision-making.
- Roles and Responsibilities.
- How requirements under the assessment process will be monitored<sup>20</sup> including (but not limited to) existing assessments (E) and new assessments (N):
  - Environmental Impact Assessment – as required by the planning process (E).
  - Environmental Review of Policy – as required by policy development process (N).
  - Exco papers – as required by Exco memos (E).
  - SHG Strategic Plans – An Environmental Review will be included in the review of Directorate Plans (N).
  - SDP – Environmental Assessment of National Policies e.g. an Environmental Assessment of the current Sustainable Development Plan is required in April 2013 (E).
  - Environmental Proofing of Business Plans (N).

### TARGETS AND LEAD IMPLEMENTERS

**TARGET:** Environmental Assessment and Monitoring Framework created and implemented by March 2013

**LEAD:** EMD

### TARGETS AND LEAD IMPLEMENTERS

**TARGET:** Environmental standards established by March 2014

**LEAD:** EMD

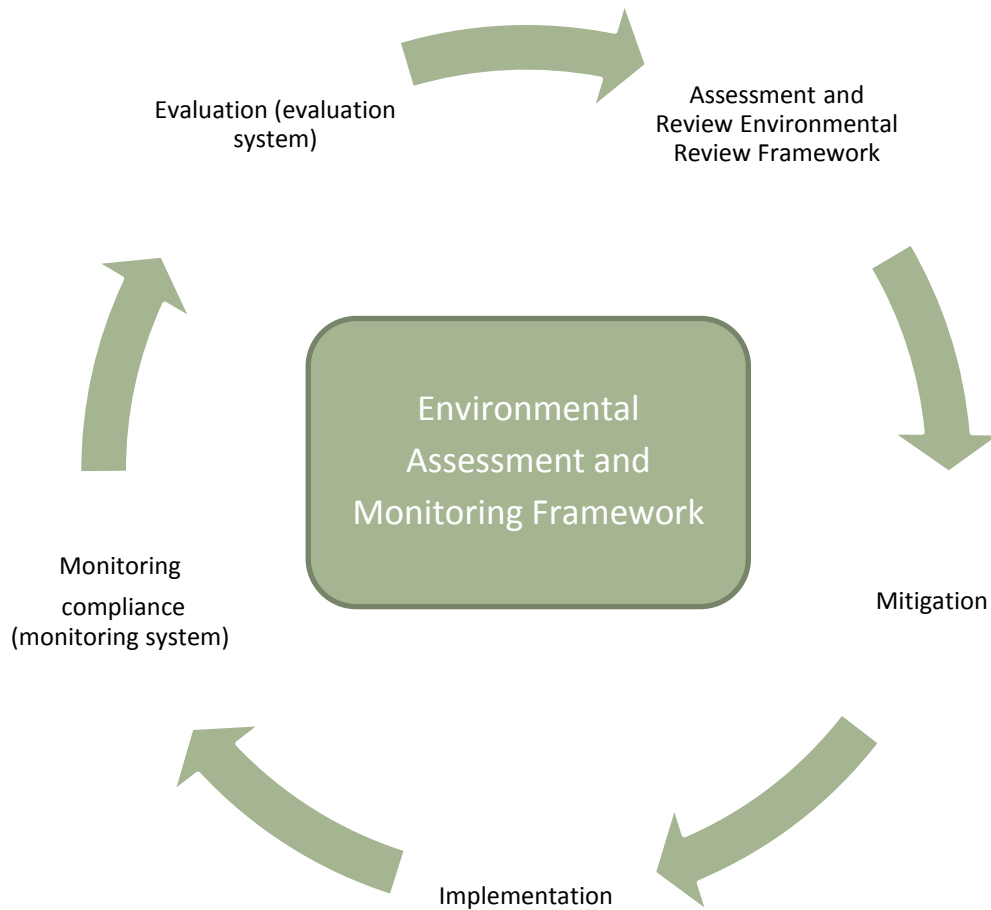
Figure 13: Masked Boobies - copyright EMD Marine Section



---

<sup>20</sup> Monitoring is likely to include Monitoring for compliance e.g. with National Conservation Area Management Plans, Assessment Requirements, **Environmental Standards**.

