

## **Motivation**

Mahlomola Ernest Daemane, holds a Masters Degree in Environmental Sciences and Management, with 16 years of experience in the field of Biodiversity and Conservation. He has contributed a lot in SANParks towards attaining the leadership in biodiversity management, and recently completed a Management Leadership Development Course with Wits University's School of Business Administration. He was part of the Maluti Drakensberg Transfrontier Project as a SANParks representative in the Biodiversity Working Group. He was also part of the South African delegation that visited The Gambia in 2015 for the implementation of the MoU on cooperation in the field of Conservation and Environmental Management; Argentina in 2015 as part of a 2010 Cooperation Agreement between SANParks and The Administración De Parques Nacionales of Argentina (APN). Locally, he has worked closely with the National Research Foundation (NRF) often as a panel member, assessor and chairperson of the panel meetings for research grants. He has been serving as an external advisory member for the Afromontane Research Unit of UFS since 2017 to date.

In his role as Head of Park Interface Programme (SANParks), Mahlomola has contributed significantly in the achievement of SANParks' Corporate Strategic Objectives such as improved representative conservation estate; effective managed ecosystem, species and cultural heritage assets; enhanced knowledge for decision-making and; optimised contribution to the green and blue economy.

With his expertise Mr. Daemane will add value to the Council of the UFS.