

Cultural ecosystem services of the Diep River Corridor within the City of Cape Town: community perception of ecosystem services

Boitshekwane Kgantsi

MPhil in Environmental, Society and Sustainability

Supervisor: Dr Pippin Anderson

Environmental and Geographical Science ,
University of Cape Town



What is ecosystem services ?

The concept of ecosystem services emerged with the intent of linking science and policy to solve environmental degradation issues, environmental pollution, and scarcity of resources and to connect people with nature.

Ecosystem services in general are of importance in environmental planning, management and communication to different stakeholders, groups and decision makers.

Ecosystem services

Provision
(Food, water,

**Benefits derived
directly/indirectly by
people to support their
needs of life.**

Regulating
(Climate , air, etc)

Supporting
(habitat provision,
ecosystem process
etc,)



Cultural
(aesthetic, spiritual
uplifting ,recreational

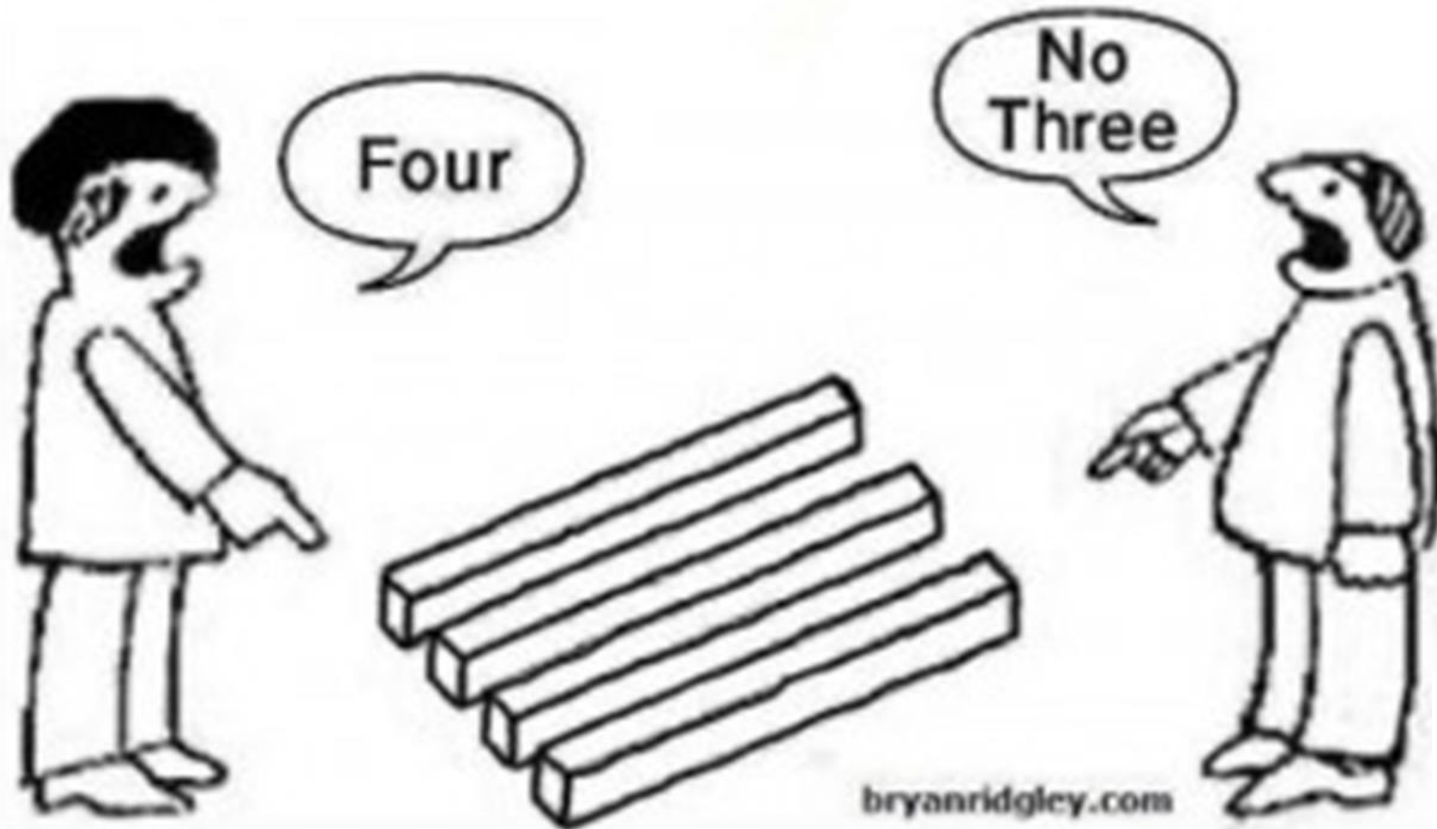
Why cultural Ecosystem Services ?

