



CITY OF CAPE TOWN  
ISIXEKO SASEKAPA  
STAD KAAPSTAD

## Balancing Social and Environmental Needs

Social Services/ Recreation and Parks/11 Sep 2017

Making progress possible. **Together.**

# Location

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# Purpose

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- Challenges experienced as a conservationist within a Recreation and Parks Context.

# Mission of the City of Cape Town

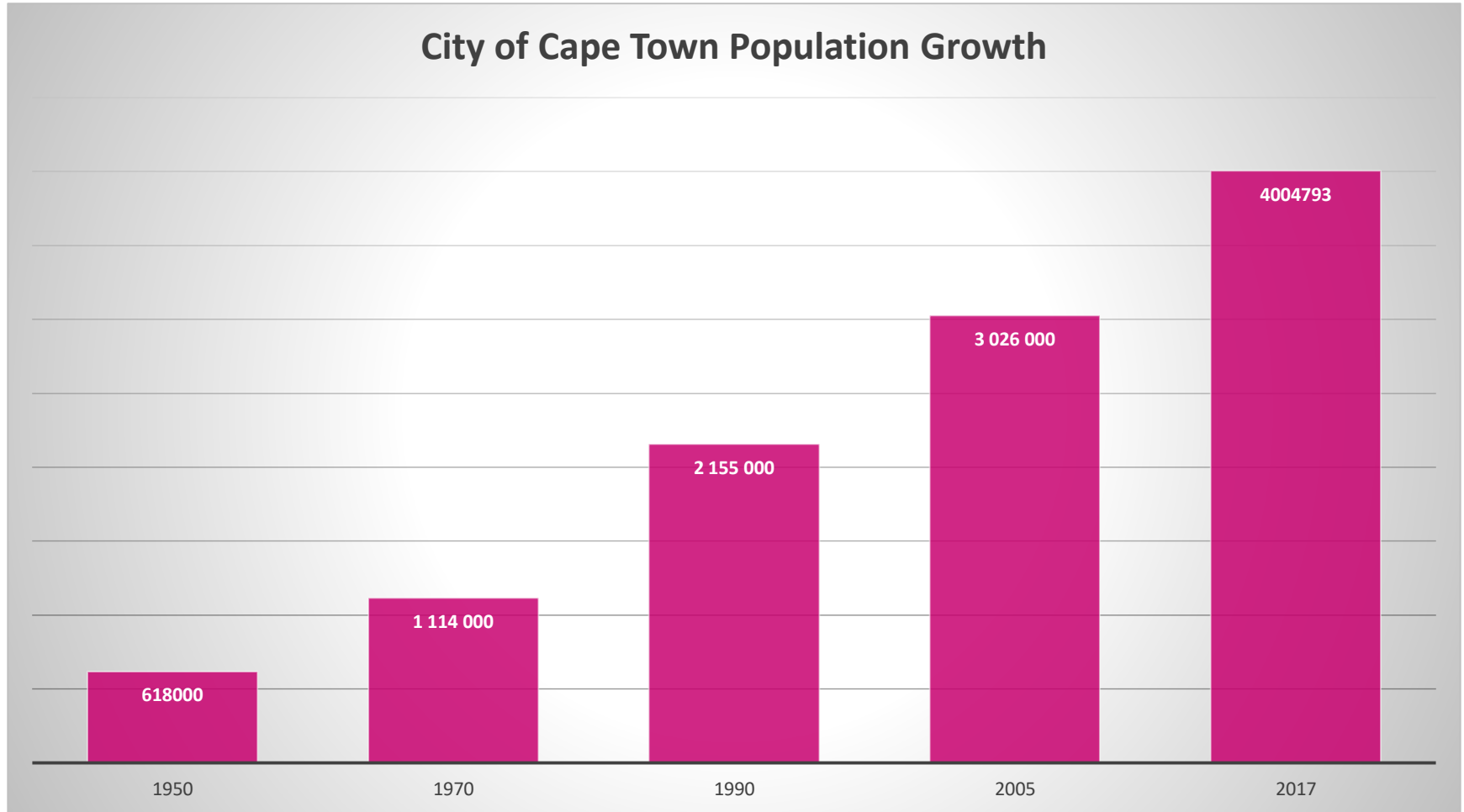
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- To contribute actively to the development of its environment, human and social capital;
  - To offer high-quality services to all who live in, do business in or visit Cape Town; and
  - To be known for its efficient, effective and caring government.

