Reconnecting Africa’s wild spaces to create a future for man in harmony with nature.
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Reconnecting Africa’s wild spaces to create a future for man in harmony with nature.

PEACE PARKS FOUNDATION / annual review 2017

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Over the years, Peace Parks Foundation has evolved and grown according to the priorities and needs identified in the relationship between the conservation of large landscapes and the livelihood requirements of people living within these landscapes.
We understand that parks and protected areas in Africa only have a future if people living in these areas not only benefit directly, but also have ownership of these unique and precious resources. At the same time, unless every sector of society takes responsibility and invests in the future of a green economy where we put back at least as much as we take, the end result for the future of our planet is uncertain.

Peace Parks Foundation has been instrumental in facilitating what is now arguably Africa’s largest terrestrial conservation movement through the formal creation of peace parks in southern Africa. These span 100 million hectares, equivalent to the size of Spain and France.

The next step on our journey is to ensure that all the core protected areas in this expansive landscape are functional and successful. This means that biodiversity and unique wildlife are protected through conservation at scale, that community development is supported and seen as integral to the future of all protected areas and, lastly, and of critical importance, that commercial development opportunities are maximised to continue generating resources to protect and conserve. Many parks and reserves are well-managed and stable, yet those in the more marginal areas that are less attractive or inaccessible are at considerable risk. These are also the parks where the most permanent changes in land use have taken place, and where environmental crimes such as commercial wildlife poaching and illegal logging have escalated.

To assist the management of these more vulnerable protected areas, Peace Parks Foundation has developed a co-management partnership approach with governments or – in the case of communal land – with communities. To date, over four million hectares of protected areas have received such support at an operational level, and discussions are ongoing to expand this type of partnership assistance to a number of new parks, community conservancies and community-managed forests. Our vision, within the next ten years, is to provide management support through a business approach that will lead to the protection and improved management of more than ten million hectares.

All the protected areas currently supported by Peace Parks Foundation are essential core areas that already are or can be linked through corridors that sustain movement patterns and migration routes for large mammals, such as elephant and buffalo, as well as carnivores, such as lion and wild dog. These corridors often reach across international boundaries. In addition, with the impact of climate change now being clearly understood, ecological connectivity becomes essential and is no longer a ‘nice to have’.

The key to achieving this vision is to follow a business approach to development and present a case that the conservation and protection of natural resources need not be a bottomless pit but an asset to be nurtured. This must be done in co-existence with the people living in the landscape. Conservation of wildlife and other resources, such as forests, can in many areas, even very marginal areas, generate revenues that enable their self-sustainability. Peace Parks Foundation has partnered with many organisations, such as Conservation International, BioCarbon Partners, Panthera, Wilderness Foundation Africa and WWF, and clear examples now exist that prove that there is an essential place for business in conservation and in community development. A business approach can have a profound and lasting positive impact on the preservation of healthy ecosystems in harmony with people.

Over the next decade, Peace Parks Foundation will aim to bring business to nature, through partnerships, and at scale. We invite you to join us in realising our vision of rewilding ten million hectares of key conservation areas, forests and community conservancies, capable of sustainably supporting the livelihoods of one million people. This may seem ambitious, yet we have learned that where there is a will, there is a way; and the will, eventually, becomes the way.
Conservation
Rewilding
The rewilding of protected areas is one of Peace Parks Foundation’s most ambitious projects with several successful translocations completed. A total of 3,249 animals were safely moved to Maputo Special Reserve, Simalaha Community Conservancy, Ngonye Falls, Sioma Ngwezi, Nyika and Zinave National Parks.

Community development
Improved livelihoods
A number of community livelihood projects yielded good results in 2017. These include conservation agriculture initiatives that focus on promoting improved food security while limiting the negative impact on the environment. The Herding 4 Health programme successfully completed a pilot project in 2017 which supported communal farmers to engage in rangeland stewardship and climate-smart livestock production. The aim was to improve wildlife-livestock compatibility, regenerate landscapes and provide access to market.

Conservation
Combatting wildlife crime
As wildlife crime poses a serious threat to natural resources and the communities they support, anti-poaching efforts in various parks continue to strengthen. Practical, on-the-ground solutions such as improved mobility for rangers, training for field security staff, and more effective collaboration between teams working across borders in transfrontier conservation areas have made it much harder for poachers to operate. Technology interventions, such as enhanced surveillance in parks, further reinforced anti-poaching efforts, while counter-trafficking, intelligence and judiciary support focused on the multiple levels of criminal activity involved in wildlife crime. Demand management initiatives have drawn the attention of Chinese and Vietnamese nationals, with the youth in those countries stepping in to lead the change that is needed in the perceptions around the use of wildlife products.

Commitment
Growing Great Limpopo
The Greater Libombos Conservancy became the first privately owned area to be included as part of the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Conservation Area and Mozambique the first country to add land to this peace park.

Commercial development
Strategic partnerships
Several strategic business plans have been developed to guide donor and private sector investment funding into the various peace parks. The key is to create an environment suitable and conducive for private sector investment and, through this, establish sustainable revenue streams to cover operational requirements.
1. L/Ais-Richtersveld TP* (Namibia/South Africa)
2. Kgalagadi TP* (Botswana/South Africa)
3. Kavango Zambezi (KAZA) TFCA* (Angola/Botswana/Namibia/Zambia/Zimbabwe)
4. Great Limpopo TP and TFCA* (Mozambique/South Africa/Zimbabwe)
5. Lubombo TFCRA* (Mozambique/South Africa/The Kingdom of eSwatini)
6. Malawi-Zambia TFCA* (Malawi/Zambia)
7. Maloti-Drakensberg TFCD* (Lesotho/South Africa)
8. Iona-Skeleton Coast TFCA (Angola/Namibia)
9. Greater Mapungubwe TFCA* (Botswana/South Africa/Zimbabwe)
10. Chimanimani TFCA (Mozambique/Zimbabwe)
11. Mayombe Forest TPA (Angola/Congo/DRC)
12. Niassa-Selous TFCA (Mozambique/Tanzania)
14. Lower Zambezi-Mana Pools TFCA* (Zambia/Zimbabwe)
15. ZIMOZA TFCA (Mozambique/Zambia/Zimbabwe)
16. Kagera TFCA (Rwanda/Tanzania/Uganda)
17. Mnazi Bay-Quirimbas TFCM (Mozambique/Tanzania)
18. Western Indian Ocean TMP (Comoros/Madagascar/Mauritius/Mozambique/Seychelles/Tanzania)

TFCA: Transfrontier Conservation Area
TFCDA: Transfrontier Conservation and Development Area
TFCRA: Transfrontier Conservation and Resource Area
TFCMA: Transfrontier Conservation Marine Area
TPM: Transfrontier Marine Park
TP: Transfrontier Park
TPA: Transfrontier Protected Area
* Peace Parks Foundation involved.
Transfrontier Conservation Areas

The accomplishments of 2017 are thanks to the successful public and private partnerships that were formed to create and develop southern Africa’s peace parks.

Lubombo Transfrontier Conservation & Resource Area

This includes four distinct transfrontier conservation areas between Mozambique, South Africa and The Kingdom of eSwatini (formerly Swaziland), covering a total area of 10,029 km². It is home to several Red Data Book species such as white and black rhino, samango monkeys, suni and duiker. Thousands of plant species grow here. The Maputaland Centre, which is still largely under-explored, contains at least 2,500 different types of vegetation.

1. Lubombo Conservancy-Goba and Usuthu-Tembe-Futi crosses the Mozambique, South Africa and The Kingdom of eSwatini borders
2. Ponta do Ouro-Kosi Bay marine Transfrontier Conservation Area in Mozambique and South Africa
3. Nsubane-Pongola Transfrontier Conservation Area lies between South Africa and The Kingdom of eSwatini
4. Songimvelo-Malolotja Transfrontier Conservation Area lies between South Africa and The Kingdom of eSwatini
For many years, the Mozambican government has been committed to the development of Maputo Special Reserve. In 2005, it secured a loan from the World Bank to develop the reserve and in 2006 it partnered with Peace Parks Foundation by signing a co-financing agreement to develop, manage and extend the reserve. Among the many highlights since then are the appointment of a park management unit, the 24 000ha expansion of the park in 2011, the fencing of the Futi Corridor adjacent to the Tembe Elephant Park in 2012, and the formation of a multidisciplinary team to address wildlife crime and the illegal meat trade. The reserve opened its headquarters in 2014 and erected entrance gates at both Futi and Gala, each with a reception office, boom gate and kiosk.

The Chemucane Lodge at Anvil Bay is a joint venture between the local community and the private sector that provides meaningful employment to people living in that area. Training opportunities here aim to build an understanding of the linkages between conservation and tourism, and how bigger gains can be had for all by cultivating conscious environmental tourism. The development of eco-tourism was further boosted through the reintroduction of wildlife into Maputo Special Reserve.

**Geographic Information System support**

The extensive geographic information system (GIS) capability developed by Peace Parks Foundation enables the interrogation of spatial information, data and maps in a highly interactive manner. GIS is used to identify areas that are ecologically important in terms of their biodiversity, climate, soil, water, fuel, food provision and recreational value.

GIS and remote-sensing support were offered to both Maputo Special Reserve and Ponta do Ouro Partial Marine Reserve. This included detailed mapping and close to real-time business intelligence reporting on field data collections. In the process, the field data collection tools for marine monitoring and law enforcement monitoring were refined and improved. Lessons learnt from these reserves will be used to good effect in other transfrontier conservation areas.
The Community Development Facility was launched as a joint initiative between the government of Mozambique, COmON Foundation and Peace Parks Foundation. This initiative enables both foundations to capacitate and develop the Lubombo Transfrontier Conservation and Resource Area. Funding goes towards developing key aspects of Maputo Special Reserve, as well as creating opportunities; conducting training; building capacity; improving livelihoods and ensuring sustainable natural resource use for poor, vulnerable communities living within and around this protected area. This is being achieved through various projects, which include reserve revenue distribution, reproductive health and livelihood projects, such as chilli farming, honey production and conservation agriculture.

Community Development Facility

Chilli farming

Farmers involved in commercial chilli farming have greatly benefited from these initiatives. Many of them now have bank accounts, brick houses, are able to send their children to school and even provide employment to other community members. Within the Tchia community, 33 families with 165 beneficiaries are involved in an irrigation scheme; and in Matchia, 19 families with 95 beneficiaries are involved.
Reproductive health

In 2016, Peace Parks Foundation embarked on a journey of discovery to learn as much as possible from Blue Ventures, a UK-based conservation agency that develops transformative approaches for catalysing and sustaining locally led marine conservation. The organisation recognises complex links between poor health, unmet family planning needs, food insecurity, environmental degradation and a vulnerability to climate change. To address these challenges holistically, the organisation developed an approach that integrates community health services with marine conservation and coastal livelihood initiatives. This collaboration led to the development of a detailed strategy to ensure that communities gain access to family planning services and contraceptives and are informed about their reproductive rights. The process identified the need for the appointment and training of community-level champions, or so-called activistas (community health workers). With the initial strategy as a solid roadmap, AMODEFA, a Mozambican-based non-profit organisation that specialises in community health projects, was appointed mid-2017 as an implementation partner. With support from Peace Parks Foundation, they are responsible for training and supporting 15 activistas as community health representatives.

The first ten activistas concluded their training and have taken up their new duties in villages bordering the reserves, enabling the engagement and education of over 630 women and 170 men. More than 200 contraceptive pills have been distributed, 14 contraceptive injections were issued and over 2,000 condoms were distributed between August and December 2017. This has increased overall awareness of reproductive health and access to contraceptives, which should in time result in a reduction in unplanned pregnancies.

AMODEFA, with support from Peace Parks Foundation is responsible for training and supporting 15 activistas as community health representatives.

Beekeeping project

At the end of 2017, 270 beehives have been distributed to three villages and a total of 64 families were involved in this project. To assist with project implementation and monitoring, Peace Parks Foundation partnered with SEPPA, a local Mozambican non-profit organisation, who conducts site visits twice a month. The impact of the 2016/2017 drought (and subsequent reduced flowering) has resulted in a delayed harvest, which is expected early in 2018.

To further promote community engagement and communication, community members who have proven their commitment and interest in the project have been appointed as beekeeping activists and team leaders. These activists now provide technical support, motivation and leadership to other beekeepers. They also serve as a liaison between SEPPA and the beekeepers, and actively monitor honey production per community.

Rewilding Maputo Special Reserve

In many parts of Africa, there are areas that have enormous carrying capacities but are under-stocked for reasons such as war or poaching. One of Peace Parks Foundation’s most ambitious and successful projects to date has been the rewilding of these areas by translocating animals from areas over-stocked.

Between 2010 and 2016, 1,701 animals were translocated to the Maputo Special Reserve with support from the governments of Mozambique, The Kingdom of eSwatini and South Africa, as well as conservation agency Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife, Peace Parks Foundation and the World Bank through its support to the MozBio project.

During August, a massive translocation took place which saw 408 zebra, 201 wildebeest, 50 kudu, 51 buffalo, 498 impala, 251 nyala, 812 waterbuck, 12 giraffe and 100 warthog released into the Maputo Special Reserve. In total, 2,363 animals were translocated from The Kingdom of eSwatini, Ezemvelo, Gorongosa and Namibia to Maputo Special Reserve in 2017.
Water provision

MozBio finances community projects with support from the World Bank. The first project focuses on significantly improving water access points. These water points are for use by humans, animals and for irrigation. This has resulted in increased agricultural production, improved conditions for watering livestock, and improved food security as families can now earn an income from the sale of plant products. In addition, it has significantly improved the conservation of biodiversity as there are reduced instances of human-wildlife conflict. Manual pumps for human consumption have been installed in six villages. Multi-purpose boreholes have been dug for four communities, resulting in a total of ten boreholes, providing water to 3,375 people.

Conservation agriculture

The second MozBio-supported project aims to promote conservation agriculture in support of communities of the Administrative Post of Machangulo and environmental awareness in the buffer zone of the Maputo Special Reserve and Ponta do Ouro Marine Partial Reserve. The project has resulted in a 99% increase in awareness of biodiversity conservation and sustainable conservation techniques. It has also greatly contributed to food security as agricultural production has increased by 70%, providing food to many households in the area.

Community members received refresher training from the Simalaha Community Conservancy conservation agriculture expert. The training focused on techniques on how to improve yields (even though the soil is quite poor) by teaching community farmers how to make their own compost and how to retain water in the soil through ground coverage by using dried grass.

The conservation agriculture projects yielded good results, with four tonnes of maize, beans and nuts harvested in the first part of the season. Seeds for maize, beans, cow peas and ground nuts were procured and distributed.

These schemes have almost 200 members, who support nearly 1,000 family members. Community uptake has been tremendously successful; there are visible changes in how local farmers are adapting conservation techniques and methodology in their personal fields in the villages. Some farmers have shown particular dedication and ownership by buying their own seeds before the Community Development Facility seeds were delivered. This is a positive step towards sustainability as the community takes ownership of their agricultural practices and food security.

Raising conservation awareness

About 400 people from different communities living in the buffer zone of the Maputo Special Reserve attended the first live broadcast of a radio awareness campaign launched in Salamanga. The aim was to raise awareness of conservation and the sustainable use of natural resources with an emphasis on the community’s role and responsibility. Programmes were aired in the two predominant local languages – Ronga and Shangane – and included live broadcasts that engaged an estimated 4,000 community members directly.

Kutsemba, a local community theatre group, performed shows in various communities to also raise awareness around sustainable use of natural resources, conservation, and responsible water use. The group’s routines have been received well and it will continue to share environmental awareness messages in communities through performing arts.

Mr Madyo Couto, the project coordinator of the MozBio project, explained: “Maputo Special Reserve stands to become a conservation success story in Mozambique, benefiting both nature and people. The MozBio project supports operations, infrastructure development, communications, community development and the relocation of wildlife to the reserve.”
Ponta do Ouro Partial Marine Reserve

extends from the base of the sand dunes three nautical miles (6km) out to sea and is the first marine transfrontier conservation in Africa. Along this 80km coastline, 80% of all loggerhead and leatherback turtles nesting in Mozambique are recorded, making it the most important nesting ground for these endangered species. On the South African side it extends a further 120km to include the iSimangaliso World Heritage Site.
In 2015, with support from Fondation Ensemble, a contract was signed with Centro Terra Viva, a Mozambican non-profit organisation that specialises in environmental studies and strategies, to research the extent of artisanal fishing in Maputo Bay. As a first step in establishing sustainable fishing limits, meetings were conducted with the community fishermen to determine quantities of fish acceptable for household consumption. It was decided that fishermen must register with the Fishing Community Council and obtain a fishing licence. Fish monitors were appointed and trained, and the data collection process commenced.

The initial research phase of the project was successfully completed, and phases two and three are now being implemented in parallel. Phase two involves launching sustainable fishing practices and management strategies, and phase three comprises alternative livelihood strategies. In conjunction, an independent mid-term review provided an objective view of project progress and the adequacy of the initial planned strategy. Among other findings, the report showed the project to be highly relevant based on beneficiary and institutional needs, priorities and expectations; the perceived degeneration of socio-economic conditions and decline in biodiversity and natural resources in the area; and the fact that the project provides important national and international benefits in terms of biodiversity conservation and socio-economic development in the Lubombo Transfrontier Conservation and Resource Area.

Two of the greatest threats to biodiversity include wildlife crime and habitat loss and the most successful efforts to combat these have been structured around the effective management of protected areas. This is heavily reliant on information that enables conservation practitioners on the ground to make well-informed, strategic decisions around resource deployment. In 2014, Peace Parks Foundation joined a partnership of global conservation organisations that developed the Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool (SMART), a system that makes it possible to collect, store, analyse and communicate patrol-based data.

Following research into data collection in Ponta do Ouro Partial Marine Reserve, work is underway to switch to SMART. This will align the reserve with global counterparts that are all working towards a global standard for data collection and reporting. An initial SMART data model was tested and streamlined for field use and is now being merged into the Foundation’s data model to create an efficient monitoring and reporting tool.

SMART Connect, which can be considered as a cloud enabler for users of SMART, was launched as part of SMART 5. It facilitates centralised management of SMART instances (most often installed on desktops in specific protected areas) across sites, and it offers to leverage real-time connectivity of devices for operational responses. Furthermore, it allows for possible integration to numerous other platforms, such as mapping software. SMART Connect, which has been installed on the Foundation’s network, allows for data from patrol units, sensors and conservation areas to be exchanged and collated into a central database. The long-term goal is to make use of SMART Connect within and across transfrontier conservation areas to standardise on its use and functionality, thus enabling an exchange of shareable data, queries and reports.

From barman to fish monitor

Xadreque Mingane says he enjoys his job because it has meaning. “When I started as a fish monitor in 2016, the fishermen wouldn’t show me what they had caught. Now the fishermen call me on my cell phone to come and check their catches. It’s a very big positive change because the fishermen now understand that it is important to conserve fish for the future. We are not telling them not to fish, we just want to collect the data.”

Xadreque works in shorts and slip-slops and says he finds the job easy because he is working with his own community. “We all know each other and most of the community understands my job. It’s not about sitting on the beach all day, we are watching all the time to see the quantity of fish and the species caught.”
For the past 23 years, Pierre and Yvonne Lombard have been doing voluntary turtle data collection in Ponta do Ouro Partial Marine Reserve of Mozambique. Every night for six weeks from early December to mid-January they are out on the beaches monitoring turtles. The first 14 years were entirely at their own expense, but they now have a sponsored Ford pickup truck and the reserve has sponsored their fuel since 2009. Their dedication is inspiring.

“We first saw turtles in 1993,” says Pierre, “and we wanted to protect them. So, we started voluntary tagging and data collection in 1994. Last year we tagged 125 new loggerheads and about a dozen leatherbacks. Loggerheads are increasing nicely, and leatherback numbers are stable in this area. Our main focus is to tag as many turtles as possible each season, as that gives the reserve and others the data they need to make the necessary assumptions on turtle behaviour.”

It’s 2am and the couple is heading home after a long night out on the beaches, when they see the tracks of an enormous leatherback. She is high up the beach busy excavating a nest. Pierre is instantly energised and without hesitation is willing to sit and wait for an hour or more, so the turtle can finish laying eggs and he can collect her data. Yvonne is with him every step of the way and one of their sons often accompanies them too. Their unwavering commitment to turtle conservation on these beautiful beaches of Mozambique is humbling and forms an essential part of turtle data collection in the reserve. Turtle numbers are increasing here, and they have the proof.