Assessment and monitoring will be closely linked with mitigation and evaluation as outlined in the following diagram.



## ENFORCEMENT

Enforcement of, and compliance with existing and new laws and policies will be an important component of the implementation of this plan.

## 20. ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY BOARD

An Independent body - an **Environmental Scrutiny Board** will be established to monitor compliance and delivery of the National Environmental Management Plan.

### TARGETS AND LEAD IMPLEMENTERS

**TARGET:** Environmental Scrutiny Board established with TORs and members by March 2013

**LEAD:** EMD



## 21. RISKS AND MITIGATION

Risk	Impact and Probability	Mitigation	Impact and Probability after Mitigation	Lead
<b>Inertia – inability to make the necessary changes in the timeline due to changing mind-sets, personalities getting in the way.</b>	High and High	Strong leadership and focus on the result. Clearly assigned ownership and accountability and clearly defined responsibilities.	Medium and Medium	Target leads as set out in plan with EMD as overall lead
<b>The financial and human resources are insufficient.</b>	Medium and Medium	Financing will be sought for SHG delivery of the plan through target inclusion the annual strategic planning process	Medium and Medium	Target leads as set out in the plan with EMD as overall lead
<b>People do not ‘buy-in’ to managing the environment and do not support any of the initiatives.</b>	Medium and Medium	Positive communications in the local media and community/participatory approaches incorporated where possible.	Low and Low	EMD
<b>Delivery dependent on multiple directorates, organisations, individuals and businesses, therefore not easy to manage.</b>	High and High	EMD will provide the focal point of delivery, and will monitor delivery by others. The Environmental Scrutiny Board will also play a role in monitoring delivery.	Medium and Medium	Target leads as set out in the plan
<b>The focus of economic development moves from sustainability to solely economic growth.</b>	Low and Low	Sustainability has been built into long term planning the Sustainable Economic Development Plan and the Sustainable Development Plan.	Low and Low	ESH
<b>Environmental degradation happens rapidly before all policies and processes within this plan are established.</b>	High and Low	Existing policies and processes provide a solid foundation for effective environmental management.	Low and Low	SPPU
<b>A major environmental disaster occurs e.g. major storm, major oil/fuel spill.</b>	High and Low	Dealing with and preparedness for Environmental Disasters built into Disaster Management Plan.	High and Low	Police

## ANNEX 1: GLOSSARY

Carrying Capacity	Upper limit for the number of people that the island (or particular areas e.g. National Conservation Areas) can sustain indefinitely.
Civil Society	Non-Governmental, non-profit organisations (i.e. as the term is generally used on St. Helena)
Cultural Heritage	Physical artefacts and intangible attributes of society inherited from the current and previous generations
Environmental Degradation	Deterioration of the environment through depletion of resources
Environmental Risk	Actual or potential threat of adverse effects on the environment arising out of an organization's activities (e.g. pollution, resource depletion).  Actual or potential threat to living organisms arising out of natural hazards (e.g. extreme weather, climate change)
Green	Sustainable through the implementation of environmental processes, plans, policies and standards as outlined in this National Environmental Management Plan.
Mainstreaming (Environmental)	the informed inclusion of relevant environmental concerns into the decisions of institutions and individuals that drive national, local and sectoral development policy, rules, plans, investment and action.
Sustainable	Improves quality of human life and conserves the earths vitality and diversity.
Sustainable (homes)	Homes that are minimizing negative impact on the environment in some way e.g. through improved energy and or water efficiency
Sustainable (Building materials)	Building materials that are minimizing negative impact on the environment in some way e.g. recycled glass as aggregate, compacted earth, wood from sustainable forests.