# Social Context

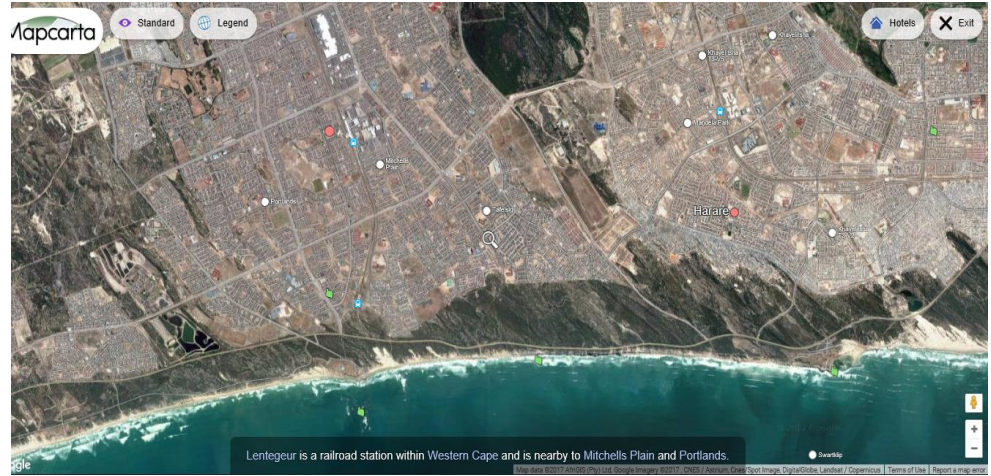
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# Population Growth





