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Implemented by



FFA OPERATIONS
FIRST IN INTEGRATED FIRE MANAGEMENT
IMPLEMENTING AGENT OF THE AWARD WINNING EPWP PROGRAMME: WORKING ON FIRE

What is the Working on Fire Programme



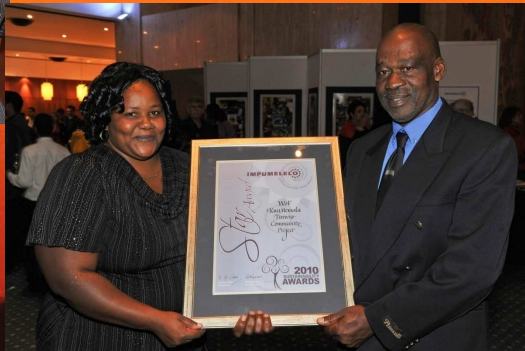
Multi-departmental, multi disciplinary Government and private sector response to address the effects that wild fires and poverty have on communities, particularly the youth of South Africa



• **Impumelelo Sustainability Award**
Certificate of Merit for community project

Award Winning Programme

- **Impumelelo Platinum Award** for innovation and partnership with government
- **Kamoso Award** – Best EPWP environmental project.



Working on Fire Objectives

➤ **POVERTY RELIEF**

Employing Youth from Impoverished, Previously Disadvantaged Communities

➤ **SKILLS DEVELOPMENT**

Training and Developing skills in Fire Management and Leadership

➤ **INTEGRATED FIRE MANAGEMENT**

Developing & Implementing an Integrated Fire Management capacity to assist Landowners with reducing the negative effects of Wildland Fires

Integrated Fire Management

➤ **Advocacy and Awareness**

➤ **Communities in Fire Prone Areas & General Public**

➤ **Fire Prevention**

➤ **Prescribed Burning , Fuel Reduction**

➤ **Fire Detection**

➤ **Satellite and Terrestrial Camera Monitoring**

➤ **Dispatch and Coordination of Resources**

➤ **Fire Suppression**

➤ **Ground and Aerial Resources**

➤ **Fire Related Research**

➤ **Rehabilitation**

Fire Bases

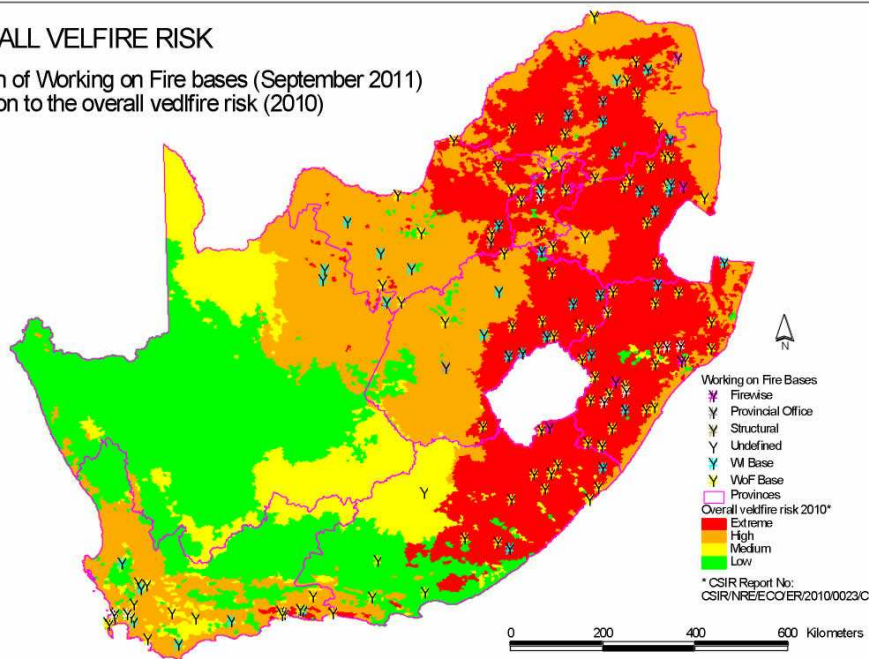
All Working On Fire Crews are placed at a Fire Base.
Bases are positioned with the following Partners:

