

**GLOBAL POLLINATION PROJECT AND HONEYBEE FORAGE  
PROJECT SOUTH AFRICA  
National Steering Committee Meeting #6  
Via email November/December 2013**

**REPORT**

The Project Management Unit (PMU) of the Global Pollination Project (GPP) and Honeybee Forage Project (HFP) in South Africa decided not to have a National Steering Committee (NSC) meeting in November 2013, as only a few items needed consideration. Besides a brief update on the components of the project, the following documents were sent out for comment on 18 November 2012:

- The Action Items table from the May 2013 National Steering Committee meeting
- The draft Policy Interventions Table
- The draft “Management Considerations for Pollination Services in South Africa” document.

A reminder was sent on 9 December 2013, asking for comments by 13 December 2013. The Response rate from the National Steering Committee members via email was not very good, with only three of the thirteen members commenting on the documents. Some members said they will comment early in 2014. A further reminder was sent to the NSC members on 9 January 2014, but no further comments were received. The conclusion is that certain NSC members will have to be approached individually to comment on the documents most relevant to their sphere of work or influence.

**CHANGE IN NSC MEMBERSHIP**

As of this ‘meeting’, the membership of the NSC has changed: Ms Mireille Lewarne (WWF Stewardship Officer for Fruit and Wine) formally replaces Ms Inge Kotze on the GPP-HFP Steering Committee as the WWF representative, as Ms Lewarne is best placed to be taking information from these projects and integrating them within WWF’s Sustainable Fruit Initiative.

**ACTION ITEMS TABLE FROM MAY 2013 NSC MEETING**

The Action Items table from the 30 May 2013 meeting was sent out to the NSC members, with a status update.

	<b>WHO</b>	<b>ACTION ITEM</b>	<b>AGENDA ITEM</b>	<b>TIMELINE</b>	<b>STATUS as of Nov 2013</b>
1	PMU	To incorporate SANBI ‘Making the Case’ language into the Impact Pathway and other documentation where relevant.	2.3	When necessary	On-going
2	PMU	To consider financial situation for 2014 and, if necessary, apply for more funding during P Ivey’s budget motivation period in Nov/Dec 2013.	2.3	By Nov-Dec budget review	Unlikely that more funding is needed
3	PMU	Undertake the following regarding the Beeplants of SA book: - Obtain a backup of M Johannsmeier’s manuscript at regular intervals for safekeeping if needed - Ensure West Coast plants are included - Discuss with M Johannsmeier whether he would like peers to comment on the manuscript and, if necessary, arrange for draft version of the book to be given to select beekeepers to ensure endorsement.	3.1	asap and 2014	Backup and west coast plants assured. Full check against PRECIS and comments by chapter experts on-going
4	PMU	To arrange that J Hutton-Squire’s results are reviewed and that preliminary meetings are held to discuss the	4.2	Aug 2013	Thesis not yet handed in.