# Urbanization



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# Biodiversity Significance

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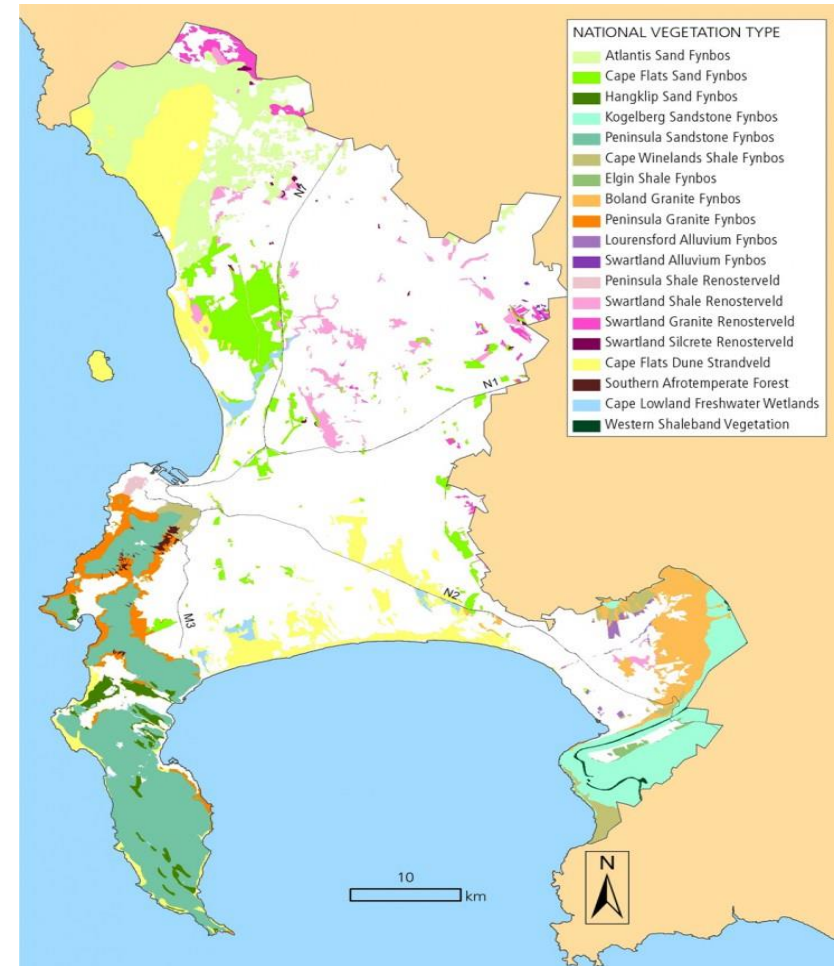
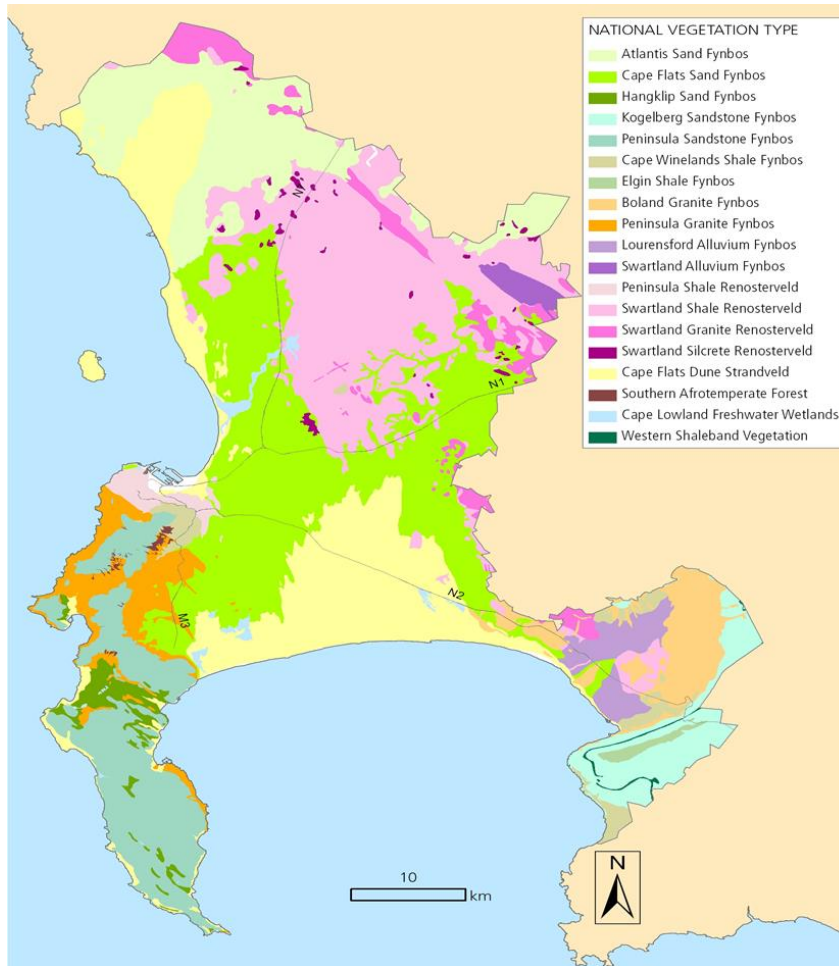
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# Biodiversity Hotspot