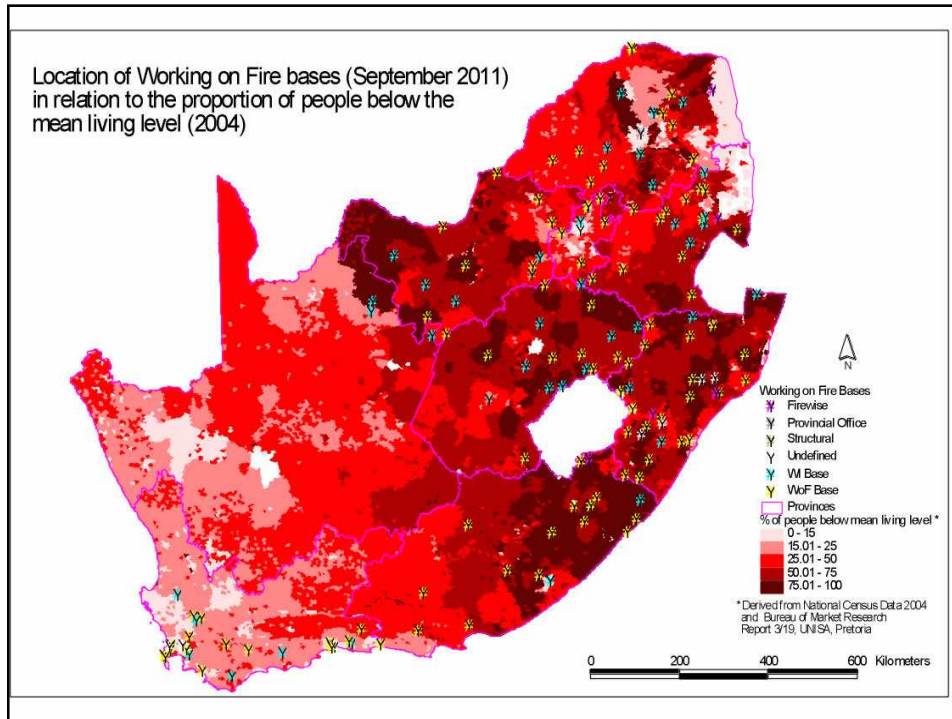
- National Parks
- Fire Protection Associations
- Local Municipalities
- District Municipalities
- Private Land Owners
- GDARD and BLUE IQ



OVERALL VELD FIRE RISK

Location of Working on Fire bases (September 2011)
in relation to the overall veldfire risk (2010)