		ways forward after the thesis is handed in, so as to ensure that the results can be made public as soon as possible after the examination is complete.			Draft summary of findings is prepared.
5	NSC members	To provide a list of target stakeholders that C Poole can contact for the workshop(s) arranged to discuss J Hutton-Squire's species list before it is made available to the public.	4.2	By end July 2013	Primary stakeholders identified
6	Z Visser	To discuss the potential for incorporating some social science expertise into the strategizing over the use of J Hutton-Squire's results.	4.2	By end July 2013	Potential stakeholders identified. Waiting for thesis to be handed in.
7	NSC Members	To send a list of possible people to profile in the <i>scutellata</i> region to C Poole.	5.1	asap	3 people identified, profiles ongoing
8	M Mswazi	To relook at information included in the management plan document under 1.3 (page 52 of meeting pack) and include accurate details before the next NSC meeting. He must contact S Nicolson about a document on correct application of chemicals in considering forage resources and pollinators when spraying.	5.2	asap	On-going, major problems already corrected. See document for comments
9	C Poole	C Poole to confirm with FAO that the management plans can be consolidated into one overall management plan for South Africa.	5.2	asap	Completed. FAO accepts one plan
10	PMU	To continue to work on the management plan document to simplify it, make it more readable, and exclude copied and pasted information and jargon. All recommendations from this NSC meeting should be considered as the document progresses.	5.2	asap	Mostly completed. see draft and please comment
11	PMU	Must ensure that all NSC members and several beekeepers have an opportunity to review the management plan document at its next iteration.	5.2	2014	NSC to comment now, beekeepers to comment early 2014
12	F Steyn	To send the Conservation Agriculture review to C Poole as an example of a large-scale review of a body of work that might provide an example from which to start drafting a skeleton for a pollination-related assessment.	5.2	asap	Discussions have taken place.
13	J Colville	To send C Poole previous reviews/special editions on pollination as additional examples for the pollination assessment.	5.2	asap	Discussions have taken place
14	C Poole	To construct proposed skeleton of the assessment and take the issue forward with J Donaldson before presenting the skeleton at the next NSC meeting.	5.2	Next NSC	No skeleton available as yet
15	F Steyn	To send dates of upcoming events where talks can be presented to the PMU.	6.1	asap	On-going. NSC to continue to send
16	F Steyn	To send more details of the programme for the WC extension symposium as well as contact details for Jerry Aries to the PMU.	6.1	asap	Completed. Opportunity in 2014 as block session being hosted by SANBI
17	C Poole	To send more posters, DVDs and a few slides about the projects to F Steyn for him to take to workshops to ensure more exposure and awareness.	6.1	asap	Completed

18	M Mac Intyre, all NSC	To send ideas for a 'plant bee-friendly' cartoon character to C Poole.	6.1	asap	Completed
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### **COMMENTS ON POLICY INTERVENTIONS TABLE**

There were some general comments on the Policy Interventions Table (and therefore the plan of action for Policy Interventions arising from the GPP/HFP), and one specific comment from as follows:

- Jonathan Colville noted that the Working for Water programme and the Centre for Invasion Biology, and their associated people, need to be brought into achieving the primary goals and sub-goals, especially of row one, sub-goal 1.2.

The Project Management Unit will now discuss the Policy Interventions Table with the SANBI Policy Unit, and hopefully the Policy Reference Group in the first quarter of 2014.

### **COMMENTS ON THE MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS DOCUMENT**

The comments received on the management considerations document can summarised as follows:

- Mireille Lewarne noted that the WWF team could be very helpful partners in terms of connecting to landowners in specific areas. She provided some suggestions in the management considerations document, and made the suggestions that future studies could incorporate a regional pilot study where some of the management recommendations from the GPP/HFP could be piloted in an integrated landscape planning approach.
- Jonathan Colville noted that the document is looking much better and works well now that the two regions are discussed separately, but in one document. He said that adding some of the final results and graphs from the GPP and HFP students next year will add more value to the document. He said that the document will provide the opportunity to be more assertive about the importance of eucalyptus, and that there should be more detail to add once discussions with Working for Water take place. He commented that more references should be added to the document.
- Sue Nicolson noted that the document needs more detail on pesticides, pests and pathogens affecting South African honeybees, and on commercial pollination in this country. She feels that the document has too much management discussion. She suggested several papers to be read and incorporated, including a paper submitted to the Journal of Apiculture Research, and a survey of pathogens by Strauss *et al.*
- Jeanne de Waal provided several new briefs on the neonicotinoid pesticide issue for the Project Management Team to review and incorporate as needed. She suggested the Gerhard Verdoon be asked to comment on the section on agro-chemicals.
- Mike Allsopp expressed concern that the management document is not specific enough for particular audiences, and suggested that a brain-storm be held on exactly what the purpose of the document is, as well as its key audiences.

The Project Management Unit therefore plans to hold a brain-storm on the management considerations document as early as possible in 2014.