- Threatened ecosystems and national vegetation types

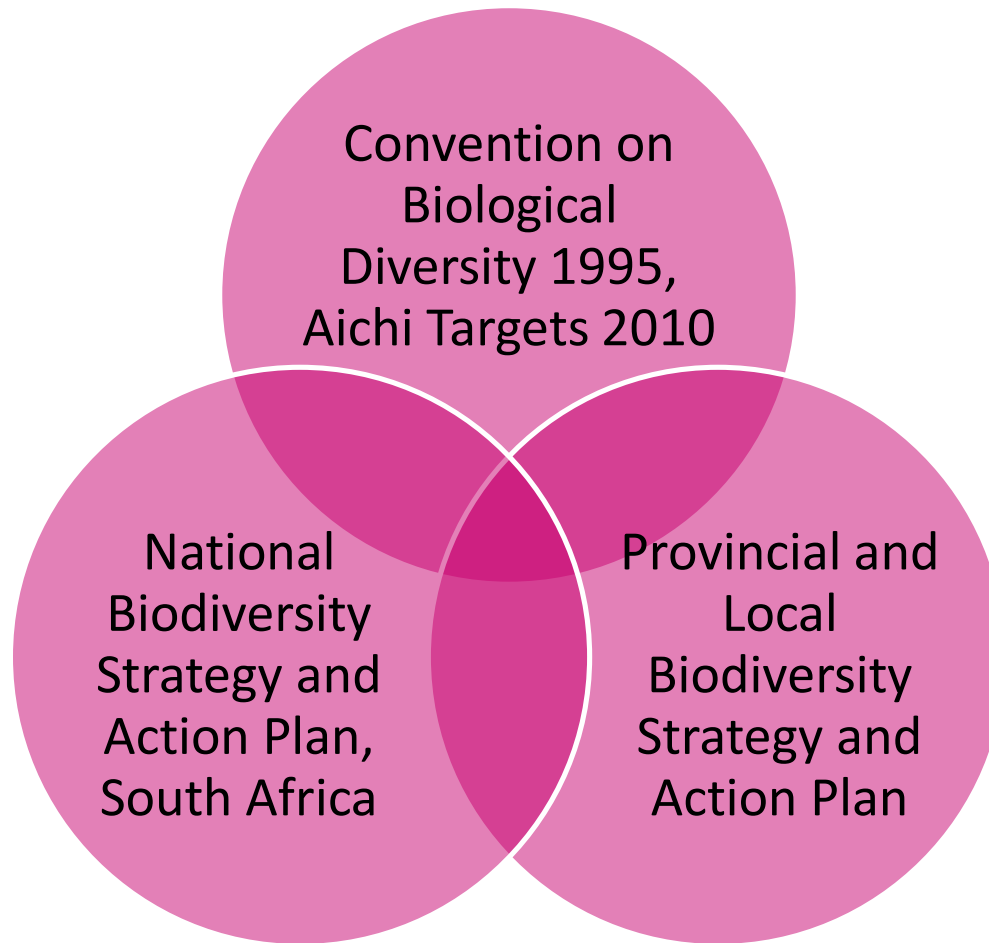


# Vegetation types



# International to Local Context

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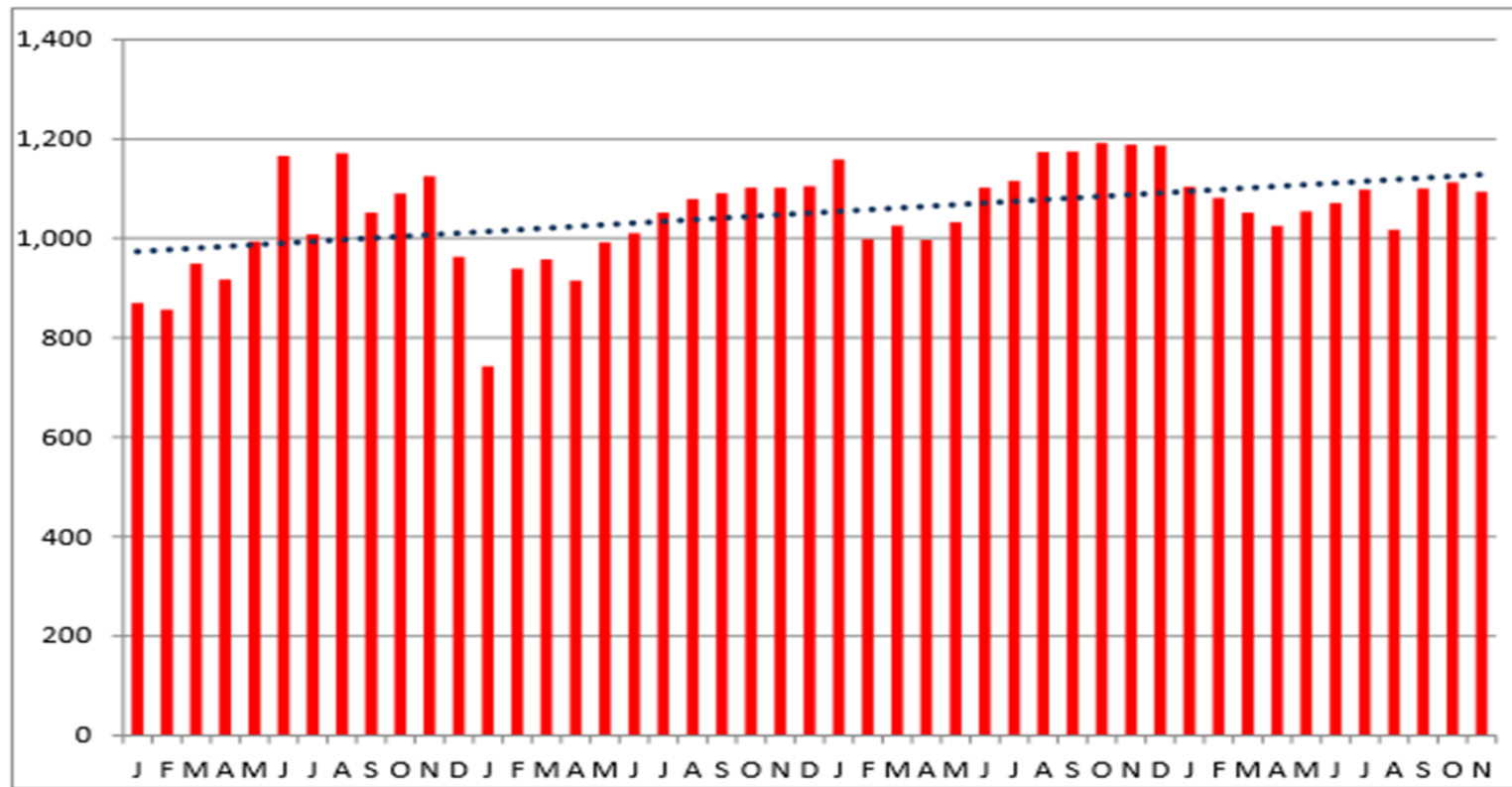


# Reaching a balance

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Burial Space and Biodiversity Conservation

# Current Burial Situation



The bar chart above depicts the number of burials per month occurring at all cemeteries from January 2013 to November 2016

