

PEACE PARKS FOUNDATION

ANNUAL REVIEW 2015

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Club 21 consists of individuals or companies that support peace through conservation in the 21st century and that have contributed $1 million or more to the capital fund and work of Peace Parks Foundation. See p. 46 for details.

COVER PHOTO : KOOS VAN DER LENDE

ANNUAL REVIEW 2015

Peace Parks Foundation facilitates the establishment of transfrontier conservation areas (peace parks) and develops human resources, thereby supporting sustainable economic development, the conservation of biodiversity, and regional peace and stability.

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN AND THE CEO



HENK BADENHORST

While it remains the core business of Peace Parks Foundation to secure space and preserve ecosystems in coexistence with people – the key to the future of Africa's wildlife – the emergency interventions to combat wildlife crime again overshadowed most other activities in 2015.



KOOS VAN DER LENDE

The slight decrease in the number of rhino killed in South Africa in 2015 gave the first glimmer of hope since 2008, when the dramatic and exponential increase in the slaughter of rhino began. The number of poacher incursions from Mozambique into Kruger National Park also decreased and now represents less than 35% of the total. Both decreases indicate that the extensive and combined efforts on all fronts to stem the tide of rhino poaching are starting to yield positive results.

No specific reason for the change can be singled out, in the same way that there is no single solution to addressing wildlife crime. Contributing to the reductions were the combined impact of increased investigative and anti-poaching activities, more frequent joint operations and better equipment, the deployment of the new Mozambican environmental police force and the revised Mozambican Protected Areas Act. This Act has been brought in line with existing legislation in southern Africa to impose stiffer penalties and fines on wildlife criminals.

The highlight of the year in transfrontier conservation development was when President Peter Mutharika of Malawi and President Edgar Lungu of Zambia signed the treaty launching the development of the 32 066 km^2 Malawi-Zambia Transfrontier Conservation Area (TFCA) on 7 July 2015. The German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, through KfW and GIZ, as implementing partners in conjunction with Peace Parks Foundation, took the bold step of making a significant grant available to develop this TFCA over the next decade. Another milestone was achieved when an agreement was signed between the Mozambican National Agency for Conservation Areas and Peace Parks Foundation to jointly develop Zinave National Park as an integral component of the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park and Conservation Area.


PIETER UYS


WERNER MYBURGH


GREEN RENAISSANCE


ESRI


GREEN RENAISSANCE

2015 HIGHLIGHTS

In line with the approach to 'act now' and protect rhino while counter-trafficking and demand-reduction efforts mature, the Rhino Protection Programme supported the following initiatives (see page 32 for details):

- improved infrastructure, communication and surveillance systems, equipment, vehicles and training in key protected areas
- Kruger National Park and Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife's rhino orphan care, management and long-term repopulation strategies
- the development of advanced technology solutions in line with global standards, including rapid-response pilot projects, as well as the further extended testing of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) and radar detection systems
- counter-trafficking and investigative operations in Mozambique
- the commencement of a demand-reduction initiative in Vietnam, in partnership with the Wilderness Foundation Africa and Thanh Bui, a Vietnamese musician.

Other notable highlights on the TFCA front during the year under review include the following:

- The foundation has continued its efforts to improve the livelihoods of communities and has supplied fresh water to almost 11 000 people and food security to 870 households.
- Wildlife watching represents 80% of the total annual sales of trips to Africa. To encourage this, more wildlife species were reintroduced to key areas in TFCAs. Almost 7 000 animals have been translocated since 2001.
- A vibrant cross-border tourism industry is developing in a number of the TFCAs, bringing much-needed income to the parks and the local communities. /Ai/Ais-Richtersveld now hosts the Desert Knights Mountain Bike Tour and the Desert Kayak Trails. In Greater Mapungubwe TFCA, 340 people participated in the 11th Nedbank Tour de Tuli mountain bike event.
- Contributing to both tourism industry development and conservation are the two colleges that Peace Parks Foundation supports. The SA College for Tourism trained another 89 hospitality students and 16 trackers this year. The Southern African Wildlife College trained another 50 students in the Higher and Advanced Certificate Programmes in Nature Conservation and TFCA management and a total of 2 000 students in a variety of short courses.