- Are poorly reflected in decision making process
- Are considered intangible and not easy to quantify as biophysical and monetary values (Daniel et al, 2012).
- Are often understated

**society often
valued these
cultural
activities !!!**

Why perceptions

Reality can be so complex that equally valid observations from differing perspectives can appear to be contradictory.





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Case studies

Sapporo City rivers and streams in Japan (Asakawa et al , 2014)

**Rivers deteriorated due to
flooding & urban development**

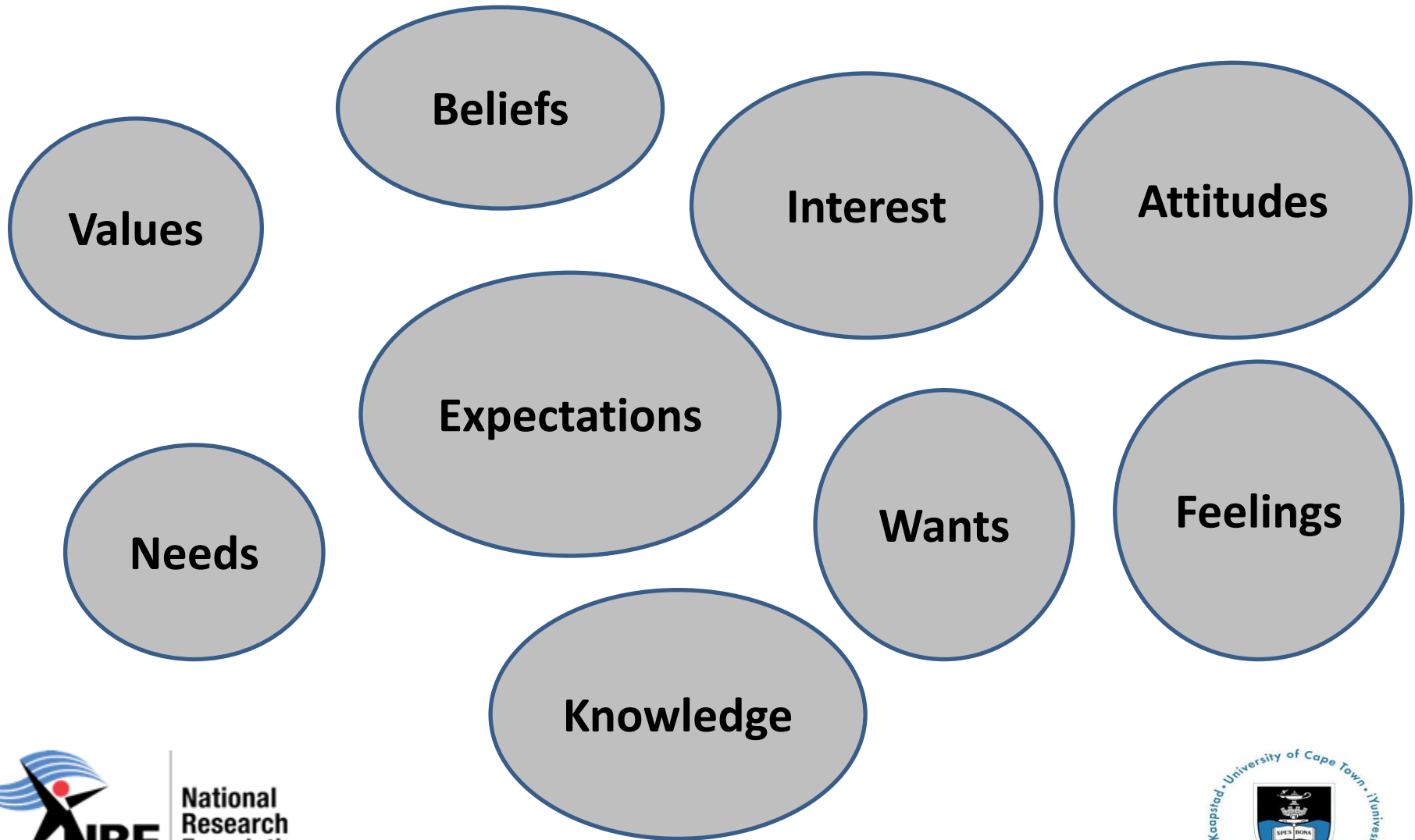
**Local participation to rehabilitate
the river (perceptions of
community taken into
consideration)**

**The result was improved river
corridor**

England, UK : urban river corridor (Holt et al, 2012)

- convergence rivers
- Source of power
- Industrialisation- pollution
- Rivers- modified
- Efforts made: local, private
and volunteer
- Results: heathy living city
with recreational activities

Perceptions are influenced by:



Diep River Corridor

South Africa



Western Cape



City of Cape Town



Why Diep River Corridor ?