The **St Helena Youth Parliament** is concerned about the large carbon footprint the airport will bring to the island. The future is important to the youth and we are looking into how we personally can reduce our carbon footprints.

In July 2011, the SHYP planned and instigated the 'Aluminium Can Recycling Project.' However, due to difficulties with funding, this project was later handed over to New Horizons. We would like to see this project continued and possibly improved with help from the Environmental Management Directorate. In order to expand this project we would like to distribute aluminium can 'drop-off bins' in districts so that more cans may be collected, and more recycling done; thus reducing the island's level of waste, and helping to increase the island's environmental friendliness.

In March 2012 the Youth Parliament was approached by the St Helena National Trust to support the petition to change the island's national flower from the Arum Lilly to the Ebony. During this ballot, SHYP recognised that re-populating the island's endemic species will not only help to ensure the survival of the island's endemics for future generations, but also reduce the island's carbon footprint. We feel having an endemic plot in every area of St Helena would be very appealing and eye-catching for tourists. It shows that we are proud of our island's beauty. A member would like to see the reconstruction of forest land and green scenery areas.

A very important point made amongst MYPs is the youth's lack of participation in the environment. If they are allowed, or asked to participate, they will.



**Pilling Primary School** students focused mainly around play areas. One asked about a play area in High Knoll and another, a zoo, which links to the demand for activities for our younger children to participate in. They felt some of the playground areas were thoroughly used, but there were some activities (e.g. monkey bars) that were missing that other playgrounds had.

The students who felt passionate about our environment focused on the plants. One asked to make Blue Point a forest area where they could plant trees and endemics. Areas the children would like to see trees planted are: Half Tree Hollow, Jamestown and Ladder Hill. They also would like Diana's Peak to remain a protected area as the endemics are very important to St Helena and to continue the invasive species removal projects.

The older students would like to see recycling bins in houses, schools and public areas for the recycling projects. Teachers would also like to see this along with reusing water in homes. In addition to this, students would like to see the marine environment protected, and more activities at the wharf. Students would also like to learn more about endemic fish and the marine life on St Helena. Protecting Jonathon was also a concern amongst the children.



In terms of transportation, the students would like to see electric cars introduced to the island. They would also like to have more bike trails around St Helena as most of them are restricted to riding around their homes. One student would like horses to be reintroduced to St Helena. These can be used by farmers.

A Pilling student also brought up a solution of wave renewable energy. This can be collected at coasts or close to shores. Renewable energy stations can also be introduced to St Helena.

**St Paul's Primary School** students would also like to cycle to school, which might mean new trails made away from public roads and traffic. These trails can also be used for walking to school. In addition to this, they would like to have more environment projects in school, including how they can make schools green.



Recycling is also very important, and they would like to see this taking place in their school. They would also like to see desalination plants introduced to St Helena. Introduction of these plants could also help solve the water-shortage problems the island sometimes faces.

Another point made was that there should be more beach clean-ups. This links to the marine life which everyone feels strongly about.

A student would also like to have road trails through green areas where we can see the island's beauty from within. If we were to select spaces on the island to preserve for our green attractions, these roads may be very popular with tourists in the future.



**Harford Primary School** students are also interested in planting trees. Looking at play areas, they would like to see more climbing frames and would really like the possibility of trampolines and another swimming pool. They are concerned with the repairs and rust repellent for play equipment on Longwood Green and would like to see these made safer.

Harford, like every other primary school, would like more cycle tracks. They are also concerned with the litter on St Helena and would like more rubbish bins to be located all over St Helena's residential areas as well as food areas.

The students have also looked into sports equipment, and would like to see a tennis court on the east side of the island

**Prince Andrew School** students are also concerned about the island's carbon footprint. A student would like to have more public transport and carpooling instead of everyone driving into the same area in different vehicles. This is a very important and also very realistic point. A large percentage of islanders work in Jamestown, yet a lot of these working people insist on driving when they are offered public transport.