Results from the previous nesting season indicate that loggerhead tracks were first sighted on 8 October 2016 in Ponta do Ouro Partial Marine Reserve, while the last tracks were spotted on 11 March 2017 with a peak nesting abundance (1,033 tracks) in December and a high nesting density also occurring in November (602 tracks). A total of 754 loggerhead and 37 leatherback turtle nests were recorded. Also recorded were 107 tagged loggerhead and seven tagged leatherback recurring turtles, while 201 loggerheads and 12 leatherbacks were tagged for the first time.

The procurement of a Jetski added another layer of protection of marine life as the average number of ocean patrols increased from 26 (covering 1,417 km) per month in 2016 to 42 (now covering 2,048 km) per month in 2017. This has enabled rangers to reduce, respond to and counter illegal beach and ocean activities more effectively.

Peace Parks Foundation, Mozambique’s National Administration for Conservation Areas (ANAC) and Centro Terra Viva remain fully committed to the sustainability of this project. Through refresher training, contact sessions and experience exchanges between turtle monitors and other stakeholders, the project remains a celebrated success story ensuring turtle conservation within the Ponta do Ouro Partial Marine Reserve.

For both the Maputo Special Reserve and the Ponta do Ouro Partial Marine Reserve, this has been a year marked by improved ongoing operations, consistent and high-quality data collection, access to and the ability to counter illegal activities from the sea, effective stakeholder engagement, valuable research (reefs, catch data), and rural women’s awareness of reproductive health options.
The Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park was one of the first formally established peace parks in southern Africa and is managed as an integrated unit across three international borders. This 35 000 km² park links the Limpopo National Park in Mozambique, the Kruger National Park in South Africa, and the Gonarezhou National Park in Zimbabwe. It also links the Sengwe communal land in Zimbabwe and the Makuleke region in South Africa, which lies between the Kruger and Gonarezhou parks.

The larger transfrontier conservation area (TFCA), measuring almost 100 000 km², includes the Banhine and Zinave National Parks, the Massingir and Corumana areas and interlinking regions in Mozambique, as well as various privately and state-owned conservation areas in South Africa and Zimbabwe bordering on the transfrontier park. The three Mozambican national parks, Limpopo, Banhine and Zinave, are part of the larger landscape and link various river systems that ensure ecological connectivity between these core conservation areas. Peace Parks has entered into partnership agreements with the Mozambican government to support the management and development of these national parks, collectively measuring over 2.2 million ha. This is critical in the attainment of conservation goals and targets in Mozambique.
Great Limpopo expanding

In February 2016, Mozambique’s National Administration of Conservation Areas (ANAC) and Licoturismo signed a memorandum of understanding to formally establish the Greater Libombos Conservancy – the first privately-owned area to be included as part of the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Conservation Area that surrounds Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park. Including the 240 000ha Greater Libombos Conservancy into the Great Limpopo was formalised by the respective ministers on 24 February. Mozambique is the first country to add areas to Great Limpopo in terms of the treaty signed in 2002.

Greater Libombos Conservancy comprises a total of nine properties on the eastern boundary of the Kruger National Park and is significant in terms of its environmental attributes, as well as its geographic location. It conserves and protects diverse natural and cultural assets, is largely devoid of infrastructure or anthropogenic impacts and includes vast unspoilt areas that provide opportunities for the development of true wilderness experiences. It is also a key component of the largest rhino refuge area in southern Africa and, together with neighbouring Kruger National Park, it is at the forefront of combatting wildlife crime.

The process in Mozambique to create the Greater Libombos Conservancy was supported by Peace Parks Foundation.

Limpopo National Park celebrated its 16th anniversary in November 2017. Over the years, the Foundation has developed two main priorities for this park, law enforcement and community development, with many successes on both fronts. Because of its long involvement in the area, Peace Parks Foundation understands the many challenges that a park, roughly a million hectares in size, faces. The fight against wildlife crime is tougher than ever and communities continue to be vulnerable with limited access to opportunities, resources and livelihoods. Perceptions about conservation and a collective responsibility to conserve natural resources remain difficult to change. Limited park resources and capacity have proven the biggest hurdles in developing this key protected area. Despite all of this, hard work and incredible dedication exhibited by those involved in the development and conservation of this park, made 2017 a successful year.

Irrigation schemes

Irrigation schemes are a vital way to provide food security and generate an income for communities living adjacent to the park in an area that is drought-prone and isolated. By using conservation agriculture techniques in these schemes, farmers can reap the benefits of year-round crops while limiting their impact on the landscape. Conservation agriculture techniques promote soil water retention that allows farmers to produce their own compost and, through crop rotation, more nutrient rich soil.

Peace Parks Foundation is providing ongoing support to several communities, including maize and bean seeds. The rainy season that followed a three-year drought has helped to ensure good yields, offering food security for community members.
“When I arrived at the end of June 2017, the grass was so tall after the exceptional summer rains that the warthogs were pronking like springbok. They simply couldn’t see where they were going otherwise. Waterbuck, reedbuck, nyala and kudu were nowhere to be seen – with just two oribi spotted on a late afternoon game drive, and plenty of hippo snorting in the Savé River. With 2 500mm of rain this season, there was water and food everywhere, so wildlife was dispersed and Zinave was a deep emerald green. Flying in from Vilanculos, on the coast, the wild beauty of the park with its ironwood, fever tree and massive mopane forests and twinkling lakes festooned with water lilies and long-legged water birds was easily seen. It looked like God’s own garden...” – Keri Harvey, travel writer
Initially declared a hunting concession in 1962, Zinave attained National Park status in 1972. A protracted civil war, which lasted from 1980 to 1992, resulted in the loss of several large mammal species, including the emblematic giraffe. The development of the park was boosted at the end of 2015 when the Mozambican Ministry of Land, Environmental and Rural Development signed a co-management agreement with Peace Parks Foundation to jointly develop the park as an integral component of the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Conservation Area.

Infrastructure developments

In 2017, the park was a hive of activity, with roads being built and cleared, staff being appointed and trained, and equipment and vehicles being procured. The upgraded office now has Internet connectivity and a cell phone booster which greatly improved communication. Construction on several staff houses, ranger dormitories, single units, three entry gates and patrol posts were completed with more than 500 000 bricks that were manufactured on-site. Through this construction over 200 workers from the local communities were employed.

Rewilding Zinave

Zinave National Park has a massive carrying capacity and offers incredible diversity, with subtropical savannah forest and a huge variety of trees and insects. It is an iconic park for game viewing with typical African savanna scenery. Over time, tourists will again be able to see an abundance of species, as one of the biggest rewilding programmes in Africa has been undertaken to repopulate the area. Over 800 animals were translocated in 2017; 51 impala from Sango in the Save Valley Conservancy in Zimbabwe, 250 buffalo from Marromeu, 411 waterbuck and 93 reedbuck from Gorongosa National Park in Mozambique and two elephant from the Dinokeng Game Reserve in South Africa.

The sanctuary, into which the translocated animals were introduced, was expanded to over 18 000 ha and the latest estimates indicate that there are already over 4 500 animals in the sanctuary with populations growing steadily.

Increased mobility

In December, a Savanna S Light Sport Aircraft was acquired for Mozambican operations. It is a faster and safer aircraft that can operate well in windy conditions. A 6x6 Samil crane truck, two new Land Cruisers and two Yamaha TW200 motorbikes were acquired to further promote effective park maintenance and operations. Anti-poaching operations were boosted with the delivery of 50 Buffalo bicycles to be utilised for patrols. A drone was also acquired to help with various planning and conservation tasks, such as road alignments, the tracking of new game released, filming for promotional purposes, and record-keeping.

Other successes included the installation of a satellite data system that enables Internet and email communications; the conducting of socio-economic baseline studies to inform a livelihood improvements strategy; and the acquisition of high specification mapping data for indicating the ecological linkages between Limpopo, Banhine, Zinave and Gonarezhou National Parks, which will provide guidance to the development of community conservancies and a wildlife economy strategy.

Zinave holds a future for animals and people alike.
The overall vision for Zinave National Park is to attain its specific conservation objectives, through the protection of its unique features. The park is to function as an integral part of the Mozambican component of the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Conservation Area with both good governance and a healthy ecosystem in place. It will sustain and restore the landscape dynamics of the larger ecosystem and enhance ecological connectivity through the establishment of a wildlife economy in the interstitial communal lands.

Providing employment

Thirty-four field rangers took part in a passing out parade where they displayed their newly learnt skills acquired during a six-week ranger training course presented by the Southern African Wildlife College. Twenty-four of the rangers were appointed as part of the Zinave ranger force, more than doubling the size of the park’s patrolling capability. The remaining ten were appointed in Banhine National Park and other conservancies and hunting concessions in the area.

The rangers were equipped with uniforms and equipment and some will be deployed in areas around the expanded sanctuary to secure this area because as game numbers grow close to the carrying capacity of the sanctuary, animals will be released into the wider Zinave National Park.

Illegal logging halted

Large-scale illegal logging took place in the eastern block of Zinave National Park. Today, fortunately, this practice is no longer taking place. Several logging trucks have been confiscated and criminal cases have been opened against the truck owners.

A small package of tenacity

At 29, Laurenciana Araujo has already been a ranger in Zinave National Park for 10 years. She is both beautiful and fearless. “When I am in the village, I am a normal wife, mother and daughter and I cook. Here in Zinave, I am a ranger. I take a gun and I go to the bush.” It’s a surprise that most of all Laurenciana loves doing patrols and catching criminals. “Yes, I have arrested poachers. They don’t scare me, I caught some recently.” She says she was once frightened when loggers came to the park offices and wanted to beat her up, but says it’s just part of the job. Laurenciana adds that she also enjoys the discipline exercises and the marching practices three times a week. Currently, she and her husband, who also works in Zinave, are in their first year studying Environmental Management.

“I like wildlife and I never get bored,” she says, “This is exactly what I want to do.”
Banhine National Park

The 700 000 ha Banhine National Park is situated in central southern Mozambique, midway between Pafuri in the west and Vilanculos in the east. It was established in 1973 to conserve the giraffe and ostrich populations found there. Unfortunately, these, as well as other wildlife populations once found here, were nearly eradicated during the war and commercial poaching activities.

Great effort has been made by Mozambique’s National Administration for Conservation Areas in the last year to restore wildlife populations in the park through an anti-poaching programme.

Increased security

A highlight was the appointment of a Law Enforcement Operations Manager. He is responsible for supporting the park warden in implementing a $1 million anti-poaching project. Although poaching is ongoing, the Banhine National Park team has already achieved great successes here. Co-operation with local leaders and turning arrested poachers into allies have led to the recovery of numerous home-made rifles. To date, 79 rifles have been recovered, primarily locally made shotguns. In addition, a success-based protection incentive system was introduced.

Supporting pilots

Peace Parks Foundation has configured pilot navigation units and emergency kits for its four pilots flying in the Mozambican components of Great Limpopo and Lubombo TFCAs. The kits include a specific navigation app, a dedicated Bluetooth GPS signal booster and an emergency response device. The emergency devices allow the pilots to press a button to communicate pre-programmed messages depending on the emergency, and when needed, a search and rescue mission will be launched to the plane’s location. The satellite location is pinged and can be tracked via a website.

Park pilots have also started detailed flight planning and flight logs to improve on protected area management objectives. These will be integrated into SMART for a single point of data collation and reporting.
The Kavango Zambezi (KAZA) Transfrontier Conservation Area spans five African countries and is home to a third of the world’s elephants. Roughly the size of France, this magnificent stretch of land lies within the Kavango and Zambezi river basins where Angola, Botswana, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe converge. Nestled within its boundaries are two of Africa’s biggest tourist attractions. The Victoria Falls is both a World Heritage Site and one of the seven natural wonders of the world. The Okavango Delta, the largest inland delta and a World Heritage Site, is a magical place where large-scale migrations of mega fauna have captured the lenses of many wildlife photographers for decades.
When a reserve is stocked with wildlife, normally people living there are relocated. Not so in the Simalaha Community Conservancy. In one of Zambia’s first community conservancies, wildlife was reintroduced into an area where communities were living, and nobody was moved out.

“I thought it would be difficult to live with wildlife, but there have been no problems at all. Cattle graze with zebra and people move freely between them,” says Chris Kwandu, Chairman of the Village Action Group for Kasaya. The Village Action Groups are the essential communication and negotiation link between the local community and Peace Parks Foundation’s work in Simalaha.

Chris beams when he tells me that “people have stopped living from the Zambezi River and they no longer destroy the forest, because they are inspired to conserve nature for their grandchildren.” His job is entirely voluntary, but the satisfaction of seeing the project come to fruition is more than enough compensation for Chris. Because he knows his community intimately, Chris and his Village Action Group committee were instrumental in explaining and negotiating backyard gardens and conservation agriculture to the community. Both are now thriving.

“It’s a truly inspirational initiative. Volunteers man the gates to the reserve, protect and monitor wildlife, while cultivating flourishing vegetable gardens that feed their families all year.” Seed, treadle pumps and boreholes from Peace Parks Foundation were part of the rollout. This is a prime example of how people and nature can live together in harmony.

A history of highlights

The process of establishing the largest transfrontier conservation area in the world was formalised through the signing of a memorandum of understanding and the appointment of a secretariat to steer its development in 2006. Five years later, the heads of state signed the KAZA Transfrontier Conservation Area (TFCA) Treaty during the SADC Summit in Angola.

In 2012, Chief Sekute and Senior Chief Inyambo Yeta established the Simalaha Community Conservancy, spanning the Sisheke and Sekute chiefdoms.

In 2013, a wildlife translocation programme was launched to rewild Simalaha, which will ultimately benefit tourism and community development by creating meaningful employment. Within the same year, a conservation agriculture project was launched to ensure food security and improved farming methods that would protect the area’s biodiversity.

Wildlife crime festered globally and in 2015 Angola, Namibia and Zambia joined forces to establish law enforcement operations that showed early and significant successes. The KAZA TFCA master integrated development plan was also approved by all partner countries and would guide the development of the TFCA. A memorandum of understanding formalised the long-standing co-operation and partnership between the KAZA Secretariat and Peace Parks Foundation in 2016 and provided guidance on specific areas of collaboration. That year, park headquarters, sponsored by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development through Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW), officially opened in Sioma Ngwezi National Park.
The main aim of conservation agriculture is to provide people with food security and balanced nutrition, while assisting in the restoration of the ecology.

Between 2013 and 2016, 450 farmers in the Simalaha Community Conservancy received training in conservation agriculture and were supported by the distribution of various seeds, cassava cuttings and manure. An additional 437 farmers who were interested in the conservation agriculture methodology also received training, largely thanks to Xcelus and Hitachi Data Systems, who provided Samsung tablets containing videos in Lozi (a local language), which allowed for the training of trainers.

A survey was conducted at the end of 2016 and found that 87% of the survey participants practicing conservation agriculture confirmed that they would continue with the practices. Of particular interest was the fact that 83% confirmed that both the quality and the quantity of their harvests had improved.

**Support for Simalaha**

Generous donor support offered to the Simalaha Community Conservancy has laid solid foundations for food security through conservation agriculture, and effective management of the conservancy through a feasibility study carried out in 2015 and 2016, which resulted in an approved Integrated Management and Development Framework. The next phase involved the development of the Wildlife Economy Business Plan and the Landscape Business Plan, which will enable the establishment of agri-businesses. These will be assisted by a Community Development Facility, which was established in 2017. It is envisaged that funding for the business entities will be channelled through this facility, until such time as the Simalaha Community Conservancy Trust is established and capacitated to manage the funding.

“During a visit to Simalaha, I remember meeting Cathrine Munalula who, for me, became a living testimony to the opportunities conservation agriculture can offer. She had lost her husband and was trying to raise three children completely on her own. For years, due to extreme drought, her crops yielded very little - three small bags of maize if memory serves - and she was forced to accept the generosity of others for survival. Now, through the conservation agriculture programme, she is flourishing. Last year, she harvested 50 bags of maize. With the income generated by selling the maize at the local market, she was able to send her children to school wearing new uniforms and shoes, and carrying the books they need.” Werner Myburgh, Peace Parks Foundation CEO

**Conservation agriculture**

**HRH Senior Chief Inyambo Yeta celebrates Coronation Anniversary**

In September 2017, His Royal Highness Senior Chief Inyambo Yeta celebrated his 40th Coronation Anniversary. The Senior Chief, on whose land a part of the Simalaha Community Conservancy is located, was installed Reigning Prince at Mwandi by his father, then Litunga (King) of Barotseland, Ilute Yeta IV, on 27 September 1977, and is the longest known reigning royal in Barotseland. His coronation was commemorated over two days in October when The Royal Palace Water Front Court Yard opened its doors to all citizens of Barotseland and the world for festivities, feasting and cultural performances.
For seven years, Matthew Silumesii was a smuggler. Petrol and maize meal were his contraband and he smuggled these into Botswana to seek out a living. Today his life is completely different. “Now I have a vision and I look forward to the future,” he says.

Everything changed for Matthew in 2012 when the Simalahala Community Conservancy was established. Matthew qualified as a game scout, one of 11 chosen from each of the two chiefdoms involved in the project. He trained for three months in Zambia and South Africa, learnt anti-poaching skills and did semi-military training to be adept with firearms. Now he is a senior scout in charge of ten men and says he is happiest when out on patrol – up to 15 days at a time – protecting the wildlife of Simalaha.

“There has been no poaching in the conservancy since it started,” confirms Matthew with a bright smile. “We explained to the people the importance of the animals and future benefits from these, so they also help us to protect the wildlife and inform us of any new people in the area.”

Small in stature but tenacious in nature, Matthew says, “The job has given me light in my life, and I thank the Chief and Peace Parks Foundation for this. My kids are going to school and have DSTV, so they can see what’s happening in the world. I can now provide well for my family. None of this would have been possible as a smuggler.”

A Steering Committee to guide

A memorandum of understanding was signed between the Department of National Parks and Wildlife in Zambia, Peace Parks Foundation and WWF Zambia. It outlines the guiding principles on collaboration in the management and development of the Sioma Ngwezi National Park and the greater Silowana Complex. It establishes the responsibilities of the parties, as well as the institutional framework of the joint collaboration for achieving specific objectives as set out in the various documents, as well as setting out the platform to coordinate investments and funding from the various parties.

The steering committee met twice in 2017. During the first meeting, a Project Management Unit was established to action the various decisions taken at the meetings. Discussions and resolutions have taken place around the administration (staff issues and funding), the development of management and business plans, infrastructure development, wildlife management and protection, community development, and tourism development.

Sioma Ngwezi National Park

Poachers operating in the Sioma Ngwezi area typically cross the borders between Angola, Namibia and Zambia with groups consisting of nationals from all three countries. In an effort to address and counter this, the acting warden of the Sioma Ngwezi National Park initiated an Angola, Namibia and Zambia Cross-Border Forum through the Technical Advisor. The forum comprises staff from the Luenge Luiana National Park in Angola, Bwabwata National Park in Namibia and Sioma Ngwezi National Park in Zambia. It serves as a platform to discuss operational matters, such as communication channels to be used during cross-border poaching incursions.

Rewilding

The Zambian Department of National Parks and Wildlife and WWF supported the translocation of 44 sable into the Intensive Protection Zone of Sioma Ngwezi National Park.