While these are all positive developments, we recognise that much more needs to be done to alleviate poverty while preserving nature. To this end, we are very pleased to announce the establishment of a dedicated community development section at Peace Parks Foundation. In 2008, the foundation started integrated development planning to consult members of adjacent communities and traditional structures, along with government and private-sector entities, in the development of the respective TFCAs. This process resulted in the implementation of a number of socio-economic development projects, such as conservation agriculture, small-business development, the provision of alternative energy sources and the establishment of wildlife conservancies. This portfolio has expanded to such an extent that a dedicated and specialised team is now needed to support the opportunities for communities living in and adjacent to TFCAs.

You will notice that all community work that was previously reported on under the various TFCAs now appears in a dedicated section in this review. It is often stated, but worth reiterating, that successful conservation efforts depend on the support and involvement of and ownership by local people living in and adjacent to the peace parks. Without coexistence between people and nature, there will be no future for Africa's wildlife – an important and valuable resource for economic development.

Thank you to all our friends, colleagues, dedicated staff and donors for your continued generosity and support.


NICO GRÜNDLINGH


TALIA GRÜNDLINGH


NICO GRÜNDLINGH


ANDREA BORGARELLO

TREATY SIGNED

1. /Ai/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. Malawi-Zambia TFCA*
   (MALAWI/ZAMBIA)

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING SIGNED

6. Lubombo TFCRA*
   (MOZAMBIQUE/SOUTH AFRICA/SWAZILAND)
7. Maloti-Drakensberg TFCDA*
   (LESOTHO/SOUTH AFRICA)
8. Iona-Skeleton Coast TFCA
   (ANGOLA/NAMIBIA)
9. Greater Mapungubwe TFCA*
   (BOTSWANA/SOUTH AFRICA/ZIMBABWE)
10. Chimanimani TFCA
    (MOZAMBIQUE/ZIMBABWE)

TFCAs IN PROCESS

11. Maiombe Forest TFCA
    (ANGOLA/CONGO/DRC)
12. Liuwa Plains-Mussuma TFCA*
    (ANGOLA/ZAMBIA)
13. Lower Zambezi-Mana Pools TFCA*
    (ZAMBIA/ZIMBABWE)
14. ZIMOZA TBNRMP
    (MOZAMBIQUE/ZAMBIA/ZIMBABWE)
15. Kagera TFCA
    (RWANDA/TANZANIA/UGANDA)
16. Niassa-Selous TFCA
    (MOZAMBIQUE/TANZANIA)
17. Mnazi Bay-Quirimbas TFCMA
    (MOZAMBIQUE/TANZANIA)
18. Western Indian Ocean TFCA
    (COMOROS/FRANCE/MADAGASCAR/MAURITIUS/MOZAMBIQUE/SEYCHELLES/TANZANIA)

* Peace Parks Foundation directly involved

TP : Transfrontier Park
TFCA : Transfrontier Conservation Area
TFCDA : Transfrontier Conservation and Development Area
TFCMA : Transfrontier Conservation Marine Area
TFCRA : Transfrontier Conservation and Resource Area
TBNRMP : Transboundary Natural Resource Management Project



OVERVIEW



Made in Africa

ROY BEUSKER/NPL

AART LOUW

The concept of peace parks is a global one, tracing back to the 1930s when Canada and the USA created the ambitious Waterton Glacier International Peace Park. The idea was and remains compelling: an opportunity to think beyond political boundaries to accommodate gene pools, water flow, wildlife movement and the propagation of plant species; an opportunity to unlock regional economic development, share the conservation of biodiversity and promote regional peace and stability by demonstrating the benefits of cooperation.