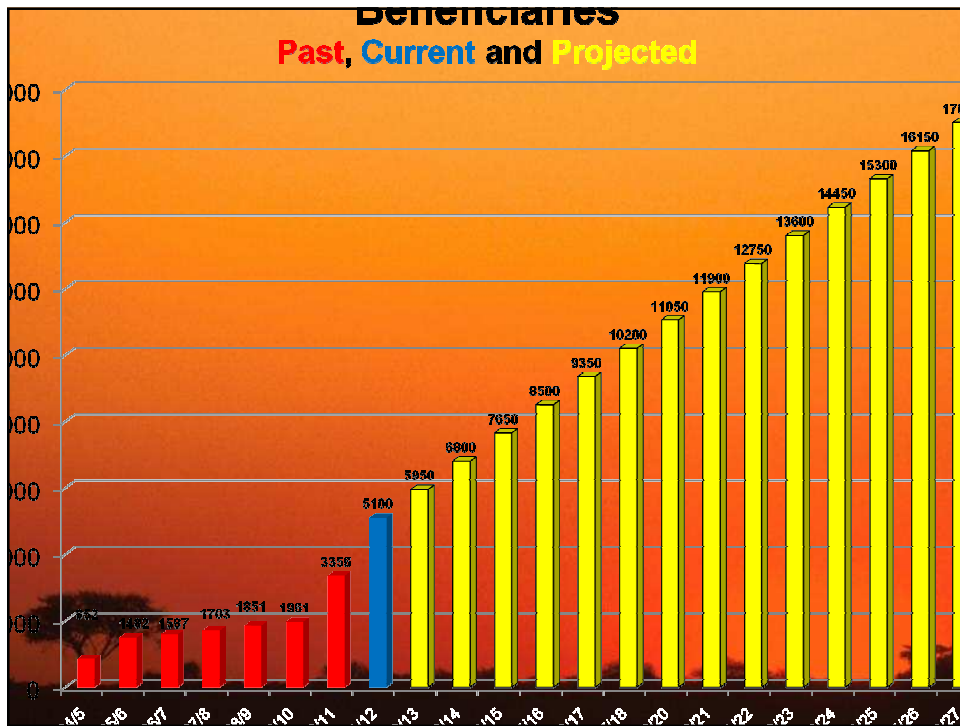




Fire Fighter Selection

Successful Candidates are required to:

- **Run 2.4km under 12 minutes (male)14 minutes (female)**
- **40 pushups and 40 sit-ups in 1 minutes**
- **Pass an interview**
- **Pass an entry medical examination**



Fire Management Training

FFA has established a Wild Fire Management Training Academy which incorporates National Wild Fire Coordinating Group and South African Training Standards.

- This is aimed at all levels of the fire organization from the Fire Fighter to the Incident Commander.
- FFA has an ongoing exchange program with the US Forest Service.

Training Cont.....

- Annual training camps are held before the fire season commences. To ensure that fire fighters are adequately prepared.
- Emphasis is placed on Safety and Survival as well as mobilisation and deployment.



The Winning Team



COURSES OFFERED

- **Mandatory: Induction, Advanced Firefighting, HIV/AIDS Awareness and Personal Finance Management.**
- **Functional: Chainsaw, Brush cutter, First Aid Level 3, Fundamental of Catering and Health and Safety Representative.**
- **Life Skills: Agriculture, Introduction to Computers, Entrepreneurship, Carpentry.**





Personal Protective Equipment

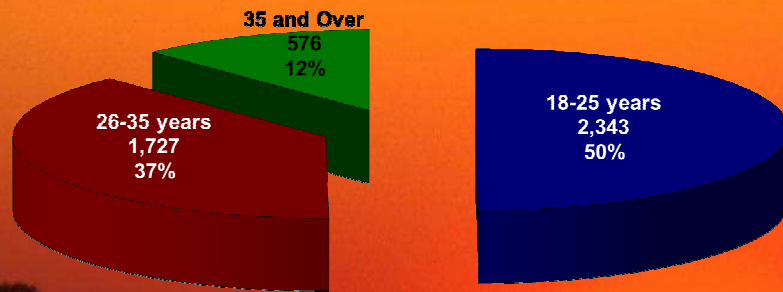
(all complying to international standards)

- **100% Cotton uniforms**
- **100% Cotton second Layer**
- **Leather Boots**
- **Leather Gloves**
- **Nomex Balaclava**
- **Helmet and Torch**

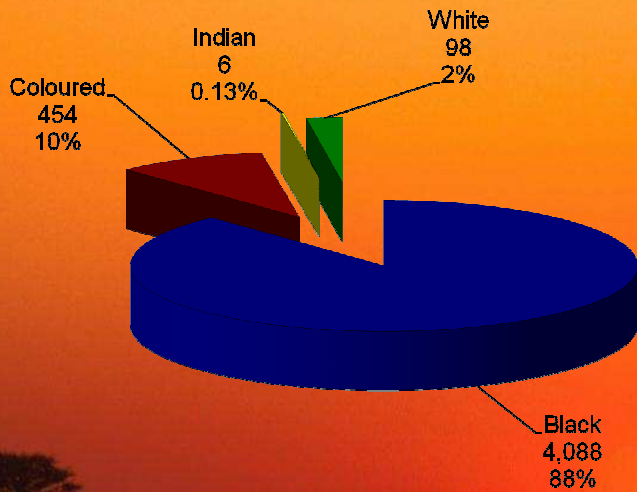


Total WoF Age Distribution (number of employees and percentage)