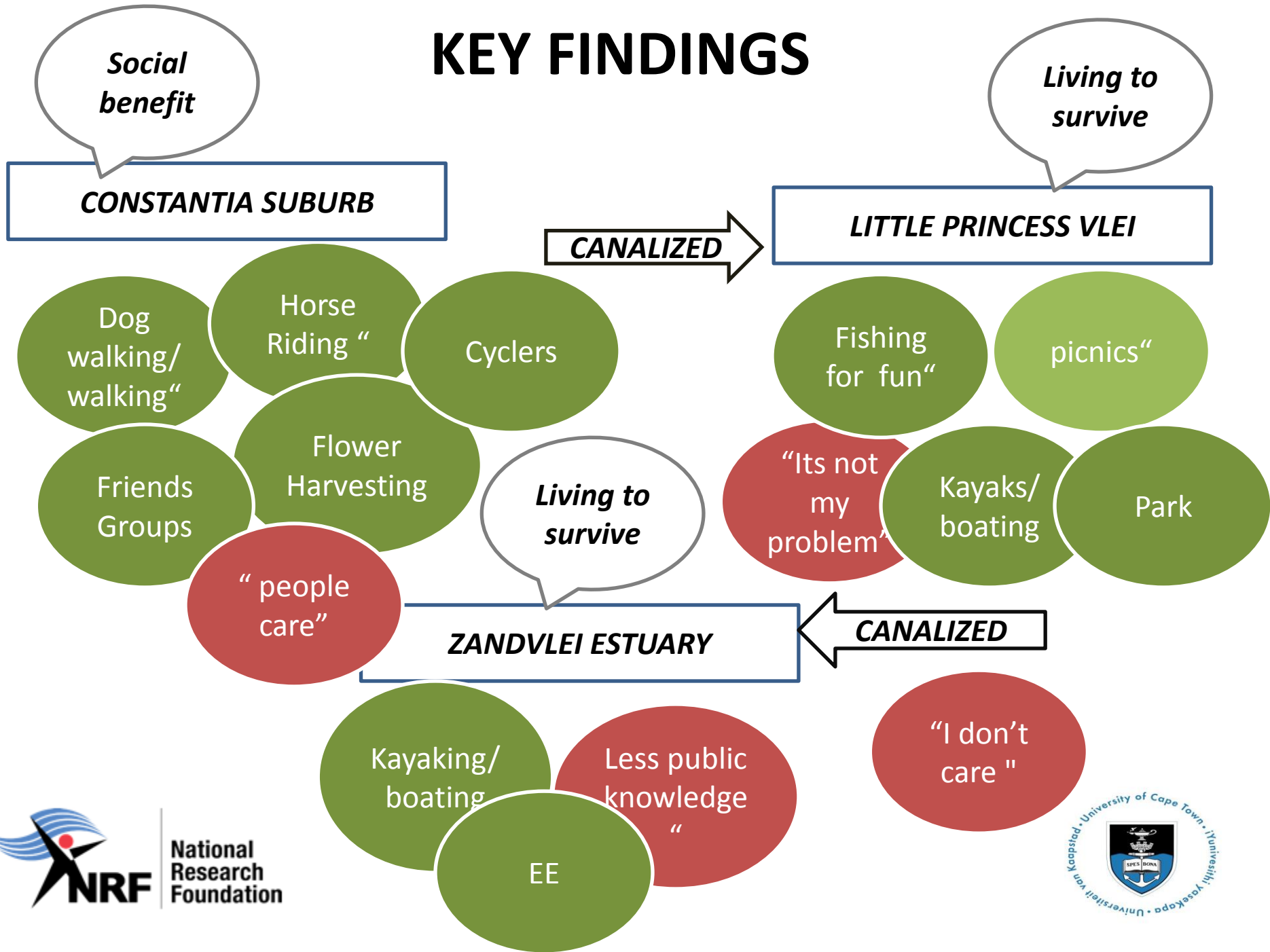
LITERATURE

- ✓ Capacity of the ecosystem services to deliver services to people
- ✓ Animal species
- ✓ Water quality

Moreover.....

- ✓ Cape floristic region which is of global biodiversity hotspot
- ✓ Provide needed green space away from the city
- ✓ Provides benefits such as aesthetic joy, recreational purposes

KEY FINDINGS



What Now ?

Meeting diverse interest of people is a challenge; however it must be noticed and considered .

The study seek to reflect the perception identified around cultural ecosystem services and hoping it would be used in future when recreational decision around the Diep river corridor are made.

Challenges of the study

Safety;

Relying on the local person to take you to the relevant local community for interview .

Concern

The outcome might be a bit biased

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT



And many more



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THANK YOU!



Questions
are
guaranteed in
life;
Answers
aren't.