By 1988 the idea of 'peace parks' had taken root within the World Conservation Union (IUCN). Initially they identified 70 potential transfrontier conservation areas (TFCAs) in 65 countries around the world, but today the figure stands at 227 transboundary protected area complexes incorporating 3 043 protected internationally designated sites. It was in Africa, however, that the peace parks concept truly sparked into life. The brave dream of contiguous TFCAs in southern Africa began its realisation in the mid-1990s in the discussions of visionary leaders as they contemplated a new era of regional peace, democracy and development.

In the years since, it has been the political will of leaders in southern Africa, and the efforts of an organisation set up to champion the peace parks concept, that have seen the vision of peace parks taking shape on the subcontinent. Spearheaded by Dr Anton Rupert, and with Dr Nelson Mandela and HRH Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands as co-founding patrons, Peace Parks Foundation was founded on 1 February 1997 to facilitate the creation of TFCAs throughout southern Africa.

The concept of the region's peace parks is as glorious as it is audacious: vast conservation areas that straddle national borders, of sufficient extent to incorporate entire biomes; of sufficient integrity to restore the ancient patterns of diverse ecological communities, and of sufficient vision to reconnect the shared cultures of tribal peoples, dislocated when colonial rulers arbitrarily imposed Africa's borders.

Southern Africa's peace parks today incorporate over half of the declared conservation estate in the region. At over a million square kilometres, they rival the combined landmass of France and Spain. These parks are as astounding in their extent as in their natural magnificence, the immense richness of their biodiversity and the importance of their cultural heritage.

DELIVERING THE DREAM

A new generation of leadership has taken up the mantle of Peace Parks Foundation under the chairmanship of Johann Rupert. The aim is to facilitate the delivery of fully functional peace parks, managed in harmony with their surrounding communities, to create sustainable local, national and regional benefit flows. The foundation's strategy for the next five years includes measurable steps to ensure that the 10 peace parks currently established are developed to their full potential.

Peace Parks Foundation's interventions stand on four pillars: securing protected land, training wildlife managers, training tourism managers and improving accessibility through infrastructure and policy development. Working structures are created to advance integrated development plans, with the involvement of stakeholders from government and non-government organisations across all political boundaries.

Project areas cover a wide range – community development, geographic information systems (GIS) analyses and mapping, water and fire management, veterinary services and wildlife relocation, combatting wildlife crime, and conservation business development – all supported by cutting-edge technology and the pioneering spirit that is the hallmark of the foundation's unique approach. The foundation's long-term support of the Southern African Wildlife College and the SA College for Tourism also serves to develop valuable management skills to staff the wildlife and tourism initiatives of the peace parks.

The foundation's approach is founded on the principles of trust, respect and partnership, never moving beyond its supporting role as a preferred partner to the governments of southern Africa. A core objective of its work is to marshal limited resources and to ensure that 100% of donor funding flows through to the projects on the ground.

The professional financial management of Peace Parks Foundation and its reputation for the highest standards of corporate governance have earned the foundation the trust and long-standing support of public and private international financial institutions and governments alike, as an advisory, facilitation, management and administrative partner.

The foundation is transparent in accounting for the flow of funds from donors to the projects they have elected to support. Its operational funding is kept to below an exemplary 20% of total income, with interest on a capital fund contributing to the organisation's working capital requirements. The projects it undertakes are organised to become self-sufficient, with a focus on building capacity to avoid long-term donor dependency. It is worth noting that the foundation's work strives to attain the UN Sustainable Development Goals in its various programmes, support programmes and projects.

Visit www.peaceparks.org



PROGRAMMES & PROJECTS

The accomplishments of the past year are thanks to the successful public and private partnerships that were formed to create and develop southern Africa's peace parks. Highlights of the past year's achievements, where Peace Parks Foundation was involved through its support of the region's governments, include the following programmes and projects.