Students also think Jonathon should be better protected, as well as the Donkeys. They would like more involvement with these animals.

The older students would like other energy sources to be introduced to the island. These include tidal and hydro-electric energy.

Endemics are very important to PAS students and they would like to see them planted in more areas around St Helena. They mentioned a 15 year project to save all St Helena's endemics including the endemic marine life.

A student would like St Helena to be more 'green' by having only eco-friendly buildings. We also think that building on a brown-field site instead of a green-field site should also be taken into consideration.

### Summary of Youth Targets:

- Continue and expand St Helena's recycling projects
- Protect the endemic flora, fauna, Wildbirds and marine life
- Reforestation – Make selected areas on St Helena 'Green'
- More play areas for children around the island, and make the available play areas safer
- More bike trails around the island, including trails to school
- Introduce more renewable energy resources and desalination plants
- Another tennis court on the east side of the island
- Trails through St Helena's green-land
- Getting the youth more involved in the environmental projects
- Public transport and carpooling
- Eco-friendly buildings

#### *Save the Environment*

Nandeli Pelembe

Pilling Primary School

#### *Protect St Helena*

Mic-hail Harris

St Pauls Primary School

#### *Follow us to a Greener Future*

David Owen and Annika Roberts

Harford Primary School

#### *A Clean Environment is Best*

Scott George

Prince Andrew School

*"The environment is a large part of the island, and we should all come together to protect our unique and spectacular surroundings."* Kayleigh Harris, PAS

## ANNEX 3: IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Target no.	Target	Lead	Contributor 1	Contributor 2	Contributor	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
7	<b>Links to social development</b>														
7.1	Green guidelines for homes created and implemented by March 2015	EMD	H&SW												
7.2	Footpaths maintained at least once a year	ESH	ANRD	Crown estate											
7.3	Francis Plain sports field regularly maintained	E&E													
7.4	Green spaces in districts maintained at least once a year	??													
7.5	Areas for off-road biking and driving and mountain biking formalised by 2016	??													
7.6	Healthy living public awareness campaign run annually	H&SW													
7.7	10 year agricultural production plan produced and implemented by 2013														
7.8	2 new green spaces in Half Tree Hollow														
7.9	Included in the development brief of the Comprehensive Development Area														
7.1	Community garden - fresh food grown for the community by the Community														
8	<b>Links to economic growth goal.</b>														
8.1	Environmental review of the tourism strategy incorporated into an updated tourism strategy by March 2013	ESH	EMD												



12	<b>Airport</b>																
12.1	coordinate SHG environmental responsibilities under the airport project	EMD	air access														
13	<b>Environmental risk and disaster management</b>																
13.1	Mainstream risk assessment of natural hazards by December 2014	EMD															
14	<b>Climate change</b>																
14.1	climate change policy created by December 2014	EMD															
14.2	Develop data set and collect data relevant to climate change research. Work with the UK Meteorological Office and other international organisations to strengthen climate change predictions for St. Helena by March 2014	EMD															
14.3	Energy generation strategy implemented	Energy Division															
14.4	Environmental review of the island transport plan developed in 2012	SPPU															
15	<b>Land and Land Use</b>																
15.1	Continue to implement the requirements of the land development control plan for all planning applications	Planning	EMD														
15.2	Develop National Conservation Area Management Plans: Diana's Peak National Park by July 2012, Sandy Bay National Park by December 2012, Broadbottom Important Wirebird Area and Deadwood Plain Important Wirebird Area by December 2013. All NCA Natural Heritage management plans developed by 2016	EMD	Civil Society														
15.3	Implement prioritised species action plans for IUCN critically endangered species by 2015 and create new ones where required	EMD	ANRD	Civil Society													