Pilot training

With support from the Isdell family, two Sioma Ngwezi National Park employees qualified as Light Sport Aircraft pilots. This allows them to fly a microlight aircraft, procured to support anti-poaching activities in the park.
Established in 2015 through a bilateral treaty signed by the presidents of Malawi and Zambia, this magnificent 32,278 km² conservation area has two components, namely Nyika-North Luangwa and Kasungu-Lukusuzi. It incorporates national parks, wildlife reserves, forest reserves and game management areas. The vegetation above 1,800m is predominantly montane grassland, interspersed with evergreen forest. These high-lying areas are often shrouded in mist, giving them a unique appeal. In summer, a multitude of wild flowers and orchids burst forth on the highlands, making it a sight unlike any seen in other game parks. The foothills are covered in miombo woodland of various kinds, while the western and eastern higher-lying areas of Musalangu are characterised by miombo woodland and wooded grassland. The Luangwa Valley has extensive areas of mopane woodland, while the Kasungu-Lukusuzi component is an area of importance for biodiversity conservation in the Miombo Ecoregion.
The establishment of the Malawi-Zambia Transfrontier Conservation Area (TFCA) began formally in 2004 when a memorandum of understanding was signed on 13 August of that year. From 2004 to 2014, the draft treaty was subjected to several changes pertaining to the implementation framework, until it was completed and signed in 2015. During that time, the rewilding of Nyika National Park and Vwaza Marsh Wildlife Reserve started in 2007. This was boosted by the resounding successes of a joint law enforcement project aimed at combatting wildlife crime in Nyika. In 2011, field activities, law enforcement and infrastructure upgrades were made possible by extensive funding. In 2015, when the TFCA was formally established, the SADC Secretariat also approved a three-year project aimed at supporting the development and management of Kasungu-Lukusuzi. The project is funded by the German government, through the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ), and focuses on institutional planning and coordination, effective management of protected areas, community livelihood support, and land-use planning between the two parks. GIZ and Peace Parks Foundation signed a funding agreement for this project in September 2016. Also in that year, infrastructure was maintained and upgraded, and the Zambian Department of National Parks and Wildlife staff moved into new offices at Chama, which lies within the Nyika-North Luangwa component of the TFCA.

Malawi and Zambia launched the Kasungu-Lukusuzi GIZ project in October 2016, with the aim of reducing the unsustainable use of natural resources by promoting alternative livelihood options for the communities living in and around the TFCA. Additionally, support to the Nyika-North Luangwa component has been approved by the German government under Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW), who committed €18 million for the TFCA and a further €5 million for exclusive use on the Malawi side of the TFCA. The funding will be used for infrastructure development, conservation activities, procurement of equipment, and community livelihood needs.

International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) has been leading operations on the ground in Kasungu National Park, with support from GIZ and Peace Parks Foundation.

Anti-poaching successes achieved during the year

- 69 RANGERS DEPLOYED
- 597 PATROLS UNDERTAKEN
- 117 ARRESTS
- 49 CONVICTIONS
- MWK1 415 000 FINES

Data collection

Various specialists in fauna and flora, minerals, soils, tourism, historical sites and other disciplines spent a week collecting data among the communities surrounding the Lukusuzi National Park for the General Management Plans.
Implementation of community livelihood activities

Community Markets for Conservation (COMACO), an organisation that builds commercial links between small-scale farmers and conservation in Zambia, and the Catholic Development Commission (CADECOM), the developmental arm of the Catholic Church in Malawi, were appointed to act as implementers for community livelihood activities. Both organisations have started work in their respective communities and are currently honing and contextualising their activities. Further operational investments are being explored, and capital investments made, to allow for the smooth running of the entire project, while staff at both Lukusuzi and Kasungu National Parks are being trained. Effective anti-poaching efforts in the area aim to further reduce wildlife crime.

Training for improved park management

Joint governance training for the park managers working within Kasungu-Lukusuzi was held in Chipata, Zambia. The training was run by an independent consultant competent in Zambian and Malawian governance issues. The International Coordinator and the Project Coordinators also provided additional information on the Malawi-Zambia TFCA and the Kasungu-Lukusuzi GIZ project respectively.

In Kasungu, several training initiatives were undertaken in 2017. Training in beekeeping was offered to 20 men and 20 women whose bees then produced a total of 200kg honey. Zonal Committee members also received training and two officers were trained in online database management.

Alternative community livelihoods

One of the key objectives of this TFCA is to reduce the pressure of unsustainable use on natural resources across the landscape. This is done through the promotion of measures that create alternative livelihood options for the local communities living in Kasungu-Lukusuzi. To this end, COMACO is establishing a community livelihoods programme in the area, in close consultation with Traditional Authorities, who provided valuable insight into cultural and customary beliefs.

A part of this process involved several sensitisation meetings with relevant communities where various projects that are to be implemented were discussed. These included the procurement of dry season gardens and the distribution to 400 women, the procurement of bicycles for lead farmers and the rehabilitation of a house for project use. After this, more than 400 female farmers were trained in conservation agriculture. Lead farmers, who are members of the community who received training and who are now training others, received 50 bicycles and two motorcycles.

CADECOM also conducted an interface meeting with staff from Kasungu National Park and government officers from the Departments of Agriculture, Forestry and Community Development to map the existence of community structures in the project area, focusing on matters such as Village Natural Resources Management Committees, beekeeping groups, village savings and loan groups, farmers’ clubs, farmers’ field schools and stove making groups. To act as a bridge between CADECOM and the community, 90 animators were selected from the local community.

Improved communication & mobility

Peace Parks Foundation and the International Fund for Animal Welfare, an organisation which has an agreement with the Department of National Parks and Wildlife in Malawi to undertake the anti-poaching operations in Kasungu National Park, signed a financing agreement to build radio rooms in both Kasungu and Lukusuzi National Parks. In 2017, construction in Kasungu was well on its way and construction in Lukusuzi will commence in 2018. The International Fund for Animal Welfare also used a part of the funding to rehabilitate the aircraft hangar in Kasungu.

A double cab Land Cruiser was procured by Peace Parks Foundation, with funding from GIZ, to serve as the new operational vehicle in Lukusuzi National Park. Before this, anti-poaching patrols were done on foot or using vehicles from the regional headquarters in Chipata, 140km away. Instances of human-wildlife conflict, anti-poaching operations and various patrols can now be attended to much faster.
Nyika-North Luangwa

By most measures, the biodiversity of the Nyika-North Luangwa component is high. Nyika boasts exceptional and internationally important biodiversity. In the highlands alone, there are about 102 mammals, 3,000 plant species, 462 bird, 47 reptile, 34 amphibian, 31 fish, and an unknown number of invertebrate species, including 287 species of butterflies.

Nyika is Malawi’s largest national park located on the Nyika Plateau, a relatively large highland massif located on the international boundary between Malawi and Zambia. As a mountain catchment area, the plateau plays a significant role in providing opportunities to conserve several crucial ecosystem services, firstly, as a catchment for water production, and secondly, as a refuge area for rare and unique species of both fauna and flora.
Rewilding Nyika

Three decades ago, more than 300 elephants graced the steep foothills of the Nyika Plateau. Extreme poaching, however, resulted in an estimated 67% decline in this population since 1992. Now, only approximately 100 elephants can be found roaming the 3,200 km² Nyika National Parks that straddle the Malawi/Zambia border. In 2017, a translocation effort was undertaken to move 34 elephants into the Nyika from Liwonde National Park in Malawi where the carrying capacity of elephant had been far exceeded. The benefits of the translocation include improving the viability of the herd and fast-tracking recovery of critical elephant numbers in the park.

Thanks to increased anti-poaching efforts made possible through the TFCA establishment process, Nyika National Park has seen a steady increase of wildlife over the years. The translocation was initiated by the Government of Malawi and funded by Peace Parks Foundation through a generous donation received from Stichting Dioraphte. Much of the funding is being used to ensure the seamless and safe acclimatisation of the elephants into their new environment. For a year after their release, the elephants will be closely monitored and once the newly introduced herd is established, they will be released into the larger park. The matriarch elephants have been fitted with VHF and satellite collars to enable tracking of their movements.

A light aircraft is being purchased and two staff members of the Department of National Parks and Wildlife in Malawi will be trained as pilots. Aerial support will aid in monitoring the translocated elephants once released from the sanctuary, as well as with day-to-day conservation management within Nyika National Parks and Vwaza Marsh Wildlife Reserve.

“With an estimated 30,000 elephant being poached across Africa each year, and habitat loss impacting on the species even further, all efforts should be made to secure intact ecosystems that will provide sufficient habitat range for this flagship species.”
- Peace Parks Foundation CEO, Werner Myburgh

“Supplementing the elephant population in Nyika will not only have long-term benefit for elephant conservation but will, at the same time, benefit communities surrounding the park through the spin-offs from growth in tourism.”

Minister of Natural Resources, Energy and Mining, the Honourable Aggrey Masi, reiterated Malawi’s commitment: “We are committed to intensifying anti-poaching operations and supporting community development in areas adjacent to these protected areas. One road to achieving this is through good conservation management that leads to the development of a healthy eco-tourism industry.

- Peace Parks Foundation CEO, Werner Myburgh
The Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park is Africa’s first peace park and was officially opened by the presidents of Botswana and South Africa in May 2000. To date, it is the only peace park where tourists can move freely across the international border within the boundaries of the park. At 35 551 km², the Kgalagadi (meaning place of thirst in the San language) represents a large ecosystem relatively free of human interference – an increasingly rare phenomenon in Africa. It is a popular destination for tourists who enjoy 4x4 wilderness trails.

The vastness of the Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park allows the nomadic ungulate populations and their predators to stay in balance with their environment, which means there is little need for extensive management intervention.

The Twee Rivieren (Two Rivers) joint access facility has removed the last vestiges of two separate national parks, and tourists now enter at a single facility to visit the entire park spanning the border between Botswana and South Africa. The Mata-Mata tourist access facility allows access via Namibia.

IMBEWU BUSH CAMP exposes communities to the traditional lifestyle of their ancestors through veld schools.

ERIN GAME RANCH is an essential source of income for the communities.

KHOMANI CULTURAL LANDSCAPE has been recognised as a World Heritage Site.
Keeping ‡Khomani San traditions alive

Upon arrival at Imbewu bush camp, not far from Kgalagadi’s Twee Rivieren gate, one might find nobody there. A quick cell phone call to Tannie Lys (Lydia) Kruiper, however, and you’ll know she’s just over the first sand dune, teaching kids how to track. A few minutes later she’ll make an appearance – in blue jeans and bright T-shirt – followed by her charges tripling over the sand back to camp. At first sight, two worlds seem to have collided: Bushmen children are here to learn traditional skills of tracking, dancing and surviving in the bush, yet all are clad in Western clothing and their teacher is easily reached by cell phone. Arguably, the ‡Khomani San have the best of both worlds.

“We only started today,” says Tannie Lys, who looks wiser than her 49 years, “and I was busy teaching them tracking. But there is so much grass after the good rains that it’s difficult to find an open patch of sand with tracks.” Tannie Lys has been teaching traditional skills and passing on knowledge to ‡Khomani San kids for 20 years. “They learn about bush medicine too, and at night we tell stories around the fire. And we dance.”

In an instant she’s up and leading children in a traditional dance around a small, smouldering fire. They follow her in a train-like formation, all jiggling hips and angled arms, humming rhythmically while other children on the sidelines beat worn animal skin drums. After a few minutes Tannie Lys retires, sits down, and everyone erupts into peals of laughter at the sheer enjoyment of the dance. “Please excuse me,” she says with a smile, “these kids haven’t eaten yet today.” She heads off to hand out roosterkoek (yeast dough baked over coals) to them one, by one. Veld skool requires energy, and they still have plenty to do today.

Erin Game Ranch

A historic land settlement agreement with the government of South Africa saw six farms (totalling around 35 000ha) to the south of the Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park and, after further negotiations, nearly 60 000ha of land within the park, restored to the ‡Khomani San and Mier communities. A tented camp on one of the six farms was constructed and furnished with support from Rotary Clubs and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development. The camp, Erin Game Ranch, has become an essential source of income for the communities surrounding the park. The first animals donated by SANParks were translocated in 2012 and several translocations have since taken place.

Youth development

The !Ael!Hai Kalahari Heritage Park is managed by a joint management board comprising representatives of the ‡Khomani San and Mier communities and SANParks. The heritage park aims to preserve the cultural and traditional knowledge of these indigenous communities while improving their opportunities to earn a livelihood. One of the key objectives of the communities is to expose children, youth and adults to the traditional lifestyles of their ancestors. This is realised through the implementation of traditional veld schools held at the Imbewu Camp in the heritage park. Peace Parks Foundation has been working with South Africa’s National Lotteries Commission, the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development and Rotary Clubs since 2009 to develop the !Ael!Hai Kalahari Heritage Park, which aims to preserve the cultural and traditional knowledge of these indigenous communities, while improving their opportunities to earn a livelihood.
On 8 July 2017, the ǂKhomani Cultural Landscape, located at the border with Botswana and Namibia in the Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park, was recognised as the 9th South African World Heritage Site. The large expanse of sand contains evidence of human occupation from the Stone Age and is associated with the culture of the formally nomadic ǂKhomani San and the strategies that allowed them to adapt to harsh desert conditions. They developed a specific ethnobotanical knowledge, cultural practices and a worldview related to the geographical features of their environment. The ǂKhomani Cultural Landscape bears testimony to the way of life that prevailed in the region and shaped the site over thousands of years.
Greater Mapungubwe Transfrontier Conservation Area measuring 5 909 km², is a destination where visitors flock to see magnificent sandstone formations, a wide variety of trees (most famous, of course, the enormous baobab trees), game and birdlife, and to experience a kinship with past generations. The cultural resources of the Limpopo-Shashe basin are generally associated with Iron Age settlements of around 1200 AD. The similarity of ivory objects, pottery remains and imported glass beads excavated at different sites spread across the modern international borders of Botswana, South Africa and Zimbabwe, attests to the cultural affinity of the people who lived in the Limpopo-Shashe basin during the Iron Age.
Field staff and park rangers of the Greater Mapungubwe Transfrontier Conservation Area meet regularly to exchange information and develop strategies to overcome challenges in the areas in which they work. Representing this dedication to cross-border collaboration, a badge containing the flags of all three countries was introduced in August 2017.

During an intimate ceremony held at the heart of this transfrontier conservation area, in a dry sandy riverbed at the confluence of the broad Shashe and Limpopo Rivers, the various officials signed a manifesto that symbolises their pledge and bond towards ensuring co-operative law enforcement within the landscape of the three countries. It reads:

“Every ranger and scout of Greater Mapungubwe is a custodian who holds the responsibility of guarding the future of the Protected Area’s natural biodiversity – for in these wild places is found testament of the laws of the Earth.”

As the first of the badges were handed over to the country representatives, the officials saluted each other, confirming their promise with a broad smile. With thanks to Peace Parks, these badges will be worn on the shoulder of each uniform with pride and a steadfast commitment to protecting the magnificent cultural, but challenging, landscape of Greater Mapungubwe Transfrontier Conservation Area.

The Mapungubwe World Heritage Site is a major attraction park and was home to the famous gold rhino – a symbol of the power of the King of the Mapungubwe whose people inhabited the Limpopo river valley between 900 AD and 1300 AD.
Support programmes

TFCA Veterinary Wildlife Programme

One Health Platform

Since antiquity, diseases in Africa have had an impact on wildlife, livestock and human settlement patterns. Food security, sustainable livelihoods and biodiversity can all be adversely affected by the inadequate control of diseases. The spreading of diseases across international borders, particularly where partner countries aim to establish transfrontier conservation areas (TFCAs), needs to be carefully monitored and controlled. Peace Parks Foundation, through its TFCA Veterinary Wildlife Programme that is managed by the University of Pretoria Centre for Veterinary Wildlife Studies, supports TFCA partner countries in the integration and coordination of their disease control strategies.

Hans Hoheisen Wildlife Research Station

The Hans Hoheisen Wildlife Research Station is a research and training station managed by the University of Pretoria as part of a collaborative agreement with Peace Parks Foundation and Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency. The station is situated at the Orpen gate of the Kruger National Park in South Africa’s Mpumalanga Lowveld. Facilities include accommodation, an accredited laboratory, a library, animal housing and handling facilities, as well as office space for researchers from various institutions. The research station also offers meeting rooms, presentation facilities and a large auditorium.

Mnisi Community Programme

The Mnisi Community Programme is a research and community engagement programme designed to facilitate the under- and postgraduate research and training activities of the University of Pretoria in the Mnisi community. The 30 000ha Mnisi study area surrounding the Hluvukani village is close to the research station and consists of communal farmland, which largely belongs to the Mnisi Traditional Authority, as well as two provincial game reserves: Manyeleti Game Reserve, which is open to the Kruger National Park, and Andover Game Reserve. The programme has supported approximately 100 research and development projects in collaboration with communities, state departments, NGOs and leading local and international institutions.

Research programmes mainly focus on the interface between conservation areas and their wildlife, which is separated by a game-proof fence from neighbouring rural communities and their livestock and crop fields. Research and development projects focus on applied One Health, zoonoses, parasitology, rangeland ecology, wildlife health and conservation, livestock health and production, market access, and value chain development. Research findings are reported to reserve management or community participants through feedback sessions and workshops, as well as training workshops for emerging farmers on disease identification and control.

Hluvukani Animal Clinic

The Hluvukani Animal Clinic operates as a training clinic for final year veterinary students and was created in partnership with the Mpumalanga Veterinary Services. The aim is to provide a clinic veterinary service to the local community and for University of Pretoria staff and students to assist with disease control activities. The clinic runs a two-week rotation for local and foreign veterinary students, which offers them the opportunity to see a wide variety of interesting veterinary cases, interact with the local farmers, animal owners and medical students from the University of the Witwatersrand, as well as give educational talks at the local schools.

Approximately 40 students and staff were hosted by the Hans Hoheisen Wildlife Research Station as part of a One Health induction course for an international joint Master’s degree in Tropical Animal Health. The degree is jointly presented by the Institute for Tropical Medicine, Antwerp (Belgium), and the Department of Veterinary Tropical Diseases in the Faculty of Veterinary Science at the University of Pretoria. The group visited the Hans Hoheisen Wildlife Research Station which offers students an experiential learning platform in One Health at the wildlife-livestock-human interface.

The ability of the research platform to host and present training courses in One Health, with an emphasis on the multiple challenges present at the human-animal interface in transfrontier conservation areas, is extremely valuable for development in these areas. The research platform also offers unique and relevant short training courses to TFCA stakeholders that specifically focus on a holistic, One Health approach to complex challenges in TFCAs.
Herding 4 Health

Herding 4 Health is a unique model developed for enhancing wildlife-livestock compatibility, sustainable land use and livelihood improvement in and around TFCAs where animal disease control policies severely restrict conservation and rural development efforts.

While many view livestock as a threat to conservation and especially rangeland health, it is in fact through the correct management of livestock and unlocking their value in underserved communities that significant benefits for effective land use and conservation development can be achieved.

Herding 4 Health follows a holistic, community-driven approach to address challenges faced by farmers living in and adjacent to protected areas. It is a tested model designed around farmer-driven participation, sustainable rangeland management practices, disease risk and food safety control as well as rural development principles.

Recently approved and internationally adopted commodity-based trade standards for beef produced in Foot-and-Mouth Disease infected areas are utilised as a catalyst for this approach while traditional knowledge and technology are brought together to enable regenerative livestock production and enhance social equity in the form of innovative training packages and enterprise development.

Through the Herding 4 Health programme, communal farmers, both men and women, directly benefit from learning new skills, increased income, and greater livestock and rangeland health.

In addition to promoting gender equality, the project builds community governance capacity that improves interactions between communities and conservation entities and resolves barriers that stand in the way of transfrontier conservation area development. Most importantly, the project’s co-development focus on red meat markets sustains and expands the impact of the investment well beyond the life of the project and, as such, has the potential to have the greatest conservation impact as a model for protected areas throughout southern and eastern Africa.

Pilot project launched

Conservation South Africa, in partnership with Peace Parks Foundation, supported communal farmers in the Mnisi community, part of the Kruger to Canyons Biosphere Reserve, to engage in rangeland stewardship and climate-smart livestock production through the Herding 4 Health programme.

It further contributes to wildlife economy activities and provides technical readiness support. A mobile abattoir, developed through this project, has been piloted and will hopefully in the near future make year-round hygienic and controlled meat production possible. The objective is to fully incorporate commodity-based trade standards along this value chain so that meat can even be sold outside the Foot-and-Mouth Disease-infected zone, which will unlock significant value for local producers. The Herding 4 Health programme ensures that conservation outcomes are still met despite improved market access by means of formal conservation and producer agreements with farmers participating in the programme.

“Help us look after our cattle and we’ll help you look after your rhino.”
Utah Nduna
A focus on combatting wildlife crime

A study by the World Travel & Tourism Council reported on the economic impact of tourism in South Africa during 2017. It stated, “Over the longer term, the growth of the Travel & Tourism sector will continue to be strong so long as the investment and development take place in an open and sustainable manner. Enacting pro-growth travel policies that share benefits more equitably can foster a talent and business environment necessary to enable Travel & Tourism to realise its potential. In doing so, not only can we expect the sector to support over 380 million jobs by 2027, but it will continue to grow its economic contribution, providing the rationale for the further protection of nature, habitats, and biodiversity.”