(NAMIBIA/SOUTH AFRICA)

/AI/AIS-RICHTERSVELD

TRANSFRONTIER PARK

AART LOUW

BACKGROUND

The heads of state of Namibia and South Africa signed a treaty establishing the /Ai/Ais-Richtersveld Transfrontier Park on 1 August 2003. Since then, joint management, tourism and financial protocol plans have been completed. In 2007 the pontoon at Sendelingsdrift was refurbished and immigration offices and staff housing were built on both sides of the Orange River. Joint activities between the Namibian and South African components of the park got under way in 2010, including joint patrols by park managers and the introduction of a border permit that allows officials from both countries to easily cross the border while on official duty within the boundaries of the park.

With cross-border operations well in hand and successful, the attention turned to increasing visitor numbers to the park. This was done by developing unique cross-border products, which led to the launch of what was to become the Desert Knights Mountain Bike Tour.

In April 2011, the /Ai/Ais-Richtersveld joint management board approved the park's integrated development plan and joint operations strategy. The latter outlines joint operational activities, such as joint patrols for monitoring and law enforcement, joint research, managing joint assets like the pontoon at Sendelingsdrift, and identifying and implementing cross-border tourism products.

The park's management committee, comprising park managers supported by an intersectoral management and development task group, was also established. This committee has since successfully jointly managed daily operations and is using joint management board meetings as strategic work sessions for decision making at policy level.

In an important event for visitors, the upgrade and extension of the Fish River Bridge was completed in 2012 and has since proven its worth during floods. The joint training of staff was also started and, owing to its success, was expanded in 2013 and in 2014.

The /Ai/Ais-Richtersveld Transfrontier Park has become an excellent model for joint planning, operations, training and cross-border events.

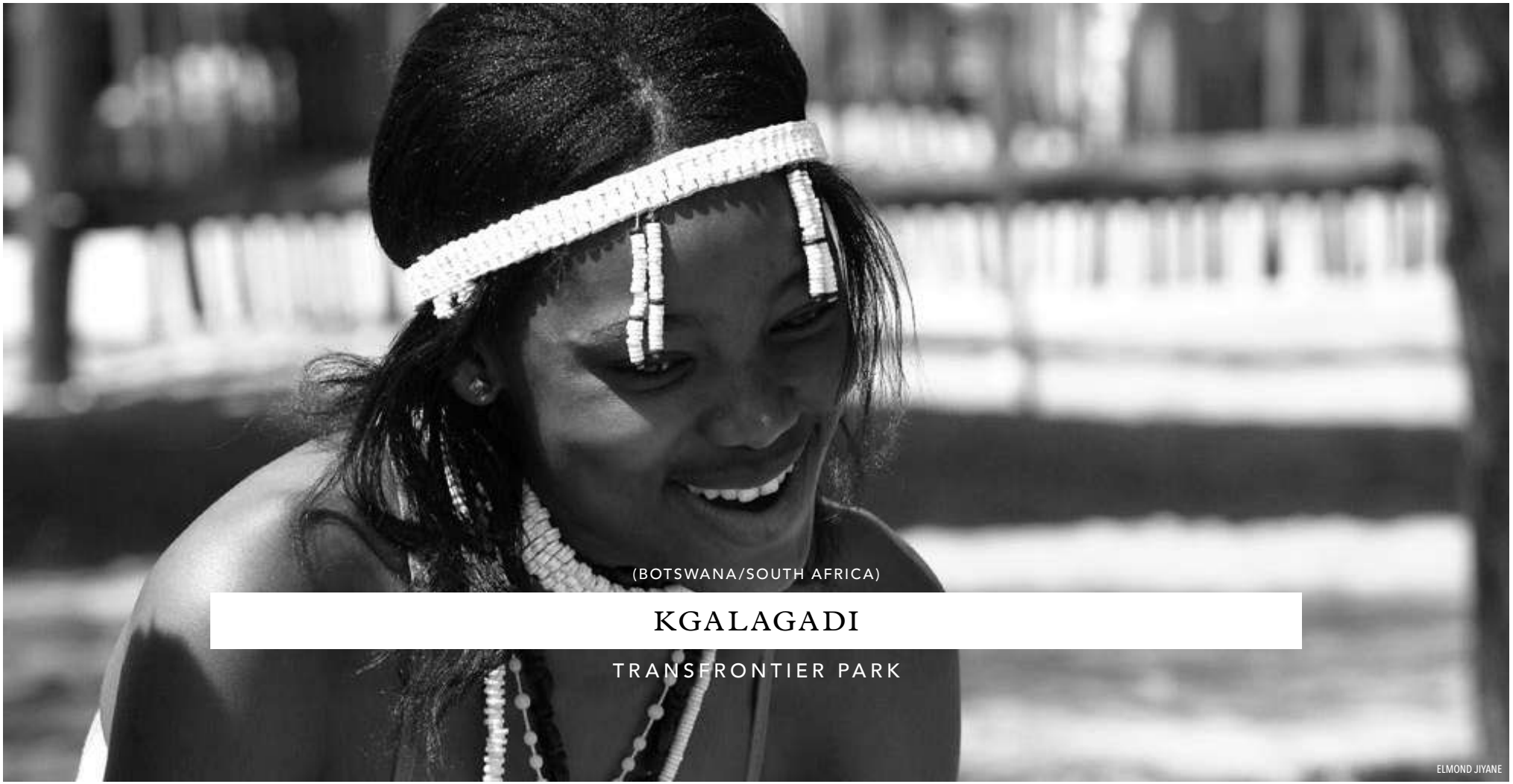
/Ai /Ais-Richtersveld
Transfrontier Park