15.4	Crown estates strategy to include provision for making best use of existing land and buildings	SHG crow n estat es	EMD	House holder s	ESH													
15.5	An environmental review of draft agricultural policy is undertaken	ANR D	EMD															
15.6	Create the solid waste management strategy and implement accompanying plan by December 2013	EMD	H&SW	ESH	Private Sector													
15.7	Implement priority areas of the invasive speices strategy and develop biosecurity strategy by 2013	ANR D	EMD															
15.8	Review road policy to provide a framework for the management of the roads environment by 2015	EMD	Road sectio n															
15.9	Baseline data collection will be commissioned as required. Requirements for policies relating to footpaths, public rights of way, cultural heritage, archaeology and carrying capacity explored by December 2013	SPPU																
15.1	Carrying capacity study commissioned by 2012	EMD	ESH (Touris m)															
16	<b>Sea and coastal zone</b>																	
16.1	Environmental review of the Commercial fishing policy by December 2012	EMD	ANRD	ESH														
16.2	Create and implement a marine management plan by March 2015	EMD																
16.3	Baseline data collection will be commissioned as required. Requirements for policies relating to marine archeology, marine pollution and carrying capacity explored by December 2013	SPPU																





## ENDNOTES

<sup>i</sup> Environmental mainstreaming has been defined as ‘*the informed inclusion of relevant environmental concerns into the decisions of institutions that drive national, local and sectorial development policy, rules, plans, investment and action*’ (Dalal-Clayton and Bass, 2009). It is an approach that is being promoted across the UK Overseas Territories, with pilot studies in the Falkland Islands and the British Virgin Islands. The adoption of environmental mainstreaming in St. Helena’s Environmental Management Plan will put St. Helena at the forefront of environmental mainstreaming in the Overseas Territories.

<sup>ii</sup> These are based on the goals and targets set under the Convention on Biological Diversity, with additions and modifications to include all aspects of environment, and to make relevant to the St. Helena context.

<sup>iii</sup> The objectives have been set by matching a range of National and International Environmental objectives, and adapting to make relevant to St. Helena and this plan.

<sup>iv</sup> SDP Strategic Objective 6.2

<sup>v</sup> SDP Strategic Objective 5.2

<sup>vi</sup> Cross references to SDP strategic objective 5.1: Saint Helena’s financial security enhanced and environmental impact minimised by increasing the share of renewable energy generation.

<sup>vii</sup> SDP Strategic Objective 5.3

<sup>viii</sup> SDP Strategic Objective 6.2

<sup>ix</sup> This will be done through

- Conserving endangered species and habitats through the development of strategic direction of conservation works, studies, education and policy.
- Undertaking and /or commissioning research to fill priority evidence gaps and ensuring evidence is incorporated into decision making
- Ensuring that marine and terrestrial biological resources are sustainably managed through works, studies, assessment, monitoring ,policies and programmes

<sup>x</sup> SDP Strategic Objective 5.2

<sup>xi</sup> SDP Strategic Objective 6.4

<sup>xii</sup> Note: this is a broad framework and further detail is needed to aid implementation.

<sup>xiii</sup> Guidelines for Environmental Impact Assessment can be found at <http://www.sainthelena.gov.sh/pages/environment.html>

<sup>xiv</sup> LDCP Section 24 ‘Natural Heritage’ outlines planning policies for Natural Heritage Pg 43-45.

<sup>xv</sup> LDCP section 25 ‘Built Heritage’ outlines planning policies for built heritage Pg. 46-48.

<sup>xvi</sup> ref. number of visitors, number of residents, or numbers of livestock? - all are important and impact upon the area's environment.

Capacity needs to be determined, and then upheld, monitored and adjusted to maintain the resource being managed.

<sup>xvii</sup> SDP Strategic Objective 6.2

<sup>xviii</sup> This will be done through

- Conserving endangered species and habitats through the development of strategic direction of conservation works, studies, education and policy.
- Undertaking and /or commissioning research to fill priority evidence gaps and ensuring evidence is incorporated into decision making
- Ensuring that marine and terrestrial biological resources are sustainably managed through works, studies, assessment, monitoring ,policies and programmes