This aligns well with the strategic thinking behind Peace Parks Foundation’s commitment to focussing its efforts in countering the severe onslaught on valuable natural assets such as rhino, elephant, lion and leopard. Aside from their critical roles in maintaining balanced and sustainable ecosystems, these animals serve as a major tourist attraction. If three of the world-famous Big 5 would no longer be found freely roaming Africa’s parks, the impact would be far-reaching.

Wildlife crime destroys biodiversity by threatening the extinction of critically endangered species, it diminishes resources as funds that could have gone towards conservation or community development are now spent on anti-poaching efforts, and it drains the tourism industry as tourists mostly travel to experience the magical African bush and do not want to enter a militaristic environment caused by extreme security interventions. All of these impact and diminish livelihoods and ultimately destabilise the sustainable development of the transfrontier conservation areas and the protection of large ecosystems. Thus, Peace Parks Foundation decided that it was imperative to support the combatting of wildlife crime.

Through the programme, Peace Parks fosters new and further develops long-standing relationships that may take strain due to the complex pressures added by wildlife crime. This is done to strengthen cross-border wildlife crime prevention, which will enable the development of transfrontier conservation areas.

In February 2014, the Dutch and Swedish Postcode Lotteries awarded a €15.4 million grant to Peace Parks Foundation to launch a five-year, multi-faceted Rhino Protection Programme. Peace Parks initiated a ‘think big, start small, and act now approach’, trying to address problems along the rhino horn value chain through the application of innovative methods, some of which were very successful and others that might not have directly impacted wildlife crime, but which greatly contributed to a valuable knowledge pool.

The programme is focused on developing and implementing practical, well-considered methods to support rangers on the ground to combat the poaching of rhino; investigate and invest in state-of-the-art security and monitoring solutions; as well as disrupt the supply, demand and the illegal trafficking of rhino horn. The programme is also receiving additional funding from various charities, non-profit organisations and businesses as Peace Parks engages with increasing numbers of strategic partners to multiply the effect of interventions.
Hluhluwe iMfolozi Park (HiP) is often referred to as the birthplace of rhino as, nearly half a century ago, the southern white rhino was once saved from the brink of extinction here. Sadly, the park, which is managed by conservation agency Ezemvelo KwaZulu-Natal Wildlife, has had a significant escalation in rhino poaching, brought on by the displacement of poachers from areas that are increasingly secured. Through combined efforts the park is, however, being fortified to protect the large populations of rhino and elephant, as well as other threatened species that live within its borders. A partnership between Ezemvelo and Peace Parks Foundation was formalised with the signing of a memorandum of agreement through which the Foundation committed significant technical and funding support towards developing HiP as a ‘smart park’.

A primary focus has been increasing the use of technology as a highly scalable force-multiplier to detection and response strategies. The aims are to place protection forces one step ahead of poachers by improving effective and rapid mobilisation of available resources, and to keep field staff safer.

A smart park

The development of the ‘smart park’ entails the deployment of a collection of integrated technology solutions that together create a connected environment to enable seamless collection and consolidation of real-time data from various devices and sensors throughout the park for greater wide-area situational awareness. Intelligent surveillance systems, image recognition cameras, digital radios, handheld data collection devices, animal tracking sensors, gate and access control systems, vehicle and aerial response tracking systems are but a few of the data sources that will be initially integrated into the unified technology ecosystem.

Peace Parks Foundation fast-tracked the implementation of the new Internet of Things – low-power long-range smart sensor solution at the park, which will provide law enforcement with enhanced information to allow tracking of rhino, rapid response to poaching events and securing of crime scenes. Collaborating with Ezemvelo, the system is now in advanced stages of testing in preparation of deployment.

One of the solutions implemented in 2017, which is proving to be highly effective in the intelligent detection of poaching threats, is a camera trap sensor system. A number of commercially available covert camera traps installed within the HiP Intensive Protection Zone are strategically positioned at known poaching hotspots, trafficking routes and other high-risk areas. They are providing 24-hour surveillance of the area.

The integration of the Microsoft Azure Artificial Cognitive Intelligence (ACI) Application Programming Interface (API) transformed the standard cameras into intelligent devices capable of identifying people in images automatically. Since their initial deployment, using the ACI API, camera traps have become increasingly more effective at detecting humans exclusively in the images that they capture.

Of the thousands of images captured, only about 5% were forwarded to the Cmore system as alerts. Cmore is a software application ecosystem that includes a web-based application (portal) and associated mobile applications for use in the command and control domain. Filtering the images is an important achievement as previously, thousands of false alerts had rendered autonomous detection systems unmanageable at any significant scale.
Wide-area surveillance system

South Africa’s Kruger National Park is an integral component of the 35 000 km² Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park. Home to South Africa’s largest rhino population, it has been subjected to excessively high levels of poaching, with more than 3 700 rhino killed for their horn in a decade. Multiple levels of interventions from various organisations and government institutions have all been aimed at reducing the onslaught here.

To this end, 2017 saw significant advancements in technology-driven solutions that aim to deter and detect poachers within rhino strongholds. Multiple interventions within the Kruger National Park, which were supported by Peace Parks Foundation in partnership with various organisations, have resulted in a 20% year on year decrease for 2016, 2017 and hopes are high that the trend will continue in 2018.

A wide-area radar and surveillance system, known as the Postcode Meerkat (giving recognition to the kind support of the People’s Postcode Lottery) was launched in partnership with SANParks and the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research in December 2016 and comprises a suite of radar and electro-optic sensors that detect, classify, monitor and track human movement. As a direct result, the intense poaching activity within this critical protection zone was successfully suppressed. The technology, as an anti-poaching solution, has matured considerably in 2017.

A more than 80% decrease in poaching incidents in the mission area can be seen due to the deterrent value of anti-poaching strategies.
A conceptual framework has identified five distinct levels at which rhino horn trade syndicates are operating within and outside of Africa.

The first three levels function nationally. The Level 1 activity represents the illegal killing of an animal, such as rhino or elephant; Level 2 activity represents local buyers and couriers who receive the horns from the poachers; and Level 3 activity represents national couriers, buyers and exporters who consolidate horns from all sources, including poaching, stockpile sales, thefts and illegal dehorning, as well as ‘pseudo-hunting’ activities.

Linking Africa to distant markets, Level 4 represents international buyers, exporters, importers and couriers who are then responsible for the movement of horn to rhino horn dealers to the Level 5 activity, which takes place with the consumer in end-use markets.

Wildlife crime syndicates are typically multi-national operations that also engage in other criminal activities such as drug and diamond smuggling, human trafficking and trading other wildlife products like elephant ivory and abalone.

The number of Level 2 to Level 4 syndicate members arrested during 2017 increased by 83%. This is a significant win for counter-poaching efforts when considering that for every single syndicate member removed from the system at least 60 to 80 poachers are rendered ineffective.

No less than 36 rhino poaching suspects were apprehended in Mpumalanga, Limpopo and KwaZulu-Natal. Suspected stolen vehicles, unlicensed firearms and ammunition, silencers, axes and knives were seized in these operations.

A decimation of the Asian populations of pangolin, coupled with a rising demand from consumers has led to a rapid increase in poaching and trafficking of pangolin from southern Africa. In November, joint operations resulted in the arrest of seven poachers in possession of live pangolins in and around the Kruger National Park.

Compiling robust cases to hand over to the authorities is critical for the successful prosecution of rhino and other wildlife crime which ultimately disrupts the poaching process and disincentivises new poachers.
Mozambique remains an important transit route for rhino horn and other wildlife products, such as ivory, from southern African countries. Through the Rhino Protection Programme, Peace Parks Foundation remains committed to its partnership with Mozambique’s National Administration of Conservation Areas (ANAC) to work towards combatting poaching and trafficking in the region.

Wildlife Justice Commission

Peace Parks Foundation and WWF-Netherlands jointly supported the founding of the Wildlife Justice Commission, which has grown and evolved into a robust organisation that is committed to disrupting transnational, organised wildlife crime by exposing criminal networks and the corruption that enables them to flourish by empowering – or if need be, pressuring – governments to enforce the law.

The Wildlife Justice Commission has a large complement of dedicated professionals and through this team they have initiated numerous investigations and national dialogue efforts in several countries.

Investigations and efforts to initiate national dialogue regarding the illegal trade in wildlife are being pursued in Laos, Vietnam, Mozambique, South Africa, Malaysia and India. Investigations and operations driven by the commission have resulted in the arrest and conviction of numerous traffickers and the seizure of large quantities of rhino horns, ivory, lion and leopard products as well as semi-precious stones.

In a single incident, a Wildlife Justice Commission investigator sighted approximately 500kg of ivory. The locations were raided, the ivory seized and three individuals, including Level 3 and Level 4 traffickers, were arrested and convicted.

Mozambique Wildlife Crime Investigations: Department of Protection and Law Enforcement

To this end, Peace Parks and ANAC entered into an agreement whereby additional support was provided to focus on interventions to counter organised crime and trafficking.

Throughout 2017, the Department of Protection and Law Enforcement carried out several operations resulting in the seizure of, among other contraband, 120kg of ivory from two Maputo markets as well as the recovery of one pangolin and the arrest of seven suspects. In addition, the department is supporting the ongoing investigation of the Malaysian and Cambodian rhino horn seizures by the Mozambican National Criminal Investigation Service.
Vietnamese Youth Rhino Awareness Campaign

The demand for rhino horn in Asian countries remains one of the main driving forces behind the poaching of rhinos in southern Africa, with more than 80% of illegally trafficked rhino horn passing through Vietnam either for local use or for export to other countries, such as China.

In response to this, Wilderness Foundation Africa, in partnership with SOUL Music & Performing Arts Academy, Peace Parks Foundation and the Olsen Animal Trust, implemented the Wild Rhino demand reduction campaign that aims to educate and engage Vietnamese youth on the issue of rhino poaching. The project has three components; the Wild Rhino Competition, the Youth Ambassador Awareness and Education Campaign, and the Rhino Ranger Super Hero Campaign.

Since the 2014 launch of the first Wild Rhino Competition in 11 participating private/international schools in Ho Chi Minh City, the campaign has reached about 25,000 Vietnamese youth directly, and nearly 1 million youth indirectly, through campaign and youth ambassador social media activities.

Eleven young people were brought to South Africa from Ho Chi Minh City for a life-changing wilderness experience. After the trail, the youth visited a rhino orphanage and had the opportunity to learn more from leading wildlife crime, rhino veterinary and rhino protection experts during a full-day workshop at the Wildlife Leadership School in Durban. The young people were deeply touched by what they saw and learnt, and have returned to Vietnam as rhino ambassadors, to run awareness campaigns aimed at educating people on the rhino poaching crisis.

Through the Chi Campaign, launched in 2015, more than 10,000 businessmen across 45 Vietnamese cities and provinces have gained the tools and methods to adopt corporate social responsibility policies that incorporate wildlife protection. With support from TRAFFIC, the Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry has held over 240 courses to reach members of the business community.

Continuing this successful outreach for corporate social responsibility integration, TRAFFIC and the Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry’s Small and Medium Enterprise Centre held its third Training of Trainers workshop in Quang Ninh Province with funding from the Peace Parks Foundation in May 2017. The workshop enhanced the capacity of trainers who are fostering corporate social responsibility adoption throughout Vietnam, with the participants gaining insights into how it can benefit emerging companies. The trainers also learned of the current state of wildlife crime and the latest methods and tools to change consumer behaviour.

The master trainers were encouraged to seek out the most influential members of their communities to become key opinion leaders who not only abstain from consuming threatened wildlife products, but also actively speak out against the practices that harm biodiversity.
Although trading rhino horn has been illegal in China since 1993, the prohibited activity remains widespread in the country and is fuelled by the continuous flow of rhino horn coming in across the border from Vietnam.

In 2017, a group of 40 students from Tongji University’s College of Design and Innovation in Shanghai, China, were tasked to use design as an instrument to address societal problems and influence positive change within their society. The students decided to focus their efforts on developing culturally and audience-appropriate demand management design initiatives in an effort to reduce the use of rhino horn products within China.

Under the leadership of Tongji University Professor Mo Jiao and supported by Peace Parks Foundation, the students became part of a project that offered them the opportunity to take on new challenges and expand their perspectives. The students delivered professional marketing pitches with consumer-tested and skilfully designed products. They took to the streets, shopping centres and schools of Shanghai to test their designs and, at the same time, educate their communities about the plight of the rhino by means of video games, participatory drawing activities, 3D-rhino puzzles, and interactive rhino figurines. Included in the top designs was a mobile application that engages the Chinese people in fundraising and activism for rhino protection. The top performing team produced a professionally designed rhino-branded anti-pollution breathing mask that, in its functionality, also symbolises the connection between the need for environmental vigilance for both animals and humans.

In July 2017, representatives from the teams who presented the most innovative and marketable ideas were brought to South Africa by Peace Parks Foundation for their first glimpse of rhino in the wild. The aim was to provide them with enhanced insight and revitalised inspiration for the final refinement of their designs. On location at the Southern African Wildlife College, the students had the opportunity to exchange ideas with experts in the local conservation industry so as to pave the way for impactful, real-world implementation of their concepts.

For many years, access to rhino protection and counter-wildlife crime partnerships in China has been incredibly difficult, and for this reason, the Tongji connection has been a significant step towards building effective and sustainable relationships in the country.

“We want to connect people in China emotionally with the rhino, and we have noticed that design can help a lot in promoting this social matter.” - Prof. Mo Jiao, College of Design and Innovation Tongji University

“Our work in China revolves around creating local ownership of the problem, working with the Chinese people, to develop Chinese solutions based on Chinese culture. The value of working with young Chinese nationals and training institutions is immeasurable.” - Brad Poole, Chief Operations Officer
Training

SA College for Tourism

Hospitality training changing lives

In January 2017, 96 women started their hospitality training at this facility, all graduating in November. In the nearly 20 years the SA College for Tourism has been operational, it has seen more than 1 300 graduates, many who have opened their own hospitality establishments. Several of the graduates are working overseas in Dubai, England, Germany, Hong Kong, Ireland and on various cruise ships. One graduate opened her own domestic worker training business that enables other women to find employment. The head of housekeeping at a renowned five-star hotel in Cape Town, and an employee at the Presidential Guest House in Pretoria, are both graduates from the college.

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Practical learnership programme at the Drostdy Hotel

The top 22 learners from each year are chosen for a further year-long practical learnership training programme towards two mid-management, full accredited qualifications at the historic five-star Drostdy Hotel in Graaff-Reinet, a fully owned subsidiary of the SA College for Tourism. Although graduates of SA College of Tourism are not guaranteed employment, a dedicated placement manager seeks employment opportunities, including internships for them. The programme is extremely successful and more than 93% of 2017 graduates are currently employed in the hospitality industry. The top two students are also selected to travel to Italy for a three-month work experience at an upmarket guest house in Portofino, made possible by a sponsorship from Mrs Barbara Pudel.

In 2017, SA College for Tourism maintained the 100% pass rate of its hospitality students, which dates back more than half a decade.

Our sincere thanks go to the donors who support the college: Anel Trust (Anel van der Merwe); Boyd Varty; C Jankowitz; Distell Development Trust; Edwin de la Harpe-Hertzog; Embassy of Finland; European Union; Firearm Management Services (Pty) Ltd; Geri Potter; Hans Hoheisen Charitable Trust; Irene Staehlin; Itumeleng Community Trust; J and B Lloyd Family Charitable Trust; Jagersfontein Development (Edms) Bpk; Koos & Rona Rupert Opvoedkundige Trust; Leigh Ann Ord; Richardt and Syell van Rensburg; Lloyds Travel of Sandton (Pty) Ltd; Londolozi Game Reserve; Marsh (Pty) Ltd; JMM (Boetie) and Caroline van Zyl; Werner Myburgh; National Lotteries Commission; Nedbank Private Wealth Charitable Foundation; Nedbank Eyethu Community Trust; Peace Parks Foundation; Rand Merchant Private Bank; Remgro Ltd; Rooipoort Developments (Edms) Bpk; Rupert Natuurstigting; Rupert-Onderwyssstigting; Samara Private Game Reserve; Seetuin Beleggings (Edms) Bpk (Neil and Nelia Hoogenhout); Singita Game Reserve; Stephen Falcke; Ted Pearsall; The Anglo American Chairman’s Fund; The TK Foundation; Tim Driman; Tswalu Foundation; Tswalu Kalahari Game Reserve; Hansjürg and Francesca Saager.
Open Africa homestay training in partnership with Airbnb

In April 2017, an agreement was signed with Airbnb and Open Africa for the training and mentoring of men and women from the Western Cape whose family homes would become homestay guest houses. The SA College for Tourism learnership trainer assessed a sample of Airbnb hosts in April, visiting various homestays in Khayelitsha in the City of Cape Town; Imizamo Yethu in Hout Bay; Dwars River Valley in the Winelands, close to Stellenbosch; and Calitzdorp and Zoar in the Klein Karoo.

Fifteen men and women, between the ages of 40 and 70 years, arrived for homestay training at the college in June and were welcomed by representatives from Open Africa, Airbnb and Cape Innovative Technology Initiative (a training partner of Airbnb) who all attended the first few training sessions. All of the participants successfully completed the course and received certificates stating that they had met all certification requirements of the specially designed SA College for Tourism Homestay Training Programme, endorsed by Airbnb.

All the participants were able to create an Airbnb listing and at the end of the two-week training period, two participants had already received their first booking.

On her Airbnb profile page, course attendee Marie Maile, owner of Majoros B&B in Cape Town writes:

“My place is a home away from home with a friendly atmosphere, nice and cozy. You’ll meet my daughter and my two grandchildren, a boy and a girl who are very friendly. African cuisine, warmth, fun and emotional connection make my stay memorable!”

A review left by one of her guests is a testimony to her success so far:

“Maria is an incredible host, once you meet her you know that you will not have a dull moment. She is such a natural. Her home is filled with warmth and is a great spot to sleep and get to know more about things.”

Lungi Sotyingwa, owner of Lungi’s Township B&B has had a number of positive reviews from Airbnb guests who gave her a 4.5-star rating. In December 2017, a guest wrote:

“We had a great stay with Lungi and her family! We felt very safe in their neighbourhood (honestly, a lot safer than in some of the more touristy parts of Cape Town...) and had a very relaxed night. Lungi and her family gave us a tour of their neighbourhood and local artists. She is an amazing host and also a great cook!! We highly recommend Lungi’s home for anyone who wants to learn more about Cape Town.”

The project was funded by Airbnb.

Other 2017 highlights included an agreement between the hospitality training division with the Good Work Foundation to open a satellite campus at Hazyview in Mpumalanga, and the Drostdy Hotel being awarded the 2017 Lilizela Award for Service Excellence by South African Tourism in liaison with the Eastern Cape Department of Economic Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism.
The Tracker Academy, which is a training division of the SA College for Tourism, opened in 2009 and offers training to disadvantaged rural people in the traditional skill of tracking. The accreditation of its training programme with the Culture, Arts, Tourism, Hospitality and Sport Sector Education and Training Authority (CATHSSETA) made the Tracker Academy the first tracker training school to achieve this distinction in South Africa. More than 94% of Tracker Academy graduates are permanently employed in the nature-based tourism industry of South Africa. The academy offers two training programmes, namely a combined semi-desert and bushveld (savannah) biome one-year course and a ten-month desert biome course at its three campuses at Samara Private Game Reserve in the Karoo region of the Eastern Cape, Londolozi Game Reserve bordering the Kruger National Park in Mpumalanga and, most recently, at Tswalu Kalahari Reserve in the Northern Cape.

The first six-month semester of the combined training course is conducted at Samara Private Game Reserve, which is a semi-desert biome. Upon successful completion of this course, students move to Londolozi Game Reserve, for second semester training in the traditional bushveld/savannah biome. This provides students the opportunity to learn the diversity of wildlife and its behaviour in two extremely different environments.

In May 2017, the Tracker Academy expanded its operations and opened a campus at Tswalu Kalahari Game Reserve in the Kalahari Desert. Among the first group of eight students, four were from a local ‡Khomani San community. The opening of the Tswalu facility enables the Academy to provide training to students in three different types of biomes, which further enhances their chances of employment and greatly expands their knowledge base.