September saw the reintroduction of more wildlife to the South African component of the park. This year was an especially exciting one, as red hartebeest were returned to the Richtersveld for the first time in 179 years. The 21 red hartebeest were accompanied by six gemsbok and, in a first for the park, six zebra. The programme by South African National Parks (SANParks) to reintroduce wildlife to the park was started in 2007, when 40 gemsbok and 80 springbok were brought in. Peace Parks Foundation this year contributed to the translocation costs. More wildlife in this unique arid and desert environment will enhance the experience of tourists visiting the area. It will also enrich the cultural heritage of the Nama community, which owns the park, and lead to a diversified tourism economy.


AART LOUW


PIETER VAN WYK



(BOTSWANA/SOUTH AFRICA)

KGALAGADI

TRANSFRONTIER PARK

ELMOND JIYANE

BACKGROUND

Kgalagadi, Africa's first transfrontier park, was opened on 12 May 2000 by the then heads of state of the partner countries. Since then, it has become a popular destination for tourists and off-road enthusiasts wishing to experience the Kalahari's tranquillity. In addition to Kgalagadi's many campsites, rest camps and wilderness camps, a fully catered luxury lodge, owned by the ǂKhomani San and Mier communities, opened its doors in 2007.

Shortly thereafter, the Mata-Mata tourist access facility between Namibia and South Africa was opened by the heads of state of Botswana, Namibia and South Africa. In a unique arrangement, the tourist access facility at Two Rivers/Twee Rivieren is jointly manned by customs and immigration officials from Botswana and South Africa. Access to Kgalagadi can thus be gained through four access facilities in three different countries: from Botswana through Two Rivers/Twee Rivieren, Mabuasehube and Kaa; from Namibia through Mata-Mata, and from South Africa through Two Rivers/Twee Rivieren. Passports are not required for entry, unless departure is planned through a different gate into another country, in which case a two-day stay in the park is compulsory.

In 2014 the park's management committee endorsed the integrated development plan and its joint operations strategy. This strategy enables joint activities such as patrols; the management of the park's predators; the management of the movement of people, goods and services; road maintenance; the upgrade of the boundary fence; and events such as World Ranger Day. Botswana formally established a country-level park management committee to discuss and guide all decisions that have an impact on their component of Kgalagadi.