1.3% Persons with Disabilities



Total WoF Race Distribution (number of employees and percentage)

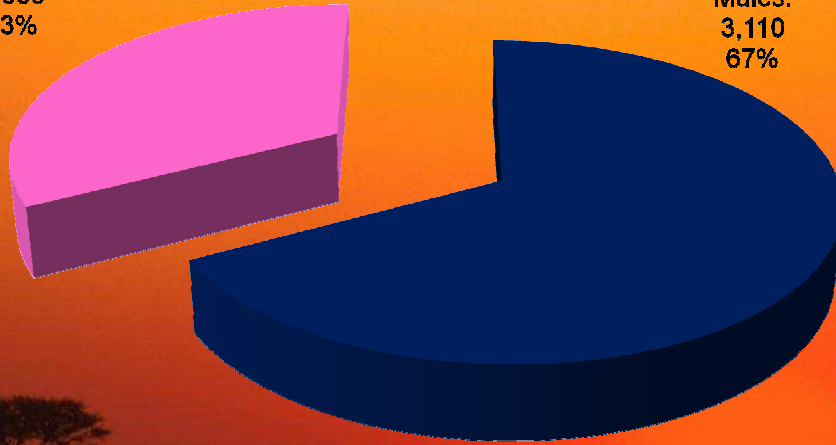


Total WoF Gender Distribution

(number of employees and percentage)
End August 2011

Females:
1,536
33%

Males:
3,110
67%



Fire Fighting Resources

Extended Attack Hand Crew (Hot Shots Crews)

Driver plus 24 Person Hand Crew

Transported on a 8 Ton Samil 50
Truck with 1000l water.

The Crew is fully equipped to camp
and be self sustaining for a week
while on Operations



FULL TEAM

- Crew Size 25 members
- Type 1 Crew Leader 1
- Type 2 Crew Leader 2
- Store person /person with disability 1
- Driver 1
- Firefighters 20

Team information Cont.....

- First Aiders 2
- Safety Representatives 2
- Chainsaw Operators 2
- Brush Cutter Operators 2
- Cooks 2



Fire Fighting Resources cont..

Structural Crews

A recent addition to the programme is Structural Crews.

These are persons who exit from the WoF Programme into structural positions and are placed with Local Fire Brigades after passing Fire Fighter 1 training.

12 person crews currently placed at 6 Municipalities



Advocacy & Awareness

FFA has adopted the Fire Wise approach to Fire Awareness as part of the Prevention Aspect in Integrated Fire Management

Empowers Individual Land Owners and Communities that live in a Fire Prone Environment must take responsibility for the ignition potential



Fire Research

Working on Fire has capacity to conduct
Fire Related Research Projects.

Projects Completed include:

- Savannah Fire Ignition Research Experiment (SavFIRE)
- Improving veld conditions in Cymbopogan Themeda (Slangbos)
- Develop a profile for a successful female fire fighter
- Determining the nutritional needs of a fire fighter
- Vegetation Assessment
- Rain Dance Project in Kruger Park and Forestry Areas