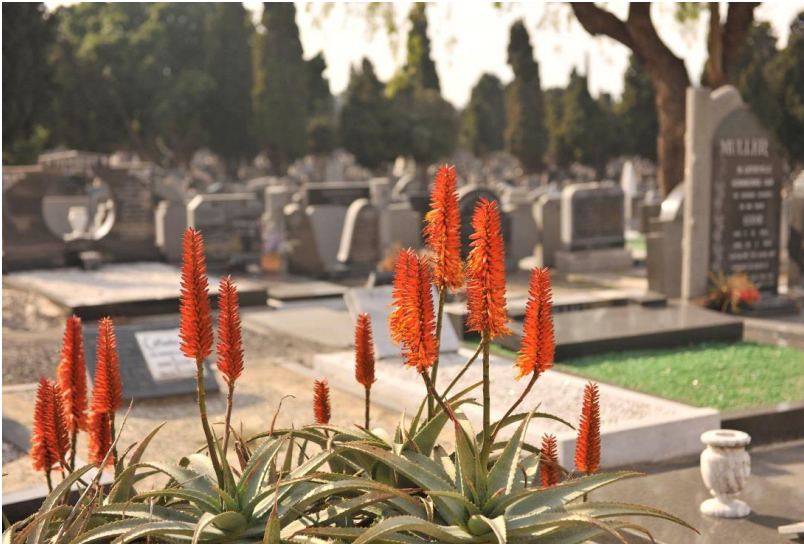




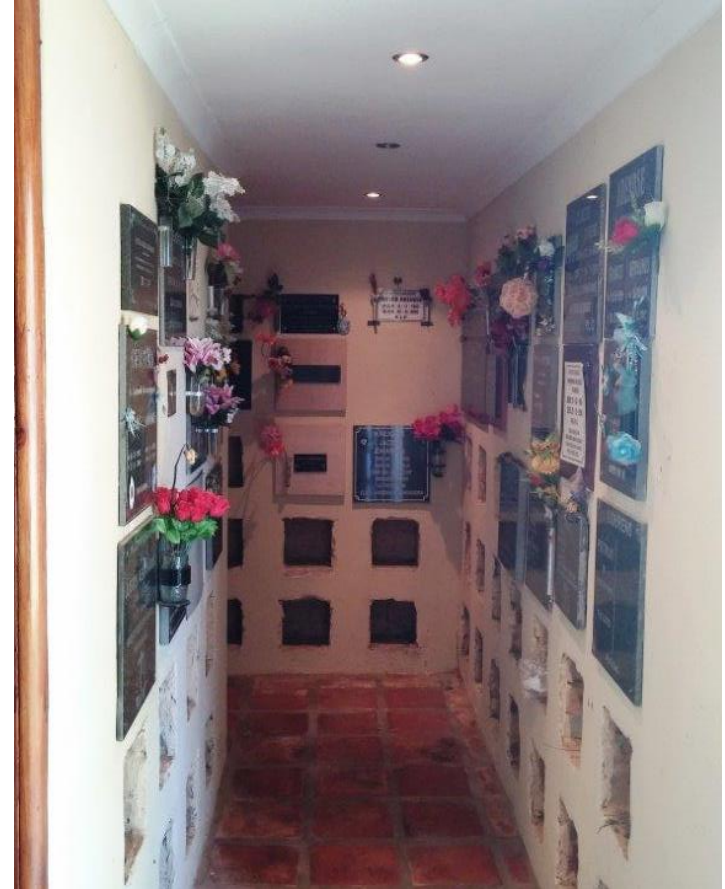
# Current Burial Situation

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- 60% Burial



- 40% Cremation





# Dealing with the shortage of burial space

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- Reuse of Private Family graves for second burials-**Limitations**
- Reuse of vacant exhumed graves- **Limitations**
- Develop new Cemeteries- **Environmental and health legislation**
- Extend Existing Cemeteries- **Environmental and health legislation**
- Encourage cremation- **Opportunity to expand exist**

# Cremation as a long-term solution

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# Opportunities

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- 2016 SALGA Report on Good Practices in Cemeteries
  - **Limited knowledge** and **exposure** in communities practices such cremation
  - Forbidden by some cultures and religions
- Awareness and Education on Cremation
  - Structured policy and programme is needed.

# Opportunities...

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- Examples of successful awareness programmes:



# Opportunities...

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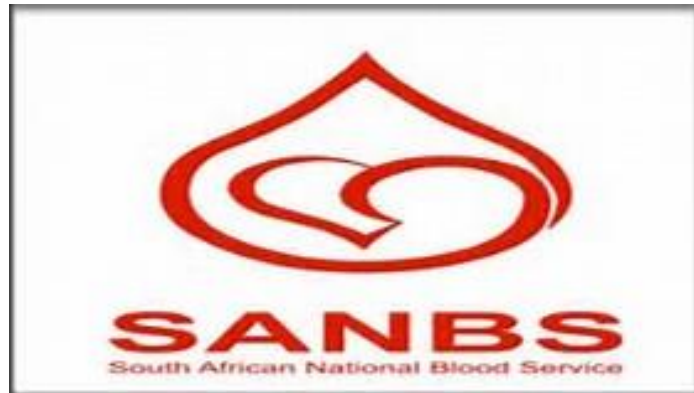
- HIV and Aids Programme
  - AIDS Life Skills Education Programme in schools
  - Lovelife, Soul City and Soul Buddyz



# Opportunities...

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- South African National Blood Service
  - In 2016 programme spent over R7 million on awareness and education
  - On print, online, television and radio



# Opportunities...

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- At the same time on Cremation
  - Only found less than 10 articles online since 2010
  - Are we ever going to make an impact on this?



# Conclusion

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- Finding a final resting place for South Africans is important to the government.
- The challenge of finding space for burial is international.
- Biodiversity management is also a priority for the South African Government.
- Let's take an integrated approach and focus more on areas such as cremation.
- Investing on awareness and education on cremation will help municipalities to ease the pressure on natural resources.



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**Thank You**

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**Making progress possible. Together.**