



STATE OF THE  
**ENVIRONMENT**  
**REPORT**

2015/2016

**EXECUTIVE**  
SUMMARY

**dube**  
tradePORT

SOUTHERN AFRICA'S PREMIER  
AIR LOGISTICS PLATFORM

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

OVERALL TREND: STABLE, WITH AREAS OF IMPROVEMENT REPORTED ACROSS THE VARIOUS THEMES

DUBE TRADEPORT WAS ESTABLISHED WITH THE AIM OF CREATING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES THAT BENEFIT KWAZULU-NATAL. IT IS INTENDED TO BE THE GLOBAL TRADE GATEWAY INTO SOUTHERN AFRICA, AND THE REST OF THE WORLD.

*In the 2013/14 State of the Environment Report (SoER) the future outlook of Dube TradePort was relatively positive, although admittedly much work and commitment was still required. It was anticipated that Dube TradePort would progress to an improving trend within the next reporting cycle, i.e. 2014/15. Although much work has been done in the way of planning and reporting, it is still felt that far more must be realised through implementation before an improving trend can be reported. For this reason, the trend for Dube TradePort SoER 2015/16, compared with the last reporting cycle, is perceived to be stable.*

Dube TradePort Corporation was established with the aim of creating economic opportunities that benefit KwaZulu-Natal. It is intended to be the global trade gateway into Southern Africa, and the rest of the world. It is the first 'greenfield' South African international airport city, with dedicated zones for hotels, offices, warehouses, a cargo terminal, a retail sector and an agricultural zone. Located approximately 35km north of Durban, it is in close proximity to two of the major seaports in South Africa and is connected to the rest of Africa by road and rail.

In both its first State of the Environment Report in 2011/12, the second iteration in 2013/14, and in this report (2015/16), Dube TradePort Corporation has set out to provide an update of the baseline environmental information obtained since the operation began in 2010 and to determine the effectiveness of measures already in place. The willingness of Dube TradePort Corporation to undertake this process underscores the organisation's commitment to sustainability.

A SoER describes the condition of the environment against a set of key environmental indicators. It provides an evaluation of the status of the environment and establishes linkages to the socio-economic and political environment. The report is based on the international Drivers-Pressures-State-Impact-Responses (DPSIR) framework, which is used for most South African SoE reports. Indicators used in this framework are representative of various environmental aspects or features.

The SoER is an important tool that can be used by decision-makers to determine how best to utilise natural resources and ecological goods and services, and to determine the best management and monitoring to improve or maintain the current state. The findings of this SoER were

mostly positive, although there were some indicators that identified areas where the management focus will need to be adjusted. Overall, the report should be used to celebrate Dube TradePort Corporation's successes and inform the process of continuous improvement.

Recommendations have been offered throughout this report to assist Dube TradePort Corporation with achieving its goals. However, it is also perceived that there are gaps in what has been presented in this report and that, through better monitoring and reporting, future SoERs could show a significant improvement in the status quo.

Lastly, it is recommended that future reports consider grading the status of the various aspects that are reported upon. This may assist with illustrating activities that are in an excellent state, but perhaps not improving: e.g. the trend may be reported to be stable, but the condition is good. This may better represent Dube TradePort and its various activities.

Table 1 contains a summary of the various chapters, issues and indicators reported on, as well as the findings and trends that have been identified.

KEY TO TREND INDICATORS	
Improving	
Stable	
Declining	

TABLE 1: SUMMARY OF THE 2015/16 REPORT FINDINGS

THEME	ISSUE	INDICATORS	DESCRIPTION	TREND
Governance and Integrated Environmental Management	Integrated Environmental Management	Percentage compliance with authorisations, licences and permits (%)	DTPC remains compliant and continues to maintain a high level of compliance at 96.6%.	
		Percentage budget allocated to environmental management (%)	A total budget of R10 000 000 was allocated (and spent) for the 2015/16 financial year.	
	Sustainable procurement	Percentage of locally sourced services and materials (%)	A clear trend could not be determined for this indicator, due to both a lack of data and a lack of historical data for comparison.	
	Sustainable development	Percentage of tenants on green leases (%)	There are currently no tenants on full green leases. However, DTPC has included voluntary disclosure clauses for energy, water and waste data in the lease agreements.	
		Percentage energy from renewable sources (%)	The energy sourced from renewable sources is on the increase.	
		Percentage emissions offset (%)	The percentage of offsets will increase as DTPC understands the need to reduce GHG emissions that contribute to climate change.	
		Percentage investment in skill development of staff (%)	The target of 2% has been exceeded, with 2.9% spent on investment in skills development. This is a total spend of R1 763 050.  DTPC's Corporate Social Investment department's annual reporting indicates that it has been a productive and successful year, with much effort made to ensure that investment was linked to DTPC's key focus areas, specifically education and skills development.	
		Percentage staff employed from surrounding communities (%)	DTPC continues to generate jobs (locally), but due to the lack of data it is difficult to determine whether there has been an increase or decline.	