Fire Research

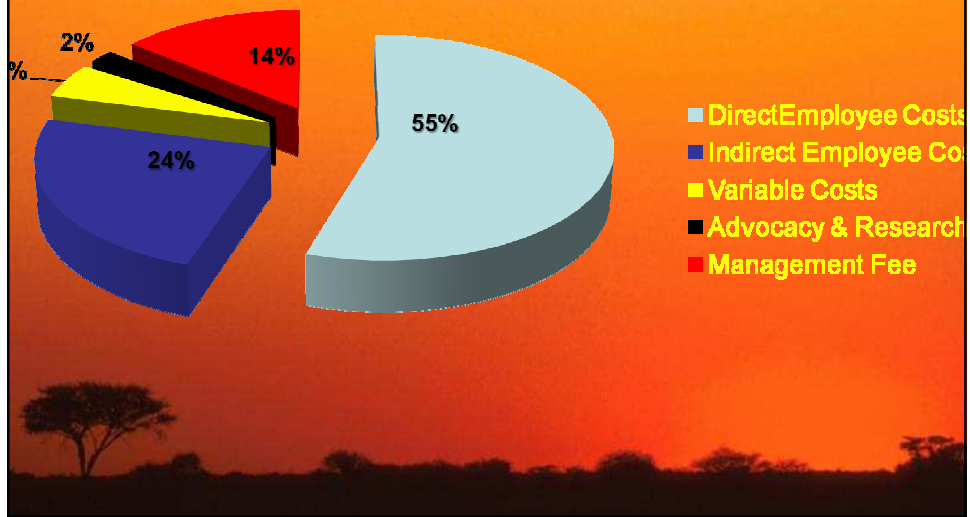


Measuring Fuel Load with a
Disc Pasture Meter



Professor Winston Trollope
&
Mrs Lynne Trollope

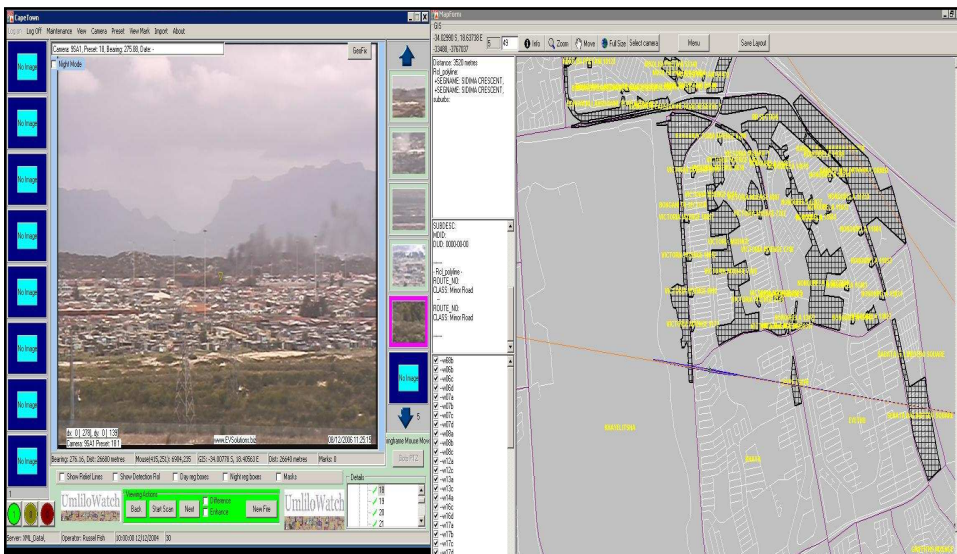
Programme Expenditure



In August 2007, the wild fires in the northern and eastern provinces of South Africa were estimated by Forestry South Africa to have cost the country over R3.6 Billion for the Forestry industry alone. According to the then CEO of Forestry South Africa, the damage would have been double that, were it not for the *Working on Fire* partnership.



The *Working on Fire* programme, and the Santam-Cape Argus *Ukuvuka* Campaign before it, has tried to assist the structural fire-fighting capacity in dealing with shack fires. Here a resident makes a forlorn effort to quell the damage in a shack fire. Most residents that are victims of shack fires have little savings, no insurance, and lose almost everything in these fires.



The *Working on Fire* programme has piloted an approach using artificial intelligence to improve the detection of fires, and the rapid response to those fires. Of particular interest has been the deployment of the aerial capacity – fixed-wing bombers and helicopters – to fight shack fires. This sequence of slides shows an actual response to shack fires in Khayelitsha, Cape Town.















**3 Year Pilot Informal Settlement Project
– Discontinued due to Lack of Funds**



**KE A LE LEBOGA
THANK YOU**