Also in 2014, the installation of a Wi-Fi service was started to ease communications in the park.


KOOS VAN DER LENDE

The Turner Foundation kindly supported a lion-collaring project. The knowledge gained through the research will be used to better understand the desert lions' dietary, demographic and behavioural dynamics and how these influence the sustainable conservation of this magnificent species.

2015 DEVELOPMENTS

Early in 2015, the installation of a Wi-Fi service was completed in the Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park. The camps and gates at Two Rivers/Twee Rivieren, Mata-Mata, Nossob, Mabuasehube and Kaa now all have Wi-Fi. This has significantly improved communication between the Botswana and South African park management teams and with visitors, especially when it comes to sharing information and making reservations.

The park's joint management committee continued with collaborative activities and monthly meetings. Throughout the year, staff from Botswana and South Africa work together to ensure that visitors adhere to park regulations. During these joint patrols, vehicles are stopped, passports and permits checked and vehicles opened to verify that no illegal goods or substances are being transported. The primary aim of these patrols is to ensure a safe environment for visitors to the park and to protect the fragile desert environment and its wildlife.

In an endeavour to make visitors' stay more enjoyable, the park management decided to conduct a tourism induction and sensitisation course for staff to align tourism in all sectors of the park. The course was developed by the tourism subcommittee and 32 staff members attended the training. They were taken to areas of particular interest in the park so that in future they can share up-to-date information on the tourism facilities, amenities and activities on offer in all of Kgalagadi. Thanks to the positive feedback from both staff and visitors, further training sessions will be conducted.

> In June, Kgalagadi was ranked ninth in the Top 50 Best Safari Parks of Africa. This survey was published by SafariBookings.com and was based on the reviews of visitors and reputable guidebook authors. Kgalagadi was the only transfrontier park on the list.