2017 academic year

During the first week of January eight students reported for their savannah/bushveld biome semester at Londolozi Game Reserve. They had already completed their semi-desert biome training at Samara Private Game Reserve at the end of November 2016. Another group of eight students from Mpumalanga, KwaZulu-Natal and the Free State started their orientation on 10 January at Samara with the manager of the academy, assisted by Dr Ian McCallum, a renowned conservationist.

Tracker Manual book launch

The Tracker Manual, the academy’s in-house produced training manual, which was published in 2017 by Penguin Random House at the suggestion of Field Guides Association of Southern Africa, has done extremely well. At the launch in Johannesburg all 100 copies brought along by the publishers were sold. Hoping to meet the demand at the next launch, which took place in Somerset West, the publisher had 500 copies ready. Again, all available stock was sold. The popularity of the book demanded a reprint as more than 2 300 copies were sold within the first few months.

“The boys have been very well trained! The fact that they are still young and already have a great eye for tracks is unbelievable. They know exactly what to do and I could see that they were also trained to use their heads. I have personally gone out with them, and to see how they operate is very inspiring. As a team out there, they are extremely strong because their common goal is engraved in their minds: to find leopards through the skills that they have been taught. The significant difference that we can see in the increased amount of animal sightings is incredible.” – Gawie Grobler, manager at Marataba Safari Lodge in the North West where a group of 2017 graduates are involved in a leopard habituation project.

“It’s inspiring what can happen when ordinary people find their calling – and their teachers. At the SA College for Tourism in Graaff-Reinet, which includes the Tracker Academy and the recently launched Herding Academy, the students are passionate, uplifted and thoroughly enchanted by their courses – and when they graduate, the world of opportunity is wide open to them.” – Keri Harvey, visiting travel writer
Teaching skills for life

Tracking is about much more than identifying animal footprints, it is about reading the bush for information – a bush newspaper, if you like. Master tracker and facilitator Pokkie Benade and his lecturer wife Janetta have been with the Tracker Academy since its first intake of students in 2010. With Pokkie’s assistance, Janetta developed the course material, which is accredited by the South African education and training authorities, and presents lectures to students, while Pokkie does the field work training with them.

Entirely self-taught, Pokkie says he has been tracking since the age of 12. “I learnt from my dad when he trapped rooikatte (caracal) and I became adept at fine details. Something was just in me to do this; tracking is my world.” Before joining Tracker Academy, Pokkie worked for South African National Parks for 33 years. “It was my dream to show people how to track animals. I am so happy here.” His happiness is noticeably reflected in his students.

Tshepo Dzemba from Mpumalanga says with Pokkie’s guidance he now feels connected to the bush. “I now know that everything is connected and nothing in the world is useless. This course has brought positive change to my life, like you can’t believe.”

Kaneth Makhubela from Limpopo says he loves applying his mind and senses to create the picture of what has happened in the bush, “I never knew that a tree could give you information and that they’re connected to people and animals. The course has opened my mind a lot. I now see animals in a different way, with emotion. Our trainers are excellent and I feel lucky to have them.”

Pokkie smiles and says modestly: “The secret is to be sharp. Listen, look, smell. It’s about the big picture around you, not just the track. So don’t track while looking down like a bushpig. Look ahead, look around and you won’t walk into danger. Tracking is a good skill for life because it makes you aware of everything around you.”

Janetta, who has been married to Pokkie for 18 years, says the first time she saw a gemsbok she thought it was a big springbok. Now she’s responsible for all the theory training. “I come alive when teaching about the birds,” she says enthusiastically, “and there is always a big picture around what you see in the bush.” She says she has seen so many students better their lives through the course, where six months are spent at Samara and six months at Londolozi. Students all say that Pokkie and Janetta have uplifted them immeasurably.

Siphiwe Mandleni is a good example. He arrived in 2011 to do the tracking course but had absolutely no animal knowledge and couldn’t speak English either. With support and guidance from Pokkie and Janetta, he graduated as top student and is now a tracker and trainer at Tswalu Kalahari Reserve – the third branch of Tracker Academy, after Samara and Londolozi. There have also been requests for branches to be opened in southern Mozambique, Namibia and Botswana. Tracker Academy graduates are also far-flung around the world and some are currently working with jaguars in the Pantanal tropical wetlands in Brazil, others are in Namibia, Botswana, Mozambique and Malawi.

In 2014, Pokkie was also named as one of the 21 South African Icons, and says he was honestly surprised at the honour. “For me it’s simple,” he explains, “tracking is my life. I know I was born to track. I think I have some Bushman blood in me.”

The Herding Academy

The latest addition to the college is the Herding Academy that will offer an accredited herding training course, developed in 2017. The aim is to create a learning platform to preserve the ancient skill of herding livestock holistically and sustainably, with nature conservation in mind. Students will be taught to mimic the ancient herding patterns of wild animals that once roamed freely in the Karoo and other ecosystems.

Herding methodologies will promote herding as part of a scientific grazing plan to improve ecosystems within wildlife reserves, as well as on private farms.

The course was accredited with the South African education and training authorities at the end of last year. Modules offered will look at:

- Conservation;
- Ecology;
- Animal care;
- Research;
- Personal growth and leadership;
- Personal finance; and
- Basic first aid.
The first Wildlife Area Management students were admitted to the Higher Education Training Programme at the College in 1998. Twenty years later this programme has graduated close to a thousand students and remains one of the most sought-after courses for conservation authorities across Africa.

In 2017, the Southern African Wildlife College celebrated 20 years in service to nature conservation. Since its inception, it has grown to be a world-renowned training facility dedicated to ensuring that a steady supply of educated, passionate conservationists join teams all over Africa to work towards nature conservation and the development of harmony between man and its natural environment. More than 15,000 students have passed through its halls.

The college lies 10km west of the Orpen gate of the Kruger National Park in the Limpopo province of South Africa. Its operations are made possible through support by long-standing donors and partners that include Peace Parks Foundation, WWF South Africa and KfW.

The Southern African Wildlife College follows a unique, needs-driven approach to further education through its Higher Education and Training courses, skills development programmes and tailored courses that aim to address some of the most pressing issues facing people working in conservation. The college has four education pillars: Natural Resource Management, Wildlife Guardianship including an aerial unit and canine (K9) capability training component, Community Development and Youth Access including its Rural Initiatives for a Sustainable Environment (RISE) unit, and Sustainable Use and Field Guiding. Its flagship Higher Education and Training Certificate programme includes a Higher Certificate in Nature Conservation: Implementation and Leadership, as well as an Advanced Certificate in Nature Conservation: Transfrontier Conservation Management.

The college offers eight occupational qualification certificates and skills development programmes designed to be occupationally relevant, and which are composed of various credits that can be used towards a nationally recognised qualification. It also offers 40 specialist and tailor-made short courses and 39 skilled practitioner classes. A youth access course was developed to teach marketable skill sets in the context of conservation and the environment.

More recently the College also formalised its Applied Learning department, the aim being to improve and pioneer conservation, techniques and teaching, which will allow these learnings and best practice to be shared with stakeholders.

Our sincere thanks go to the donors who support the college: AfriSam; Aim Training Academy; Aimpoint; Bextrans Group; Dallas Safari Club Foundation; Corporapthe Foundation; Distell Foundation; Edgar Droste Trust; First Rand Trust (Rand Merchant Bank Fund); Friends of African Wildlife; Global Conservation Force; Greater Kruger Environmental Protection Foundation; Hans Hoheisen Charitable Trust; Hike for Rhinos Campaign; International Fund for Animal Welfare; Ivan Carter Wildlife Conservation Alliance; KfW; KfW Stiftung; Lance and Julie Fritz Family Trust; Lowveld Dog Training; Mava Fondation pour la Nature; Michigan State University; Morgan Family Charitable Trust; Mr J JM van Zy; MyPlanet Rhino Fund; National Lotteries Commission; Nitrogen Advertisement & Design; Peace Parks Foundation; Purdy Family Fund; Rufford Foundation; SafariFRANK; Safari Club International Foundation; Seaworld & Busch Gardens Conservation Fund; Sheldon Family Trust; Southern African Wildlife College Trust; Storm; Tusk Trust; United for Wildlife supported by the Royal Foundation of the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge and Prince Harry; University of Queensland; Vanguard Derivatives; WWF Nedbank Green Trust together with the support provided by various individual donors.

Education changing lives

One of the College’s highlights during 2017 was a field ranger graduation ceremony and passing out parade. It was remarkable for two reasons: it was the biggest in South African history, with 119 National Certificates in Nature Conservation: Resource Guardianship being awarded; and half of the recipients were female.

The ceremony marked the culmination of a 12-month intensive training programme that was part of a large-scale two-year project by the National Treasury’s Job Fund.

Through the project, 257 unemployed people from historically disadvantaged communities were trained as field rangers and employment opportunities were created for the graduates with the support of five employer organisations that included Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife, Limpopo Department of Economic Development Environment and Tourism, South African National Parks, The Lawrence Anthony Earth Organisation and Wildlands Conservation Trust.

According to graduate Thabiso Mongale, the programme was both mentally and physically demanding. She says, “I am proud of what I have accomplished this year. I am excited – no, beyond excited! I am ready to do this very important job.” Fellow graduate Glander Tshabalala echoed her sentiments, adding “We will do everything we can to protect the environment and to educate others. It is our duty to make sure we look after nature for future generations.”
Agreement with Mozambique

Dr Bartolomeu Soto, the Director-General of the National Administration of Conservation Areas (ANAC) in Mozambique and the Chief Executive Officer of the Southern African Wildlife College, Theresa Sowry, signed a memorandum of understanding. This will facilitate the effective implementation of the objectives and principles established in the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Southern African Development Community Protocol on Wildlife Management and Law Enforcement and Mozambique’s policy on biodiversity conservation.

The two parties jointly recognise the need for the conservation and protection of biodiversity, compliance and law enforcement. The memorandum of understanding is designed to underpin the urgency of finding viable ways and durable solutions towards establishing a cooperative approach to training within the sector.

The college’s role will be to assist with the training of ANAC staff in natural resource management and to contribute to building institutional capacity in response to the challenges imposed on the sector.

The two parties shall establish cooperation for the training of staff in conservation areas, covering the following activities:

- Strengthening of ANAC’s institutional capacity in natural resource management, community development, ecological management, tourism guiding, sustainable use of wildlife and fiscal management;
- Stabilising an exchange of experience between the officials of both institutions;
- Fundraising to guarantee scholarships for ANAC staff; and
- Creating opportunities to carry out research on various aspects related to the management of natural resources.

GIS training

Peace Parks Foundation’s geographic information system (GIS) staff provided training to the Higher Education and Training Protected Area Management students, who are already employed by the region’s conservation agencies.

The course exposed students to an array of GIS techniques and applications, and the advantages these could offer in their work. Training was provided in the open source Quantum GIS software and in the Special Monitoring and Recording Tool (SMART) application, with specific focus on anti-poaching and species sightings patrols. Apart from its anti-poaching application, SMART has been integrated into various programmes at the college with the aim of increasing the effective monitoring of wildlife area management and supporting community-based natural resource management.

Higher Certificate in Nature Conservation: Implementation and Leadership

Students who complete this higher certificate are equipped to perform conservation administration functions, execute operational activities for the implementation of conservation plans, manage personal resources at an operational level and enforce conservation compliance in their own operational areas.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2017</th>
<th>27 full-time students</th>
<th>5 countries</th>
<th>26% South African</th>
<th>13 organisations represented</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>


Graduates who complete this advanced certificate are equipped to determine the application of conservation practices in relation to transfrontier conservation objectives, develop a management plan to support the effective operations of a nature conservation unit or area, manage a conservation implementation plan according to organisational requirements, and report on the effectiveness of implementation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2017</th>
<th>22 full-time students</th>
<th>6 countries</th>
<th>10 organisations represented</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
A journey with giants

BY KATHY BERGS, CHIEF DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

Each year, a Peace Parks Foundation delegation travels to Europe and the USA to meet existing donors, share stories of progress made on the ground as well as challenges encountered and ongoing support required. We also introduce the work of the Foundation to potential new supporters.

We are privileged to be able to travel together with partners and beneficiaries, such as former President of Mozambique and Peace Parks Foundation Vice-Chairman Joaquim Chissano; Major General (Ret) Johan Jooste, Head of South African National Park’s Wildlife Crime and Corruption Combating Centre; and Senior Chief Inyambo Yeta of the Barotse Royal Establishment and a member of the Peace Parks board.

President Chissano can regale audiences with stories of the past, both in the early days of the fledgling democracy of Mozambique, when, as Minister of Foreign Affairs, he established the new nation’s first diplomatic corps; and later, as President, when he was approached by Dr Anton Rupert to consider the notion of ‘peace parks’ as a vehicle to establish dialogue and promote peace between formerly hostile countries in the sub-region.

General Jooste is held in high regard by all he encounters, from representatives of international agencies such as INTERPOL and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, to government agencies within the US Department of State, such as the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement and the US Fish & Wildlife Service. He is known and respected by many non-governmental organisations, such as the Wildlife Justice Commission. His mandate to protect the largest remaining population of the world’s rhino, found in the Kruger National Park, places him firmly in the limelight. And he does not shy from the formidable responsibility, nor does he lose his remarkable sense of humour.

Senior Chief Inyambo Yeta humbly and convincingly tells of the impact the return of wildlife to the Simalaha floodplains had on his people. Tears coursed down the cheeks of the elders as the first herds of game were released into the sanctuary, a sight they thought that they would never again see in their lifetime, while youth were astonished to see animals that they, until then, had only seen in books. His dream is for the community members to reconnect with nature and to use wildlife to fight poverty and restore prosperity. As the co-founder of one of Zambia’s first community conservancies, he offers a message of inspiration and hope.

What is it like to travel with these giants among men? Doors open – and heads turn – yet they remain grounded and content with the simplest of pleasures. The President’s energy levels, boosted by a daily yoga regime, leave others half his age struggling to keep up, the General can survive for days on end in the British Isles on a diet of fish and chips, while the Senior Chief will be eternally grateful for a slice of his favourite apple pie.
1. Kavango Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation Area - the world’s largest terrestrial peace park, bringing together protected areas, wetlands and World Heritage Sites of Angola, Botswana, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

The 2017 fundraising efforts consisted of 50 meetings in 16 cities in nine different countries over a period of four weeks. One of the highlights was a presentation on the Rhino Protection Programme to an extremely interested crowd at the Royal Geographical Society in London. Entering under towering statues of explorers Shackleton and Livingstone, the very walls seem to echo with memories of their exploits. It was an honour to count ourselves among those asked to share our mission with the public at large.

Werner Myburgh, the Foundation’s CEO, has been a driving force behind countless donor visits for over a decade, while I currently serve as the Chief Development Officer responsible for coordinating the programme and the presentations. We embark on fundraising journeys with the entire Fundraising and Communications section throwing its weight behind us to ensure that we are prepared to discuss all the various funding needs of the Foundation with confidence and conviction.

Recently, I was part of a delegation, which included Senior Chief Yeta, to Cartier to give an update on the progress of the project. Cartier, whose logo is a leopard, became a supporter of the innovative Furs for Life project three years ago. We demonstrated the impact Cartier’s donation was having on saving wild leopard populations by providing fabric leopard capes instead of the fur capes that members of the Shembe church wore for religious gatherings, primarily in the KwaZulu-Natal province of South Africa. Throughout the presentation, the Senior Chief sat enthralled. He looked across at the Cartier Corporate Responsibility Manager and said, “This problem is not limited to the Shembe, or to South Africa. We have the same problem in KAZA! We must do something!”

His enthusiasm opened the door for Peace Parks Foundation to put a proposal on the table, outlining how the Furs for Life project could be replicated in that region. The result is a new project, Saving Spots, launched in December 2017 in Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe, in which research will be undertaken to understand the status of leopard populations in these countries, while the Senior Chief will champion the cause of distributing fabric leopard garments at ceremonial gatherings.

A fabric cape – also known as amambatha – now has pride of place in the Cartier Corporate Responsibility Manager’s office and she tells all who enter of the significance of the amambatha and the thousands of wild leopards that have been saved as a result of their production and distribution. This is a win-win partnership for us all!

Donors that embrace a cause and lend their support
In December 2017, Children in the Wilderness hosted its third successful Tri-Nations Camp at Little Muck Camp in Mapungubwe National Park. The camp is hosted in partnership with the South African Department of Environmental Affairs, South African National Parks and Peace Parks Foundation. The initiative began in 2015 as a way of including children living in the Greater Mapungubwe Transfrontier Conservation Area, which transcends the Botswana, South African and Zimbabwean borders. This year, the camp hosted 18 children between the ages of nine and thirteen, six from each country, with an equal representation of boys and girls. The participating learners were from Modikwa Primary School in South Africa, Motlhabaneng Primary School in Botswana, and Shashi Primary School in Zimbabwe.

The children who attended the annual Tri-Nations Camp are selected from Children in the Wilderness Eco-Clubs in their local schools in accordance with their commitment and interest shown in conservation. They came with a very good knowledge base accumulated from Eco-Club lessons and activities throughout the year. Their time during the Tri-Nations Camp was packed with fun and educational activities that had them constantly discovering new things about the environment and about each other.

Shalom Makambanga from Shashi Primary School was one of the learners who arrived at the camp eager to learn as much as she could in four days. “It was a life-changing experience for me. The most important thing I learned about was how to keep our biodiversity healthy, strong and protected,” she said.

“The learners invited to the camp are from the deepest rural areas of the three countries. For some of these children, it is their first time out of their country, even their village, and their first time experiencing anything even close to this type of camp experience. The moment is incredible, the learning is immense, and the appreciation cannot be described. We are proud to be able to afford these children this opportunity and to be able to teach them more about their environment,” said Janet Wilkinson, Children in the Wilderness Programme Manager.

This year, the camp was supported by Peace Parks club member, Philipp Graf, through a Givengain 40th birthday fundraising campaign. Half of the funds were raised by family and friends who donated to the cause in lieu of a birthday present. This was then matched by Graf’s employer, Macquarie Group Foundation.

“When standing at the confluence of the Limpopo and Shashe rivers, some of the children were able to see their villages. This was very exciting for them as they were actually standing in another country. The camp brings together children from three countries, providing them with the opportunity to learn about other cultures and experiences. It is magical to see them becoming united, having fun, while they learn about wild animals, the environment and the heritage of the place."

– Bokang Shopane, project coordinator.
Members of the Peace Parks Club receive a welcoming letter and a payment receipt, a copy of the Peace Parks Foundation ‘Creating a Living Legacy’ book and a Peace Parks Club certificate. They are also included in the Foundation’s database, which ensures that members remain updated on progress made by way of annual reviews and invitations to tailor-made visits to the Foundation’s projects. Members also receive an invitation to the annual donor function hosted by Peace Parks Foundation Chairman Mr JP Rupert in South Africa where a number of speakers update members on the year’s achievements and developments.

The Foundation is pleased to welcome Mrs Anel van der Merwe and Mr Constantin Domizlaff, who joined in 2017. Our sincerest appreciation goes to Mr Georg Domizlaff, who renewed his membership this year.

Peace Parks Foundation is supported by a loyal club of over 300 global members who are passionate about peace parks and sustainable nature conservation. Individuals obtain a 10-year membership for $5 000 and corporations do so for $50 000.

Adventures awaits
One of the advantages of being a member of the Peace Parks Club is the prospect of engaging in experiences that few people will ever have the opportunity to participate in. One such experience is viewing the endangered leatherback turtles as they return to Mozambique every summer to lay their eggs. In 2017, the Geelen family, who are the founders of the Turing Foundation and whose support was instrumental to the early development of the 678 km² marine reserve, visited the nesting site to witness the giant females make their way up the beach and dig a nest in which to lay their precious eggs.
A long-time friend and supporter of Peace Parks Foundation, Hansjürg Saager, sadly passed away in July 2017. Together with his wife, Francesca Saager, they founded the Peace Parks Foundation Legacy Society and up until his passing, he served as the Legacy Society Chairman. He said, “My wife Francesca and I have always wondered why Peace Parks Foundation does not create its own institution for members who would like to donate their fortune, or a part of it, in a useful manner to serve the purposes of the Foundation. With the starting of the Peace Parks Foundation Legacy Society, that gap will be filled.”

The Society offers an ideal platform to keep a donor’s legacy alive, while at the same time developing transfrontier conservation areas throughout southern Africa. There are numerous options to choose from when giving to the Peace Parks Foundation Legacy Society.