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

(continued)

TABLE 1: SUMMARY OF THE 2015/16 REPORT FINDINGS (CONTINUED)

THEME	ISSUE	INDICATORS	DESCRIPTION	TREND
Land and transformation	Land use and rate of change	Rate of change of land cover (%)	<p>The current trend associated with land and transformation is regarded as stable, with incremental increases in land transformation and loss of natural land cover.</p> <p>A continued emphasis on projects that promote sustainability is evident from Dube TradePort Corporation's annual reports and a number of initiatives, which seek to address efficient use of resources and rehabilitation of degraded natural areas.</p>	
Biodiversity and ecology	Species and ecosystem diversity	Change in species diversity (number of species)	Dube TradePort has made significant efforts to remove alien plant species, plant locally-occurring indigenous species and improve management of natural areas.	
		Change in natural ecosystems (ha)	The Biodiversity Offset Management Plan and Conceptual Rehabilitation and Restoration Plan will see a total of 878ha set aside for various conservation activities, a 13.6% increase from the original 773ha indicated in the EIR.	
		Area of critical ecosystems rehabilitated (ha)	As of 2013, 10ha has been prepared and 58.2kg seed sown. In addition, about 30.04ha have been prepared for the sowing of 6484.75kg of grass seed.	
	Alien and invasive species	Change in alien and invasive species (ha)	Alien clearing work has been taking place since 2012/13 with 357ha reported to be cleared. In 2013/14 a further 420.38ha were cleared. In 2014/15 efforts expanded to include 150ha of plantation. It is anticipated that a further 85ha will be cleared in 2015/16, supported by ongoing maintenance of areas that have already been cleared.	

TABLE 1: SUMMARY OF THE 2015/16 REPORT FINDINGS (CONTINUED)

THEME	ISSUE	INDICATORS	DESCRIPTION	TREND
Water management	Water demand versus availability	Water demand per category (kl/day)	There has been a reduction in the amount of water used from municipal sources, with Dube AgriZone showing the greatest improvement. The use of municipal water by DTPC overall has reduced from 514.37kl/day (2012) to 229.02kl/day (2015), which represents approximately a 45% reduction.	
	Water quality of natural systems	Increase/decrease of treated water quality (various)	The Southern Waste Water Treatments Works is continuing to improve the quality of treated effluent produced, but the percentage of days that exceeded the GLVs is still an issue.	
		Increase/decrease of quality of stormwater run-off (various)	The water quality of the stormwater run-off is declining as most of the parameters exceeded the prescribed GLVs, but it is important to note that the level rate of the decline in water quality is an improvement on the values noted the previous year.	
		Surrounding wetland health status (various)	The wetland systems that have been assessed have been described as 'Largely Modified' to 'Critically Modified' which is the same condition as the previous iteration.	
		Surrounding river health status (various)	There have not been any comprehensive studies conducted on the rivers surrounding DTPC.	

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

(continued)

TABLE 1: SUMMARY OF THE 2015/16 REPORT FINDINGS (CONTINUED)

THEME	ISSUE	INDICATORS	DESCRIPTION	TREND
Natural and cultural heritage	Existence of heritage resources on Dube TradePort land and how they are being impacted upon	Number and type of natural heritage sites	DTPC acknowledges the importance of heritage resources and has adhered to the recommendations made by specialists.	
		Number and type of cultural heritage sites		
		Current use of heritage sites		
		Access to heritage sites	The Memorial Garden is the only sensitive site in DTPC, and access to this site is still allowed.	
Air quality	Air pollution and climate change	Carbon dioxide emissions by source (CO2e/annum)	The highest contributor of carbon emissions within Scope 1 and Scope 2 analysis is Dube Cargo Terminal, where most of the emissions are due to energy consumption. The Support Zones account for the second highest contribution to carbon emissions, which is also due to high levels of energy consumption.	
		Percentage emissions offset (%)	It is anticipated that an improvement in emissions will be seen as a result of the initiatives DTPC has embarked upon to counter, and offset, the carbon footprint emanating from the aerotropolis.	

TABLE 1: SUMMARY OF THE 2015/16 REPORT FINDINGS (CONTINUED)

THEME	ISSUE	INDICATORS	DESCRIPTION	TREND
Waste management	Waste generation and characterisation	Waste generation by source and type (ton/annum)	<p>Waste generation and characterisation has improved across all operational zones compared to the 2013/14 SoER.</p> <p>During the 2013/14 period, a total waste volume (recyclable and non-recyclable waste) of 280.10 tonnes was produced. By 2014/15, waste volumes had increased to 298.62 tonnes, while in 2015/16 waste volumes had decreased to 152.10 tonnes.</p> <p>In terms of waste separation, the current ratio of recyclable to non-recyclable waste across all the operational zones is 2:3. The amount excludes the March 2016 waste volumes for Dube AgriZone.</p>	
	Waste minimisation and disposal strategies	Percentage waste diverted from landfill, e.g. reduced, reused, recycled (%)	<p>Waste being diverted from landfill/recyclable waste has improved compared to the 2013/14 SoER.</p> <p>In 2013/14, 94.28 tonnes of recyclable waste was produced across all operational zones. This amounts to 34% of the total waste volume.</p> <p>By 2014/15, the amount of waste had increased to 144.19 tonnes. Although waste volumes increased, approximately 48% of total waste was recycled across all operational zones. This is an improvement compared to the previous year.</p> <p>During the 2015/16 period, waste volumes decreased to 71.58 tonnes. Recyclable waste decreased slightly to 47.06% across all operational zones.</p>	
		Percentage waste disposed (%)	<p>The percentage of waste being disposed at landfills has improved and is constantly decreasing.</p> <p>During the 2013/14 period, 185.82 tonnes of waste was produced. Approximately 66% of total waste was considered non-recyclable. Non-recyclable waste volumes decreased to 154.43 tonnes in 2014/15. This amounts to 52% of total waste across all operational zones.</p> <p>By 2015/16, waste volumes further decreased to 80.52 tonnes. This amounts to 52.94% of the total waste volumes.</p>	



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