Mr Saager explained the motivation behind their generous support, “Francesca and I decided to contribute to sustainable nature conservation as a means to safeguard the natural wealth of our earth.”

At Mr Saager’s memorial service held in Küsnacht on Lake Zurich, the minister paid tribute to the work of the Foundation. Mr Saager’s friends and family also generously donated to Peace Parks Foundation in lieu of flowers.

How to support
A number of options exist for international and South African friends and supporters of transfrontier conservation in southern Africa to give financial support to Peace Parks Foundation’s operations or its programmes and projects. Donors can also offer direct support to the Foundation’s training partners, which include the SA College for Tourism and the Southern African Wildlife College.

Reducing the total value of one’s estate can lead to considerable savings on tax, depending on the tax laws of the country. In South Africa, bequests to Peace Parks Foundation are exempt from tax if the donation amounts to more than R1 million in a specific year. The SA College for Tourism and the Southern African Wildlife College are both registered non-profit organisations that are tax exempt without any limitations, making all bequests to the colleges, regardless of value, tax exempt in South Africa.

In order to optimise the Foundation’s fundraising potential, structures that allow donations to be made in a tax-efficient manner exist in Germany, the Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland, the UK and the USA.

Leaving a legacy can take many shapes

**Living** legacy
make regular financial gifts during your lifetime.

**Pecuniary** bequest
you can bequeath a specific gift of money.

**Conditional** bequest
ensures that should none of your named dependents survive you, your estate would then be left to Peace Parks Foundation.

**Reversionary** bequest
a gift of actual assets that are left to a particular beneficiary to use during his or her lifetime. The assets would then pass to Peace Parks Foundation on the death of that particular person.

**Specific** or non-monetary bequest
a collection, property, shares or a work of art.

**Residuary** bequest
once you have decided what you wish to leave to your loved ones and after all other payments have been made, you may bequeath the balance of your estate to Peace Parks Foundation.
New donors in 2017

Peace Parks Foundation would like to express its deepest gratitude to the following donors who contributed for the first time in 2017.

**TK Foundation**, named after the Danish shipping magnate, J. Torbet Karlshev, is a private grant-making foundation supporting non-profit maritime and youth development programmes. They became a new donor to the SA College for Tourism.

**US Department of State’s Bureau for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement** provided funding for investigative work of both the South African National Parks and Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife’s units to combat wildlife crime.

The **European Union** provided funds for Sustainable Development and Wildlife Law Enforcement of the Nyika-North Luangwa component of the Malawi-Zambia Transfrontier Conservation Area.

The **Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency**, through **Forum Syd**, is supporting a pre-study in the Mangalane community within the Greater Libombos Conservancy, part of the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Conservation Area. The purpose of the pre-study is to engage with the community regarding a land-use strategy that may provide an alternative and much improved future, and about the mechanisms for governing and managing self-guided development.

**Hansjörg Wyss** contributed to the Elephant Coast Fund to kickstart tourism development in Maputo Special Reserve.

**Renewed support**

Peace Parks Foundation would like to sincerely thank the following organisations for their continued support. The Foundation is proud to acknowledge that continued funding from the same entities is a testimony of positive outcomes, contributions and sustainable achievements.

**Fondation Prince Albert II de Monaco** is supporting the development of the Ponta do Ouro Partial Marine Reserve, including preparatory work to enable the extension of the iSimangaliso World Heritage Site to include the Mozambican component of the marine transfrontier conservation area.

The **MAVA Fondation pour la Nature** has committed funds to develop a wildlife economy in the Simalaha Community Conservancy, building upon the successes achieved during the previous project to restore and protect wildlife in the conservancy.

**Cartier** generously supported the Furs for Life project, which saw the development of fabric leopard capes (amambatha) to replace real leopard capes used by members of the Shembe church as ceremonial garb. Since Peace Parks Foundation and Cartier’s support, which commenced in 2015, local tailors manufactured 13,034 amambatha, of which 12,441 were distributed by the end of the project in 2017. A self-sustaining business model is now in place through which capes are sold to and by the Shembe Church and private vendors. The success of this project resulted in Cartier committing further support to Saving Spots, a similar project that was launched in the Kavango Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation Area.

**Reinet Foundation** contributed to the Elephant Coast Fund to kickstart tourism development in Maputo Special Reserve.

**ComON and Kadans Foundations** continue to support the development of the Simalaha Community Conservancy. During the period under review, they financed a landscape business planning process. Upon its completion, ComON Foundation then provided seed funding to establish a Community Development Facility for the conservancy, to enable the development of sustainable livelihoods.

**Club 21**

**Club 21** comprises individuals, families and companies who have donated $1 million or more to the foundation’s work.

This valued group devotes time and money to ensure Peace Parks Foundation realises its mission of facilitating the establishment of transfrontier conservation areas and develops human resources, thereby supporting sustainable economic development, the conservation of biodiversity and regional peace and stability.

A 10-year membership fee is either a one-off payment of $1 million, or $100,000 per annum over ten years. A percentage of a Club 21-membership may also be dedicated to a specific programme or project.

The current Chairman of Club 21 is Mr Johann Rupert.

**Club 21 members**

- **Above $35 million**: Dutch Postcode Lottery
- **$10 million to $15 million**: Mrs HCM Coetzee
- **$5 million to $10 million**: Swedish Postcode Lottery
- **$2 million to $5 million**: ComON Foundation, Rupert Family Foundations, Vodafone Group Foundation, WWF Netherlands
- **$1 million to $2 million**: HRH Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands, Edmond de Rothschild Foundations, Esri, Exxaro, Mr Paul Fentener van Vlissingen, 121 August 2006, Donald Gordon Foundation, Fondation Hoffmann, Dr HL Hoffmann, Dr HL Hoffmann, 121 July 2016, Mr Neville and Mrs Pamela Isdell, MAVA Fondation pour la Nature, Philips, Remgro, Richemont, Ms Pierrette Schlettwein, Swedish Postcode Foundation, The Rufford Foundation, Turner Foundation, Total

The **European Union** also provided funds for Sustainable Management and Wildlife Law Enforcement of the Nyika-North Luangwa component of the Malawi-Zambia Transfrontier Conservation Area.

**Club 21**

**FUNDING**
Dutch Postcode Lottery
The Dutch Postcode Lottery has been a loyal supporter of the work of Peace Parks Foundation since 2002. A generous amount of €1.35 million was donated in 2017, which brings the total Dutch Postcode Lottery donation to over €36 million. The Postcode Lottery has been raising funds since 1989 to support organisations working towards a fairer and greener world. Fifty percent of the lottery’s annual turnover goes to charity. The lottery has steadily grown to become the biggest charity lottery in the Netherlands, and supports 112 non-governmental organisations.

Swedish Postcode Lottery
Peace Parks Foundation Sweden has been a beneficiary of the Postcode Lottery since 2010 and has, over the years, received just over SEK 92 million (€8.9 million). An amount of SEK 7 million (close to €680 000) was donated in 2017, and a further SEK 5.9 million (just over €570 000) was committed to the innovative Herding 4 Health programme.

Novamedia
The Dutch and Swedish Postcode Lotteries are part of Novamedia, the world’s third largest private charity donor. Since the start of the Dutch Postcode Lottery in 1989, Novamedia’s charity lotteries have donated billions of Euros to over 300 charities for people, nature, culture, and health and welfare. To learn more about Novamedia charity lotteries, go to www.novamedia.com.
Sponsors and projects supported

Cartier SA
ComON Foundation
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)
Dutch Postcode Lottery
Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Trust
Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife
GeoVille Information Systems GmbH
German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development
Helderberg Sunrise Rotary Club & Rotary Deutschland Gemeindienst e.V.
Kadans Foundation
Luxembourg Institute of Science and Technology (LIST)
Macquarie Group Foundation Limited
MAVA Fondation pour la Nature
Reinet Foundation
Sophia Foundation
Stichting Dioraphte
Swedish Postcode Lottery
Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation
Hansjörg Wyss
US Department of State – Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs
Van Vlissingen Family
Van Zyl Family
Wim Boers
World Bank’s Mozambique Conservation Areas for Biodiversity and Development Project (Mozbio)
WWF Namibia
Yvonne Reed: Givengain campaign

- Combatting Wildlife Crime: Saving Spots & Furs for Life
- Kavango Zambezi TFCA: Simalaha Community Conservancy
- Malawi-Zambia TFCA: Kasungu-Lukusuzi and Lubombo TFCA: governance support
- Extensive funding for TFCA development, the Rhino Protection Programme and operational support
- Combatting Wildlife Crime: Rhino Protection Programme
- Maloti-Drakensberg TFCA: Sehlabathebe National Park
- Sustainable, Environmental and Safe Tourism in Protected Areas (SENSA) project
- Kgalagadi TFCA: !Ae!Hai Kalahari Heritage Park
- Kgalagadi TFCA: !Ae!Hai Kalahari Heritage Park
- Kavango Zambezi TFCA: Simalaha Community Conservancy
- Sustainable, Environmental and Safe Tourism in Protected Areas (SENSA) project
- Greater Mapungubwe TFCA: Tri-Nations Camp
- Kavango Zambezi TFCA: Simalaha Community Conservancy
- Lubombo TFCA: Maputo Special Reserve: Elephant Coast Fund
- Combatting Wildlife Crime: Rhino Protection Programme
- Malawi-Zambia TFCA: Nyika elephant translocation
- Extensive funding for TFCA development, the Rhino Protection Programme and operational support
- Lubombo TFCA: Ponta do Ouro Partial Marine Reserve
- Lubombo TFCA: Maputo Special Reserve: Elephant Coast Fund
- Combatting Wildlife Crime: Rhino Protection Programme
- Kavango Zambezi TFCA: Luangue-Luiana National Park
- Great Limpopo TFCA: Limpopo National Park, training and operational support.
- Ruby Jubilee Senior Chief Inyambo Yeta
- Lubombo TFCA: Developing Maputo Special Reserve and Ponta do Ouro Partial Marine Reserve
- Kavango Zambezi TFCA: Monitoring and Evaluation Programme
- Combatting Wildlife Crime: Rhino Protection Programme

Donations in kind

Adept Internet
African Renaissance Productions
André & Rosalie Hoffmann
Anthony Nicklin
Anvil Bay Chemucane
Avis
British American Tobacco
De Beers Consolidated Mines
Elkendal Wine Estate
Esri
Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife
Fanja Pon
Firearm Management Services (Pty) Ltd
Forensic Security Services KZN cc.
Hansjürg and Francesca Saager
Internet Solutions
KfW
Marais Muller Hendricks Attorneys at Law
Michael Viljoen Photography
Pieter & Francoise Geelen
Remgro
Richemont
Rupert Family
Roger and Pat de la Harpe Photography
Systemiq
Ted Pearsall
Tracks4Africa
White Pearl Resorts

Legacy Society

Ms L.J. Hancock
Mr G Veller
Mr Hansjürg Saager
Mrs HCM Coetzee

Peace Parks Club donations

Anel van der Merwe
Annelies van der Vorm
Antoine Friling
Constantin Domizlaff
George L. Ohrstrom, Il
Georg C. Domizlaff
Leonard Seelig
Matthijs Karel Brans
Nicholas Hancock
Thijs Brans
Timothy Hancock
Werner Myburgh

General donations

Albert Zaayman
ExxonMobil Research and Engineering Company
Heike Alldendorf
JA van Nimwegen
Jack Silson Charitable Trust
Martischang Foundation
The Haggie Charitable Trust

Summary

- Peace Parks Foundation has worked with various organizations and foundations to support projects related to wildlife conservation.
- The projects supported include combating wildlife crime, saving spots & furs for life, restoring kungu-lukusuzi and lubombo tfca, governance support, extensive funding for tfca development, the rhino protection programme and operational support, combating wildlife crime, rhino protection programme, maloti-drakensberg tfca, sehlabathebe national park, sustainable, environmental and safe tourism in protected areas (SENSA) project, kgalagadi tfca, !Ae!Hai Kalahari Heritage Park, kgalagadi tfca, !Ae!Hai Kalahari Heritage Park, kavango zambezi tfca, simalaha community conservancy, sustainable, environmental and safe tourism in protected areas (SENSA) project, greater mapungubwe tfca, tri-nations camp, kavango zambezi tfca, simalaha community conservancy, lubombo tfca, maputo special reserve: elephant coast fund, combating wildlife crime, rhino protection programme, malawi-zambia tfca, nyika elephant translocation, extensive funding for tfca development, the rhino protection programme and operational support, lubombo tfca, ponta do ouro partial marine reserve, lubombo tfca, maputo special reserve: elephant coast fund, combating wildlife crime, rhino protection programme, kavango zambezi tfca, luangue-luiana national park, great limpopo tfca, limpopo national park, training and operational support, ruby jubilee senior chief inyambo yeta, lubombo tfca, developing maputo special reserve and ponta do ouro partial marine reserve, kavango zambezi tfca, monitoring and evaluation programme, combating wildlife crime, rhino protection programme.
- The legacy society includes Ms L.J. Hancock, Mr G Veller, Mr Hansjürg Saager, Mrs HCM Coetzee.

Peace Parks Club donations

Anel van der Merwe
Annelies van der Vorm
Antoine Friling
Constantin Domizlaff
George L. Ohrstrom, Il
Georg C. Domizlaff
Leonard Seelig
Matthijs Karel Brans
Nicholas Hancock
Thijs Brans
Timothy Hancock
Werner Myburgh

General donations

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Heike Alldendorf
JA van Nimwegen
Jack Silson Charitable Trust
Martischang Foundation
The Haggie Charitable Trust
Peace Parks Club

ABOVE $100 000
Australia BHP Billiton South Africa Absa Bank; Anglo American Corporation of SA; Distell; FirstRand; Hans Hoheisen Charitable Trust; Namak; Nedbank; Taeuber Management Trust; Sanlam; South African Airways; The Van Zyl Family (Boetie, Caroline, Johan and Laura) Switzerland AWP Holding AG; † Mr Hansjürg Saager, Mrs Francesca Saager United Kingdom Sir Richard Branson and Virgin Unite; Mr Louis A Nielsen SA Breweries; The Standard Bank of South Africa; Vodacom Group; Slovenia Mrs Irene M Staehelin; Vendôme Luxury Group; Volkart Foundation United States of America Ms MO Bryant; United Development Corporation $50 000 to $99 999
Austria Swarovski Optik KG Italy Montegrappa 1912 Mozambique Banco Internacional de Moçambique The Netherlands E-On Benelux BV; NH Hoteles; World Trade Center Amsterdam South Africa Abercrombie & Kent; The Ackerman Family; Alexander Forbes; BoE Charitable Trust; De Beers Consolidated Mines; Eskom; Iscor; Mrs E Meaker; Rand Water; Sabi Private Game Reserve; SA Breweries; The Standard Bank of South Africa; Vodacom Group; Switzerland Mrs Irene M Staehelin; Vendôme Luxury Group; Volkart Foundation United States of America Ms MO Bryant; Tudor Investment Corporation $10 000 to $49 999
Belgium Mr Antoine Friling China Mr RW Miller Germany Mr Claas Daun; Mr Georg C Domizlaff; Mr Charly Gräf; Mr Ferdi Gräf; Mr C Nordmann; Mr G Veller Italy Dr F Cologni; Dott. RF Magnoni; Mr MP von Mautner Markhof-Cassis Faraone Monaco Dr M Smurfit The Netherlands Mr DCG Dam South Africa Mr G Bertrand; Mr Richard Currie; Mr Pat M Goss; Mr Richard A Goss; Mr Nicholas JL Hancock; Mr Jennifer M Hancock; Dr E Hertzog; Mr Dylan Lewis; Mr Andrew Muir; Mr Julian Ogilvie-Thompson; Dr FE Raimondo; Mr G Ravazzotti; Mrs GM Swart; Mrs A Townsend; Mr Albert van der Merwe; Ms Annelies van der Vorm; Mr Francois van der Merwe; Mr Alexander P van Heeren; Mr AJ van Rijneveld; Mr E van Weyhausen Switzerland Mr JH Bemberg; Mr B Blangey; Mrs Katharina Büttiker; Mr Philipp & Mrs Johanna Graf-Fothergill. Is Moesel Frost; Mr Andreas M la Roche; Mr JH la Roche; Mr Lukas Lütjens; Mrs V Michalski-Hoffmann; Ms Rosmarie Meier-Berchtold; Mrs Adrienne Oltramare; Mr Fernando Oltramare; Mr G Pictet; Mr DF Rochat; Dr MA Roß; Mr Stephan L Sager; Dr Daniela Schlettwein-Gsell; Ms Marie L Sulzer; Mr Peter G Sulzer; † Dr Eberhard, Mrs Charlotte von Koerber United Kingdom Mr Christopher and Mrs Elaine Fothergill; Mr G Moufarrige; Mr LR Seelig; Mrs SG Synnott; Prof. Jan OW Staël von Holstein United States of America Mrs Dee Burnett; Steve and Diane Haze; Mr Janine K Iannarelli; Mr Robert I Israel; Mr Vance G Martin, The WILD Foundation; Mr Donald C Reed; Ms Yvonne C Reed $5 000 to $9 999
Belgium Mr Alphons Breninkmeijer; Mr Jean Charles Ellens de Scooten; Mr GHM Maas; Mr Victor L Molenaar; Mr MJF Westheim Bermuda Dr Allan WB Gray Bahamas Mr S Kerzner China Mr Andrew R Currie; The Hon Ruth M Richardson Pakistan Mr P Ali; Mr CB Ali Portugal Dr M Soares South Africa Mr Emil Bührmann; Mrs Lorraine Coetzee; Mr David Cruise; Mrs E de Klerk; Mr John Dewar, The John Dewar Family Trust; Dr CH Duisberg; Mr Peter H Flack; † Mrs Pam Goldman; Mr PL Heinemann; Ms AE Hoffman-Beels; Mr I Goldsmith; Mr ZF Goldsmith; Mr Peter G Sulzer; † Dr Eberhard, Mrs Charlotte von Koerber United Kingdom Mr Christopher and Mrs Elaine Fothergill; Mr G Moufarrige; Mr LR Seelig; Mrs SG Synnott; Prof. Jan OW Staël von Holstein United States of America Mrs Dee Burnett; Steve and Diane Haze; Mr Janine K Iannarelli; Mr Robert I Israel; Mr Vance G Martin, The WILD Foundation; Mr Donald C Reed; Ms Yvonne C Reed

Text in Grey: Peace Parks Club Founder Members who joined in the first 10 years of Foundation’s existence.
Peace Parks People

BY LISE-MARIE GREEFF-VILLET, COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR

Have you ever seen a baby rhino fly off into the sunset? I have.

Nauseated by the poaching scene and muddled by the overpowering noise of helicopter blades whirling overhead, I watched the orphaned black rhino calf airlifted to the safety of human care and a future unintended. And I sobbed, uncontrollably and unashamedly. Angry tears, sad tears, tears of relief. Then finally, as the silhouette of the little rhino vanished against the darkness of dusk, my last salty drops followed the new path of a smile unexpectedly contouring my face. In that moment of contradiction, I could not help but to find bliss in the knowledge that I was part of a work family that labours tirelessly to protect such wild animals and the wilderness these creatures call home.

We’re tremendously competitive, which keeps everyone on their toes – something that was clearly visible during this year’s team-building treasure hunt race that saw the best Kyalami driving and rugby-style tackling in attempts at first place. We’ve also spent a week in close quarters as we kayaked down the Orange River (without killing each other, which says a lot...).

A newly appointed staff member recently wondered: “You all greet each other in the morning. And in the kitchen, you actually take a moment to chat to each other about your lives while you make your tea. Where I previously worked, that would have been unheard of.”

You can’t reach aspirations of saving the world together, if you don’t lift your chin, look your colleagues in the eye, and share the deepest parts of your souls. The people of Peace Parks Foundation are professionals who have chosen to dedicate their careers to a singular purpose. They have a hunger to affect positive change to protect this breath-taking ecosystem we call Earth. They are compassionate. They are authentic. They have heart.
Staff quotes

“As humans, we need wilderness areas for our psychological, emotional and physical well-being. The ultimate goal is to protect ecosystems. My goal is to restore this park to a fully-functioning ecosystem with all the plants, trees and animals that go with it. This is a core protected area and the base to work outwards from here. The idea is also to awaken conservation ethics and practice beyond this area. I believe in what I do and in this project. That’s why I am here.”

Bernard van Lente

“I lived on the Santa Maria peninsula in Mozambique, working in tourism operations from 2003-2013. For ten years I drove in and out of the Maputo Special Reserve, driving out to South Africa at least three times a month. My recollections of the first four years:

“Angry elephants chasing the vehicle, very bad road, bullet shells lying in the road (after poachers partying at night), havoc on the beaches with loud ruffians up and down in their bakkies.

“From about 2009 I noticed the new entrance gates, the road was improved, less bullet shells, motivated and smart rangers, less corruption on the gates, minimal beach driving, less drag nets.

“And in 2011 I was fortunate enough to watch kudu being released… (this was all before I started working for Peace Parks in July last year).

“So, I love working for Peace Parks because I have experienced first-hand the difference we make… protecting, restoring… from a former poacher’s paradise, we are now bringing the animals home.

“Just before I left the area I got involved with my local school, and trying to help educate the kids, I brought the park manager to speak to the kids for World Elephant Day...

“And here I sit today finding my passion perfectly in alignment with my department (community development support programme), as successfully uplifting the communities bordering the reserves will ultimately mean success of our Peace Parks vision to protect and restore.”

Christine Jordaan

“I love working for Peace Parks because (I know it is a cliché!) I like to know that I am making a little bit of a difference to changing the world - conservation, saving wildlife, helping communities better themselves etc. Even though I am doing this very indirectly, I still love being a part of this, even though a very teeny tiny part I could have been a travel administrator at a boring company like an engineering or IT firm, but I get to be the travel administrator for Peace Parks and that makes me super proud and I always want to brag to people about what an amazing job we are doing.

And we are actually one of the companies that is making a difference.”

Talia Gründlingh

“I like to work for Peace Parks because of the credibility the company has, the way it treats its employees, and the security it brings to its workers. The most memorable moment during the time I’ve been with Peace Parks was in the implementation of the community projects with other donors, this is how we even got into the everyday tasks.”

Fernando Nhanala

“This is one of the few places left where there’s a deep sense of wilderness, and it’s in pristine condition.

It excites me to see a place like this come to life and it’s fascinating to see an ecosystem restoring. I see it every day.”

Trevor Landrey

“I love working with Peace Parks because it allows me to do what I do best, which is to build relationships at a field level within the project. My most memorable moment was being made honorary induna by Senior Chief Inyambo Yeta and his Kuta.”

Alan Sparrow

“Great team ethic. Optimistic, yet pragmatic approach. Adherence to clear strategy. A moment I will remember is the team receiving the People’s Postcode Lottery award for the Postcode Meerkat, seeing it in action six months later and learning of its effectiveness.”

Jamie McCallum

“Great team ethic. Optimistic, yet pragmatic approach. Adherence to clear strategy. A moment I will remember is the team receiving the People’s Postcode Lottery award for the Postcode Meerkat, seeing it in action six months later and learning of its effectiveness.”

Marina Faber

“I love working for Peace Parks because we are doing our bit for conservation at a landscape scale; because the work is varied and never boring; because we are (hopefully) making a difference in the world and in people’s lives.

There are a few highlights in my time with Peace Parks: swimming with dolphins; witnessing turtles laying eggs on the beach; watching a turtle being led by the white light from a head lamp (they are drawn to white light); witnessing a lady watering her field at the Shashe Irrigation Scheme (which is in the Zimbabwean component of the Greater Mapungubwe transfrontier conservation area) by means of a big open-ended green pipe that she knew just how to manoeuvre to get the water flowing from the canal onto her crops.”

Marina Faber

“I love working for Peace Parks because I have experienced first-hand the difference we make… protecting, restoring… from a former poacher’s paradise, we are now bringing the animals home.”
# Staff list

**HEAD OFFICE**

**DIRECTORATE**

**Chief Executive Officer**
- Werner Myburgh, supported by Delilah Sao Joao (company secretary)
- Brad Poole, supported by Lesley Wheeler
- Marina Faber
- Brennan Walsh
- Nico Gründlingh
- Arlene Herbst
- Denton Joachim
- Robert Laurie
- Jason Gilbertson

**Chief Operations Officer**
- Brad Poole, supported by Lesley Wheeler
- Marina Faber
- Brennan Walsh
- Nico Gründlingh
- Arlene Herbst
- Denton Joachim
- Robert Laurie
- Jason Gilbertson

**Information Systems Manager**
- Paul Bewsher, supported by Heloise de Villiers
- Loraine Bewsher
- Jomalize Koch
- Khutadzo Nethengwe
- Juanita Verhoef

**TFCA PROGRAMMES**

**Development Support**
- Programme Manager
- Paul Bewsher, supported by Heloise de Villiers
- Loraine Bewsher
- Jomalize Koch
- Khutadzo Nethengwe
- Juanita Verhoef

**Planning**
- Craig Beech
- Naas Grimbeek
- Shaun Struwig

**New Technologies**
- Programme Manager
  - Dr Moscow Marumo, supported by Christine Jordaan
  - Prof Brian Child (Consultant)

**Community Development**
- Programme Manager
  - Doug Gillings, supported by Heather Lombard

**PROJECTS**

**Senior Project Manager (North)**
- Arrie van Wyk, supported by Lee-Anne Robertson
- Antony Alexander
- Jacques Richard
- Tanya Alexander
- Federica Ferrari (Consultant)

**Senior Project Manager (South)**
- Financial Manager, Mozambique Tourism Development Advisor, Mozambique Socio Economic Development Manager, Mozambique

**FUND DEVELOPMENT, COMMUNICATIONS, HUMAN RESOURCES AND ADMINISTRATION**

**Chief Development Officer**
- Kathy Bergs, supported by Angela Bundy
- Claire Binneman-Carretti
- Gillian Rhodes
- Leendé Sadie
- Kate Finlay
- Lise-Marie Greeff-Villet
- Lamees Martin
- Léa van Rooyen
- Dyan Lee
- Talia Gründlingh
- Avisha van der Westhuizen
- Elfredo Kock
- Melody Williams
- Jeanine van Eyssen

**Fund Development**
- Claire Binneman-Carretti
- Gillian Rhodes
- Leendé Sadie
- Kate Finlay
- Lise-Marie Greeff-Villet
- Lamees Martin
- Léa van Rooyen
- Dyan Lee
- Talia Gründlingh
- Avisha van der Westhuizen
- Elfredo Kock
- Melody Williams
- Jeanine van Eyssen

**Communications**
- Claire Binneman-Carretti
- Gillian Rhodes
- Leendé Sadie
- Kate Finlay
- Lise-Marie Greeff-Villet
- Lamees Martin
- Léa van Rooyen
- Dyan Lee
- Talia Gründlingh
- Avisha van der Westhuizen
- Elfredo Kock
- Melody Williams
- Jeanine van Eyssen

**Human Resources Manager**
- Office Administration

**IT**

**FINANCE**

**Chief Financial Officer**
- Lize-Mari Lynch
- Pierre Willemsen
- Con Cornelissen
- Annine Benn
- JP Theart
- Cindy Petersen
- Celesté Joubert
- Elné Gillbanks
- Louise Rossouw
- Nazli Human
- Lorrianne Joone

**Finance Manager**
- Lize-Mari Lynch
- Pierre Willemsen
- Con Cornelissen
- Annine Benn
- JP Theart
- Cindy Petersen
- Celesté Joubert
- Elné Gillbanks
- Louise Rossouw
- Nazli Human
- Lorrianne Joone

**CONSOLIDATED ENTITIES**

**SA College for Tourism**
- André Kilian, Mariette Ferreira, Alex van den Heever, Sarah Cromhout and 20 staff members.
- Theresa Sovry, Sharmain Hanekom, Jeanné Poutnney and 119 staff members

**Southern African Wildlife College**
TRANSFRONTIER CONSERVATION AREA STAFF SUPPORTED BY PEACE PARKS

Great Limpopo Transfrontier Conservation Area
Piet Theron
Limpopo National Park (Mozambique)
Peter Leitner
Suleimane Meguegy
Paul Mangochi
William Marima
Billy Swanepoel
Nkhangweleni Madamalala
Samuel Matusse
Sergio Mbie
Agostinho Chambule
Helder Folige
Marius Steyl
Cecilia Vilanculos
Milva Mafuca
Carolina Chiure
Henriques Victor Chicanda
Lucrescencia Alberto Macuacua
Rogério Adriano Guimarães
Curcilo Marcos Mahalele
Abel Carlos Manuel Tomo
Afonso Estarico Xavier
Bernardo Arão Bila
Rachide Jafar Amido
Geronimo Francisco Manhique
Inoque Fernando Mazive
Manuel Carlos Cossa
Johane Carlos Chicoze
Pedro Francisco Chipenembé
Jossefa Jonas Maluleque
Valdivimo António Causar
Ozias Jemisse Simango
Domingos Johane Chichongue
Fernando José Macondzo
Moraís Jushua Chauque
Vonel Aly Selemane
Simone Ozias Chivambo
Lhaisse Natanie Chauque
Narcisio Ricardo Nhare
Nelson Tomas Maluleque
Angelo Dos Santos Arlindo
Dórica Simone Mongue
Jeremias Felisberto Nhambucue
Wiston Marcos Mabunda
Adre Abel Mundlovo
Zinave National Park (Mozambique)
Antonio Abacar
Bernard van Lente
Emmanuel F Cateu
João de Jesus Vaz
Trevor Landrey
Johannes van Wyk
Carlos Muchave
Armando João Macamo
David Tomás Chitilango
Nelson Titos Covane
Nito Fernando Manhique
Wilson Julião Mucho
Simão Alexandre Chitilango
Hélida Da Anabela Machoco
Jafete Constantino Matepsa
Miguel Da Maria. Nhaúche
Natalina Alberto Chissingué
Milton Lucas Massingue
Nõé Arone Chitilango
Samuel Willamo Matepsa
Obed Daniel Nhachale
Reginaldo Alfeu Ducu
Teles Carlos Covane
Constrácio Sebastião Mbonzo
Facílio Guilherme Miguel
Vanessa Lucas Massinguié
Gildo Obadias Mabote
Imído Henrique Murrombe
Gonsalves Artur Ulave
Jeron Isaías Chirinze
Santinsimo Pedro Mabunda
Artur Pedro Covane
Banhine National Park (Mozambique)
Abel Nhambang
Ernst Beyerfeld
Helder Mandlate
Alcídio Mario Mazive
Amosse Daniel Chauque
Azarias Eduardo Gove
Edson Nocodima Chauque
Gilda Jorge Chitilango
Mango Paulo Tivane
Isaias Julio Chauque
Merton João Truvane
Obadias Paulo Mbiza
Sergio Arnaldo Chitilango

Lubombo Transfrontier Conservation Area
Maputo Special Reserve and Ponta do Ouro Partial Marine Reserve (Mozambique)
Miguel Gonçalves
Denicio dos Santos Muari
Gil Gomes Muthemba
Brian Neubert
Natercio Ngovene
Fernando Nhánalá
Tiago Nházilo
Geraldo Seranga
Leopoldo Simango
Kavango Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation Area
Dr Nyambe Nyambe
Frederik Dipotso
Phillipa Mamhare
Tichawona Chiweshe
Tawanda Gotosa
Rui Lisboa
Liwena Sitali
Chilule Mzize
Godfrey Mtare
Elvis Simba Mwilima
Joao Antonio Ngola
Bernard Rego
Ditsietsi Thagame
Luengue-Luiana National Park (Angola)
Miguel NG Xavier
Roland Goetz
Sioma Ngwezi National Park (Zambia)
Simon Mayes
Simalaha Community Conservancy (Zambia)
Mwambwa Nyambe
Chrispin Muchimbu
Alan Sparrow
Malawi-Zambia Transfrontier Conservation Area
Humphrey Nzima
Lackson Mwenya
Simbotwe Mwiya
George Nxumayo
Oluronke Oke
Barnette Phiri
Botswana TFCA Unit
Ingrid Otuikile
Zambia TFCA Unit
Prof. Andrew Nambota
Corporate Governance Report

Governance framework

Included in the consolidated annual financial statements are the SA College for Tourism Non-profit Company (NPC) and the Southern African Wildlife College NPC, which provide training for tourism managers and trackers; and conservation practitioners, respectively.

The two colleges are managed as independent entities, each with its own autonomous board of directors. Effective corporate governance is monitored on a continuous basis by non-executive representatives on the boards of these entities.

Peace Parks Foundation also has a 100% shareholding in Friends of Peace Parks (Pty) Ltd, a non-operating company administered by the Foundation to ensure that its policies are carried out and its values adhered to. Peace Parks Foundation is a registered non-profit company under the new Companies Act, which came into effect in 2011 and submits annual reports to maintain its registration.

The board acknowledges the importance of keeping stakeholders informed of developments. These stakeholders consist of the Foundation’s donors, sponsors, club members, patrons and business associates. Communication is based on the principles of timely, balanced, clear and transparent information that is channelled through the website, newsflashes, and an annual review. The stakeholders choose the type of communication they would like to receive and the format in which it should be delivered to them. Further information regarding the Foundation’s initiatives is readily available on its website at www.peaceparks.org.

The Foundation applies all the principles of the King Code of Governance for South Africa (King IV Code). The board will continuously improve corporate governance practices in line with its objectives.

The board has a formal charter that identifies, defines and records its responsibilities, functions and composition and serves as a reference for new directors. All directors of the Foundation have endorsed the charter, a copy of which is available from the company secretary. The board is satisfied that it has discharged its duties and obligations as described in the board charter. Peace Parks Foundation does not have an internal audit department/function, as this is not cost effective. The internal audit function is outsourced and the Foundation’s head office works closely with the audit and risk committee to ensure effective internal procedures and controls.

Integrated reporting in terms of King IV requires the annual reporting of financial, sustainability and social performance. The Foundation’s annual review and summary financial statements have been considered and reviewed by the external auditors, and the audit and risk committee.

Board of directors

Peace Parks Foundation engages in and promotes biodiversity conservation, regional stability and socio-economic development by facilitating the establishment and development of transfrontier conservation areas in southern Africa.

The Foundation has a fully functional board of directors. The board consists mainly of independent non-executive directors (refer to the inside cover for a list of the directors). These directors are selected to serve on the board for their broader knowledge and experience and are expected to contribute effectively to decision-making and policy formulation.

The non-executive directors are not remunerated and the Foundation accepts the generous donation of their time, knowledge and experience. The chairman of the board, Mr. JP Rupert, is a non-executive director and, given his knowledge of business and his passion for the Foundation’s quest, the board deems his appointment essential to achieving the Foundation’s objectives.

The directors’ performance is not evaluated individually. Independent non-executive directors are, however, evaluated individually with regard to their independence and specifically the independence of the directors serving on the board for more than nine years. The board self-evaluates its performance annually by means of a voluntary questionnaire, with responses collated by the company secretary. The results of the questionnaire are shared with the Chairman, who takes the necessary steps required by the results.

The board is satisfied that its current members possess the required collective skills and experience to carry out its responsibilities to achieve the Foundation’s mission and vision. In terms of the company’s memorandum of incorporation, at least a third of the directors must resign annually on a rotational basis, but these directors may make themselves available for re-election for a further term. All issues of a material or strategic nature, or that can impact on the reputation of Peace Parks Foundation, are referred to the...
board. Other issues are dealt with by the executive committee or by the Foundation’s management, as permitted by the formal delegation of authority. The board is satisfied with the delegation of authority framework. All members receive an agenda and supporting documentation at least a week before each board or subcommittee meeting to enable them to prepare properly.

Directors have unlimited access to the services of the company secretary, management and all company records. They are also entitled to seek independent professional advice concerning the Foundation’s affairs and expenditure, with prior notification to the CEO or the company secretary.

The board meets twice a year and has established subcommittees to carry out its responsibilities and duties. Each subcommittee has its own mandate that defines its powers and duties. Notwithstanding the delegation of functions, the board remains ultimately responsible for the proper fulfilment of these functions. The diagram (page 64) shows the structure of Peace Parks Foundation’s board of directors and its subcommittees.

### Audit and risk committee

The audit and risk committee is chaired by Mr H Wessels and consists of three independent non-executive directors, all of whom are elected by the board. The committee meets at least three times a year and the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) and financial manager attend all the meetings. The CEO, the internal and the external auditor are invited to attend all meetings. The roles and responsibilities of this committee include its statutory duties as per the Companies Act, as well as to help the board fulfil its responsibilities regarding risk management, internal controls, accounting systems and information, the effectiveness of the CFO and financial management team, external and internal audits, accounting policies, public reporting and information technology systems, and monitoring compliance with laws, rules, codes of conduct, and standards.

The committee is satisfied that it has fulfilled all of its duties during the financial year under review. The committee has also satisfied itself that there are effective audit committees functioning at subsidiaries, whose minutes of meetings held are also included in the committee’s agenda.

The committee is satisfied that the company’s external auditor, KPMG Inc., is independent of the Foundation and is therefore able to conduct its audit functions without any influence from the Foundation. It ensured that the appointment of the external auditor complies with the provisions of the Companies Act and any other legislation relating to the appointment of the auditors.

The committee is responsible for determining the nature and extent of any non-audit services that the external auditor may provide and also to pre-approve any proposed contract with the external auditor for the provision of non-audit services. The committee has evaluated reports on the effectiveness of the systems of internal financial controls conducted by the internal audit function, considered information provided by management and held discussions with the external auditor on the results of its audit. The committee is of the opinion that the systems of internal financial controls are effective and form a basis for the preparation of reliable financial statements.

The stand-alone and consolidated financial statements of the company (unabridged and summarised) were reviewed by the committee and it is satisfied that these comply with International Financial Reporting Standards for small and medium enterprises and the Companies Act, and that the accounting policies used are appropriate.

The committee has also reviewed a documented assessment by management of the going concern premise of the Foundation and its subsidiaries before recommending to the board that the Foundation will be a going concern in the foreseeable future.

The committee has considered and has satisfied itself of the appropriateness of the expertise and experience of the CFO, Ms L Lynch.

The committee has furthermore considered, and has satisfied itself, of the appropriateness of the expertise and adequacy of resources of the Foundation’s finance function.

Risk analysis is done annually and all significant risks are summarised into a document itemising each applicable risk, the level of risk, the mitigating action and procedures required and the person responsible for the action/ procedure. The committee also ensures that the combined assurance received is appropriate to address all the significant risks facing the Foundation and monitors the relationship between external service providers and the Foundation.

Via the audit and risk committee, the board has considered the documented policies and procedures and is satisfied that the internal control and risk management process is effective.

### Executive committee

The executive committee consists of seven members, of whom six are non-executive directors and one is an executive director. The CFO, Chief Operations Officer (COO) and Chief Development Officer (CDO) are invited to attend all meetings.

The chairman of the board is also the chairman of the executive committee. The committee has four scheduled meetings a year. All issues that can impact the reputation of Peace Parks Foundation or that are of a material or strategic nature are discussed in detail at these meetings. Actions are then recommended to the board, where necessary.

### Human resources and remuneration committee

The human resources and remuneration committee consists of two independent non-executive directors and one executive director. It is chaired by Mr H Wessels, an independent non-executive director. The committee has one scheduled meeting a year to discuss remuneration principles and policies.

The committee assists the board in ensuring the personnel appointed by the Foundation are remunerated appropriately and the organisation is able to attract and retain competent people. The rationale and basis for the group’s executive remuneration policy are carefully considered by the committee and disclosed in the annual financial statements.

Further to this, the committee also reviews project staff salaries and consultancy expenditure, and approves all head office annual salary increases, incentive bonuses and new positions within the company.

### Social and ethics committee

The social and ethics committee consists of one independent non-executive director and two members of management, namely the COO and CDO. It is chaired by Prof. A Leiman, an independent non-executive director. The committee has one scheduled meeting a year to discuss social and ethics principles and policies.

The main objective of the committee is to assist the board in monitoring the Foundation’s performance as a good and responsible corporate citizen. This is done by monitoring the sustainable development practices of the Foundation in ethics and compliance, corporate social investment, health and public safety, labour relations and working conditions, training and skills development.
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Directors’ Responsibilities and Approval

The directors are required by the Companies Act of South Africa to maintain adequate accounting records and are responsible for the content and integrity of the summary financial statements and related financial information included in this report. It is their responsibility to ensure that the summary financial statements fairly present the state of affairs of the group and company as at the end of the financial year and the results of its operations and cash flows for the period then ended, in conformity with the International Financial Reporting Standard for Small and Medium-sized Entities. The external auditors are engaged to express an independent opinion on the summary financial statements.

The summary financial statements are prepared in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standard for Small and Medium-sized Entities and are based on appropriate accounting policies consistently applied and supported by reasonable and prudent judgements and estimates.

The directors acknowledge that they are ultimately responsible for the system of internal financial control established by the group and company, and place considerable importance on maintaining a strong control environment. To enable the directors to meet these responsibilities, the board sets standards for internal control aimed at reducing the risk of error or loss in a cost-effective manner. The standards include the proper delegation of responsibilities within a clearly defined framework, effective accounting procedures, and adequate segregation of duties to ensure an acceptable level of risk. These controls are monitored throughout the group and company and all employees are required to maintain the highest ethical standards to ensure that the group and company’s business is conducted in a manner that in all reasonable circumstances is above reproach. The focus of risk management in the group and company is on identifying, assessing, managing and monitoring all known forms of risk across the group and company. While operating risk cannot be fully eliminated, the group and company endeavors to minimise it by ensuring that appropriate infrastructure, controls, systems and ethical behavior are applied and managed within predetermined procedures and constraints.

Based on the information and explanations given by management, the directors are of the opinion that the system of internal control provides reasonable assurance that the financial records may be relied on for the preparation of the financial statements. However, any system of internal financial control can provide only reasonable, and not absolute, assurance against material misstatement or loss.

The directors have reviewed the group and company’s cash flow forecast for the year to 31 December 2018 and, in the light of this review and the group and company’s current financial position, are satisfied that the group and the company have or have access to adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

The external auditors are responsible for independently reviewing and reporting on the group and company’s financial statements. The financial statements have been examined by the group’s external auditors and their report is presented on pages 67 to 74.

The summary consolidated and separate financial statements, which have been prepared on the going concern basis, and were derived from the audited consolidated and separate financial statements, were approved by the board on 24 May 2018.

Mr JP Rupert
(Chairman)

Ms DM Sao Joao
(Company Secretary)

Statement from the Company Secretary

In my capacity as company secretary, I hereby confirm, in terms of the Companies Act, that for the year ended 31 December 2017, the company has lodged with the Registrar of Companies all such returns as are required of a public company in terms of this Act and that all such returns are true, correct and up to date.
Directors’ Report
The directors submit their report for the year ended 31 December 2017.

1. Review of activities
   Main business and operations
   The company was incorporated on 4 April 1997 to engage in and promote biodiversity conservation, regional stability and job creation by facilitating the establishment and development of transfrontier conservation areas (TFCAs) or peace parks. The group’s business also includes the support of training for conservation and tourism managers. On certain projects the company does not perform a facilitating role and only administers the finances, earning management fees from this role.

   The operating results and state of affairs of the group and the company are fully set out in the attached summary financial statements and do not in our opinion require any further comment.

   Registered office: 11 Termo Road, Techno Park Stellenbosch, 7600
   Postal address: PO Box 12743, Die Boord Stellenbosch, 7613

2. Directors
   The directors of the company during the year and to the date of this report are as follows:
   Mr JP Rupert (Chairman), Mr JA Chissano (Vice Chairman) (Mozambique), Mr W Myburgh (Chief Executive Officer), Mr TA Boardman, Mr AS Hoffmann (Switzerland), Prof A Leiman, Dr JHW Loudon (The Netherlands), Mr M Msimang, Dr H Pohamba (Namibia), Dr FE Raimondo, Ms CC Rupert, Mr DF Strietman (The Netherlands), Jr P van der Poel, Mr JIM van Zyl, Mr H Wessels, Senior Chief Inyambo Yeta (Zambia)

3. Authorised and issued share capital
   The company has no share capital.

4. Going concern
   The summary consolidated and separate financial statements have been prepared on the basis of accounting policies applicable to a going concern. This basis presumes that funds will be available to finance future operations and that the realisation of assets and the settlement of liabilities, contingent obligations and commitments will occur in the ordinary course of business.

   The ability of the company and of the group to continue as a going concern in the long term is dependent on a number of factors. The most significant of these is that the directors continue to procure funding for the ongoing operations.

5. Events after the reporting period
   The directors are not aware of any matter or circumstance arising since the end of the financial year and the

Independent Auditor’s Report on the Summary Financial Statements
To the members of Peace Parks Foundation NPC

Opinion
The summary financial statements, which comprise the summary consolidated and separate statement of financial position as at 31 December 2017, the summary consolidated and separate statements of financial performance, changes in funds and cash flows for the year then ended, and the related notes, are derived from the audited consolidated and separate financial statements of Peace Parks Foundation NPC (“the Group”) for the year ended 31 December 2017.

In our opinion, the accompanying summary consolidated and separate financial statements are consistent, in all material respects, with the audited consolidated and separate financial statements, on the basis described in Note 1.1.

Summary Consolidated and Separate Financial Statements
The summary consolidated and separate financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by the International Financial Reporting Standards for Small and Medium-sized entities. Reading the summary consolidated and separate financial statements and our report thereon, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the audited consolidated and separate financial statements and our report thereon.

The Audited Consolidated and Separate Financial Statements and Our Report Thereon
We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on the audited consolidated and separate financial statements in our report dated 24 May 2018.

Management’s Responsibility for the Summary Consolidated and Separate Financial Statements
Management is responsible for the preparation of the summary consolidated and separate financial statements on the basis described in Note 1.1.

Auditors’ Responsibility
Our responsibility is to express an opinion on whether the summary consolidated and separate financial statements are consistent, in all material respects, with the audited consolidated and separate financial statements based on our procedures, which were conducted in accordance with International Standard on Auditing (ISA) 810 (Revised), “Engagements to Report on Summary Financial Statements.”

KPMG Inc.
Per IM Engels
Chartered Accountant (SA) + Registered Auditor + Director
MSC House, 1 Mediterranean Street, Foreshore, Cape Town, 8001
17 August 2018
Statement of Financial Position

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## Statement of Financial Performance

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<td>5 246 322</td>
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<td>5 838 123</td>
<td>5 246 322</td>
<td>18 158 664</td>
<td>152 529 493</td>
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<td>(18 289 291)</td>
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### Statement of Changes in Funds

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</table>
Statement of Cash Flows

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cash flows from operating activities</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Notes</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash receipts from donors, sponsors, club members and fees</td>
<td>535 725 588</td>
<td>421 761 210</td>
<td>444 715 400</td>
<td>201 890 051</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash paid to suppliers and employees</td>
<td>(402 799 790)</td>
<td>(443 765 956)</td>
<td>(320 810 640)</td>
<td>(255 653 742)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash generated from operations</td>
<td>132 925 798</td>
<td>22 004 746</td>
<td>123 904 760</td>
<td>53 763 691</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest income</td>
<td>15 454 519</td>
<td>14 813 798</td>
<td>13 885 406</td>
<td>13 250 577</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dividends received</td>
<td>4 191 717</td>
<td>600 524</td>
<td>4 191 717</td>
<td>600 524</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance costs</td>
<td>(50 641)</td>
<td>(69 719)</td>
<td>(538)</td>
<td>(2 559)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net cash from operating activities</td>
<td>152 521 393</td>
<td>(6 660 143)</td>
<td>141 981 345</td>
<td>(39 915 145)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cash flows from investing activities</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Notes</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purchase of property, plant and equipment</td>
<td>(28 527 862)</td>
<td>(23 674 892)</td>
<td>(7 828 528)</td>
<td>(704 599)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sale of property, plant and equipment</td>
<td>582 930</td>
<td>871</td>
<td>44 041</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net purchase of financial assets</td>
<td>1 211 793</td>
<td>(19 017 234)</td>
<td>1 525 399</td>
<td>(18 734 416)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Movement in loan to group companies</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>12 497</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net cash from investing activities</td>
<td>(26 733 139)</td>
<td>(42 691 255)</td>
<td>(6 246 591)</td>
<td>(19 439 015)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cash flows from financing activities</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Notes</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loans raised</td>
<td>1 177 836</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repayment of loans</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>(1 264 422)</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Movement in loans from group companies</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>6 933 147</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net cash from financing activities</td>
<td>1 177 836</td>
<td>(1 264 422)</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>6 933 147</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Net increase in cash and cash equivalents for the year</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Notes</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loans raised</td>
<td>126 966 090</td>
<td>(50 615 820)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repayment of loans</td>
<td>135 734 754</td>
<td>(52 421 013)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year</td>
<td>477 145 060</td>
<td>457 627 649</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Effect of exchange rate movement on cash and cash equivalents</td>
<td>(7 042 925)</td>
<td>(24 216 195)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>597 068 225</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Accounting Policies

1.1 Basis of preparation
The summary consolidated and separate financial statements are prepared in accordance with the concepts and pervasive principles; and the measurement and recognition requirements of the International Financial Reporting Standard for Small and Medium-sized Entities (IFRS for SME’s).

The disclosure requirements for summary financial statements are not specifically addressed in IFRS for SME’s. Consequently, Peace Parks Foundation NPC has identified the statements, accounting policies and explanatory notes which would provide explanation of events and transactions that are significant for an understanding of the changes in financial position and performance for the group and the company since the previous reporting period, taking into account information considered relevant to the users of the financial statements.

The consolidated and separate summary financial statements are presented in South African Rand, which is the entity’s functional currency and the group’s presentation currency and have been prepared on the going concern and historical cost bases under IFRS for SME’s, except for those assets and liabilities which are stated at fair value.

The group and company consistently applied the accounting policies set out here to all periods presented in these summary consolidated and separate financial statements.

The consolidated and separate summary financial statements have been prepared under the supervision of the Chief Financial Officer. The directors take responsibility for the preparation of this report and that the information has been correctly extracted from the underlying audited financial statements.

1.2 Significant judgements and sources of estimation uncertainty
Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

The group makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results. The estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are disclosed below.

1.3 Project property assets
Project assets comprising of property and investments, the use of which has been made available to independent conservation entities for incorporation into transfrontier conservation areas, are stated at cost and are not depreciated. Other project assets are written off as project expenses when incurred or received by way of donation.

1.4 Revenue
Revenue comprises of receipts of donations, sponsorship income, memberships, other income, interest and the fair value of the consideration received or receivable for the sale of goods or services in the ordinary course of the group’s activities. Revenue is shown net of Value Added Tax and other eliminating transactions within the group.

Revenue from De Oude Graaff-Reinetse Drostdy (Pty) Ltd includes the fair value of income derived from hotel trading, restaurant revenues, banqueting and hotel entertainment revenues. Revenue from these transactions is shown net of Value Added Tax and is recognised on the accrual basis.

When the outcome of the transaction involving rendering of services cannot be estimated reliably, revenue shall be recognised only to the extent of the expenses recognised that are recoverable.

The group recognises revenue when the amount of revenue can be reliably measured, it is probable that future economic benefits will flow to the entity and specific criteria have been met for each of the group’s activities as described below:

Donations and memberships
Donations in kind are recognised at fair value on the date of the transaction.

Income from contractual grants, donations and memberships are recognised on the accrual basis, net of Value Added Tax (if applicable). Memberships are recognised in profit or loss upon accrual.

The timing of recognising contractual grants and donations in profit or loss depends on whether the grant imposes specific conditions which need to be met or a specific purpose for which the funds need to be used.

If the contract terms require the grants or donations to be paid back to the donor if not used as specified and the contract only imposes certain restrictions on the use of the funds, then grants and donations are recognised immediately in profit or loss.

If the contract terms require the grant or donation to be paid back to the donor if not used as specified, then management applies judgement to determine whether the grants and donations should be deferred or recognised immediately in profit or loss. Cognisance is taken of the following considerations as part of exercising this judgement:

• requirements in the contract and whether any changes need to be approved by the donor;
• history with the donor and whether funds had to be repaid previously if conditions were not met; and
• whether management intend to repay the funds if the conditions are not met.

Sponsors
Income from sponsors is recognised on the accrual basis.

Sales of services and goods
Revenue is recognised upon performance of services, net of Value Added Tax and discounts.

1.5 Fund accounting
Earmarked income is revenue that is received from sources that have restricted or specified the use of the funds by the group. General/Unearmarked income is revenue that is received with no restrictions or specified use. General/Unearmarked funds that have been approved for projects by the board of directors are transferred to earmarked funds.

In cases where the group is only mandated to handle the finances of a project and therefore earns a management fee for its activities in the project, only the administration fees earned are recognised as income. The balance of these funds and bank accounts at year-end do not form part of the financial statements and are shown separately in Appendix A.
Notes to the Summary Financial Statements

2. Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents consist of:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>R</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>R</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash on hand</td>
<td>52 229</td>
<td>32 026</td>
<td>17 075</td>
<td>8 933</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank balances and deposits</td>
<td>597 015 996</td>
<td>477 113 034</td>
<td>586 302 403</td>
<td>457 618 716</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>597 068 225</td>
<td>477 145 060</td>
<td>586 319 478</td>
<td>457 627 649</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Included in the cash and cash equivalents above are bank balances denominated in the following currencies:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>British pound</td>
<td>£1 461 589</td>
<td>£801 908</td>
<td>£1 461 589</td>
<td>£801 908</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Euro</td>
<td>€14,80</td>
<td>€14,41</td>
<td>€14,80</td>
<td>€14,41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US dollar</td>
<td>$25 429 884</td>
<td>$9 921 064</td>
<td>$25 429 884</td>
<td>$9 921 064</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swedish krona</td>
<td>SEK10 695 135</td>
<td>SEK11 700 278</td>
<td>SEK10 695 135</td>
<td>SEK11 700 278</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swiss franc</td>
<td>CHF195 460</td>
<td>CHF195 460</td>
<td>CHF195 460</td>
<td>CHF195 460</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mozambican meticais</td>
<td>MZN2 134 079</td>
<td>MZN1 159 583</td>
<td>MZN2 134 079</td>
<td>MZN1 159 583</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hong Kong dollar</td>
<td>HKD625 583</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>HKD625 583</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The exchange rates used for the translation of the foreign bank balances were as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Currency</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>British pound</td>
<td>R16,67</td>
<td>R16,90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Euro</td>
<td>R14,80</td>
<td>R14,41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US dollar</td>
<td>R12,36</td>
<td>R13,70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swedish krona</td>
<td>R1,50</td>
<td>R1,50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swiss franc</td>
<td>R12,65</td>
<td>R13,44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mozambican meticais</td>
<td>R0,21</td>
<td>R0,19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hong Kong dollar</td>
<td>R1,58</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. Project property assets

Freehold properties at cost:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Conservation Area</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Greater Mapungubwe Transfrontier Conservation Area</td>
<td>23 960 872</td>
<td>23 960 872</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Properties secured in Limpopo Province to assist in the establishment of the Greater Mapungubwe Transfrontier Conservation Area consist of the Farm Rhodesdrift 22 (865 hectares), Farm Mona 19 (560,400 hectares) held under title deed T50435/2007, portion 1 of Farm Armenia 20 (69,380 hectares) held under title deed T50435/2007, remaining extent of Farm Armenia 20 (858,532 hectares) held under title deed T50435/2007 and Farm Little Muck 26 (2147,6169 hectares) held under title deed T50435/2007. The property consisting of the farm Rhodesdrift was acquired on 17 November 1998 and the other properties were acquired on 1 January 2001. The right of use of the properties is held by South African National Parks for a period of 99 years ending on 31 March 2011.

During the 2016 financial year, land and buildings with a fair value of R 21 500 000 was acquired through the business combination of Friends of Peace Parks (Pty) Ltd.

4. Property, plant and equipment

Land and buildings comprise:

Land and buildings at cost:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Conservation Area</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Greater Mapungubwe Transfrontier Conservation Area</td>
<td>23 960 872</td>
<td>23 960 872</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. Financial assets at fair value

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>R</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>R</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>At fair value</td>
<td>200 596 136</td>
<td>178 165 979</td>
<td>200 596 136</td>
<td>178 165 979</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment in shares</td>
<td>184 334 167</td>
<td>162 921 211</td>
<td>184 334 167</td>
<td>162 921 211</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RMB Investment</td>
<td>16 261 969</td>
<td>15 244 768</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>200 596 136</td>
<td>178 165 979</td>
<td>200 596 136</td>
<td>178 165 979</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. Deferred income

Deferred income is recognised in respect of funds received from donors. These funds are to be utilised for specific projects or courses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>R</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balance at beginning of year</td>
<td>215 044 383</td>
<td>300 199 440</td>
<td>197 740 035</td>
<td>282 838 898</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional restricted funds received</td>
<td>259 750 777</td>
<td>75 782 336</td>
<td>259 217 635</td>
<td>5 106 463</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign exchange movements on restricted funds</td>
<td>(10 285 602)</td>
<td>(22 333 546)</td>
<td>23 773 435</td>
<td>(22 155 167)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recognised as income during the year</td>
<td>(112 460 445)</td>
<td>(835 080)</td>
<td>(835 080)</td>
<td>–</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Closing balance</strong></td>
<td>352 049 113</td>
<td>215 044 383</td>
<td>340 171 425</td>
<td>197 740 035</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Notes to the Summary Financial Statements

7. Revenue
Revenue consists of the following:

Earmarked funds
Sponsors and donations 196 964 142 153 287 926 154 274 254 110 412 481
Memberships – – – –
Fees and services 13 426 975 13 041 270 13 426 975 13 041 270
210 391 117 166 329 196 167 701 229 123 453 751

Revenue from earmarked funds includes the following:
Recognised as revenue
National Lottery Fund (South Africa) 599 996 3 548 974 – 2 648 974
Hans Hoheisen Charitable Trust 406 000 350 000 – –
Turing Foundation – 80 000 – 80 000
Dutch Postcode Lottery 32 098 136 28 782 936 32 098 136 28 782 936
Peoples Postcode Lottery – 8 450 600 – 8 450 600
33 104 132 41 212 510 32 098 136 39 962 510

Unearmarked funds
Sponsors and donations 50 880 959 102 489 158 7 632 235 46 287 114
Memberships 2 546 133 160 988 888 2 546 133 160 988 888
Fees and services 2 649 903 855 675 2 560 346 847 805
Sales 91 952 259 475 – –
56 168 947 264 593 196 12 738 714 208 123 807

8. Funds
The Project Property Investment Fund consists of fixed properties, which form part of the
TFCAs, as well as the training facilities that have been purchased with the funds earmarked
and/or approved for this purpose.

The Projects Fund consists of funds earmarked and/or approved for projects, but that have not
yet been paid out.

The Capital Fund consists of funds available as a reserve to support future sustainability.

The General Fund consists of funds available for new projects and operations.

9. Going concern
The financial statements have been prepared on the basis of accounting policies applicable to
a going concern. This basis presumes that funds will be available to finance future operations
and that the realisation of assets and settlement of liabilities, contingent obligations and
commitments will occur in the ordinary course of business.

The ability of the company and the group to continue as going concerns in the long term is
dependent on a number of factors. The most significant of these is that the directors continue
to procure funding for the ongoing operations.

10. Events after the reporting date
The directors are not aware of any matter or circumstance arising since the end of the financial
year and the reporting date that could materially affect the group or company’s financial
standing.

Appendix A

1. Funds under administration
The company is the custodian of funds donated by the German Government through the
KfW Entwicklungsbank to the Southern African Development Community (SADC). The funds
are channelled to the Republic of Mozambique (project sponsor) to be used in the estab-
lishment of the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park, and to the KAZA Secretariat (countries’
representative) to be used in the establishment of the KAZA TFCA. The funds and finance
function of the aforementioned are managed by the company.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GROUP</th>
<th>COMPANY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash and bank balances</td>
<td>20 415 479</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Represented by:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Opening balance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Income</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Expenses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Surplus in funds at year-end funded by KfW Entwicklungsbank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Accounts receivable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Accounts payable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GROUP</th>
<th>COMPANY</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R</td>
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</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Represented by:</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Opening balance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Income</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Expenses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Surplus in funds at year-end funded by KfW Entwicklungsbank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Accounts receivable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Accounts payable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Peace Parks Foundation would like to sincerely thank the talented photographers who contributed to this publication, especially Jacques van Rooyen, Villiers Steyn, Keri Harvey, Marc Stahlmans, Gerhard van den Top, Michael Raimondo, Luke Hunter, Danielle Davenport, and various Peace Parks staff members.