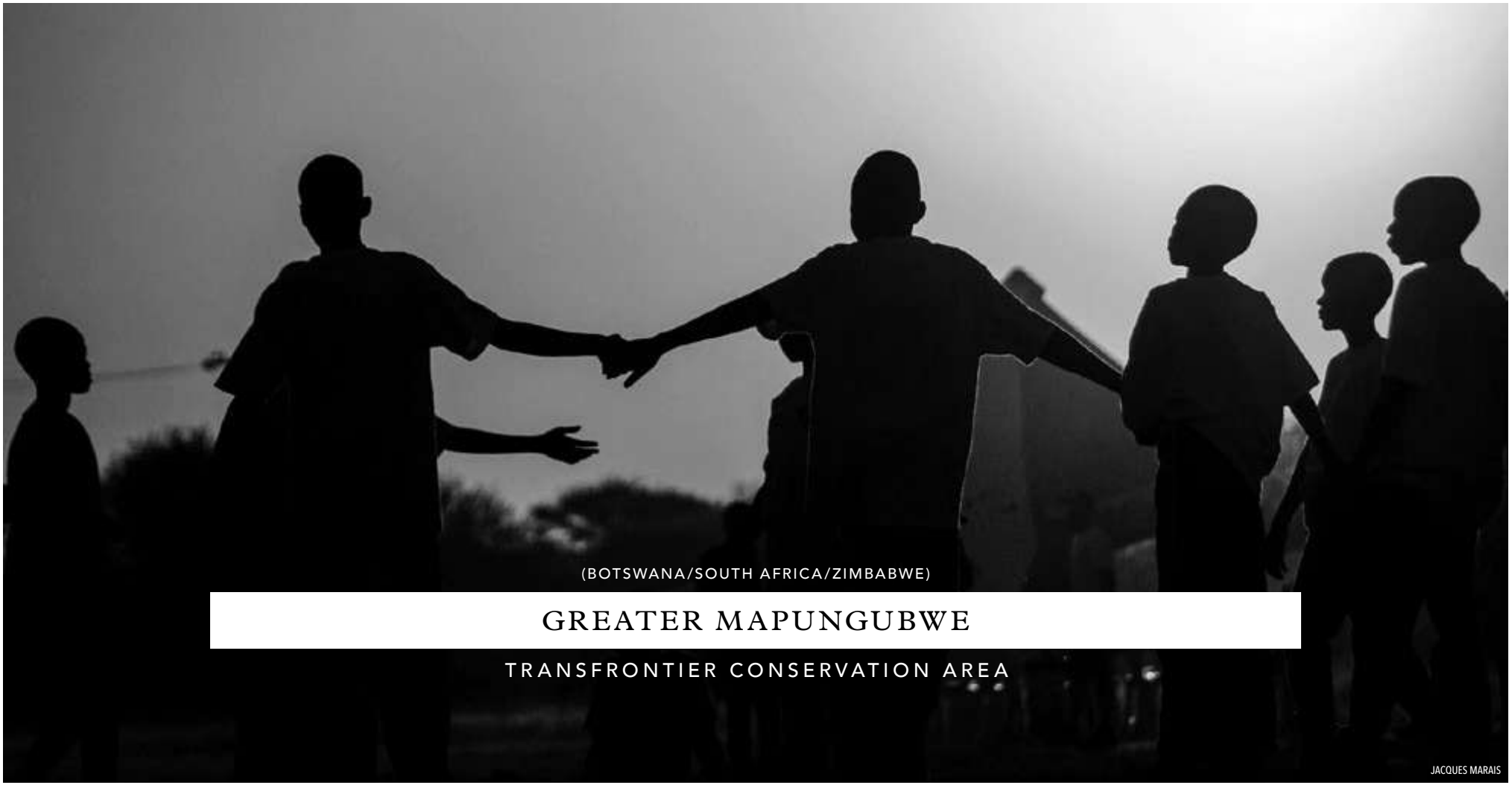

KGALAGADI LION PROJECT


THOMAS MACKENZIE



SANPARKS

Kgalagadi
TRANSFRONTIER PARK



(BOTSWANA/SOUTH AFRICA/ZIMBABWE)

GREATER MAPUNGUBWE

TRANSFRONTIER CONSERVATION AREA

JACQUES MARAIS



CAROLINE CULBERT

BACKGROUND

The Mapungubwe Cultural Landscape was proclaimed a World Heritage Site in July 2003. With the assistance of Peace Parks Foundation, De Beers, the National Parks Trust and WWF-SA, South African National Parks (SANParks) negotiated with landowners and bought up farmland to consolidate the core area of South Africa's contribution to the proposed TFCA. Mapungubwe National Park was officially opened on 24 September 2004. A memorandum of understanding on the TFCA's establishment was signed on 22 June 2006 and an international coordinator was appointed. On 19 June 2009, Limpopo/Shashe TFCA was renamed the Greater Mapungubwe TFCA.

In 2011, much time was spent to ensure responsible mining operations at the Vele Colliery that lies 5.7 km from the boundary of the Mapungubwe National Park and World Heritage Site. Prior to operations commencing, the South African Department of Environmental Affairs, SANParks and Coal of Africa signed a memorandum of agreement (MoA). The MoA seeks to ensure the conservation and integrity of this globally significant natural and cultural World Heritage Site and maintain and strengthen cooperation between the signatories. In 2014, the signatories signed a biodiversity offset agreement for Vele Colliery, obliging the mine to support SANParks' conservation efforts.


KOOS VAN DER LENDE

In 2012, archaeological discoveries were made on the farm Klein Bolayi, east of Mapungubwe National Park, confirming that the Mapungubwe Cultural Landscape extends eastwards or downstream along the Limpopo Valley, and corroborating human habitation in the area for more than 1 500 years.

The Greater Mapungubwe TFCA resource management committee was formed to deal with cross-border challenges at an operational level. Area managers now directly attend to cross-border or international matters such as border safety, security and veterinary concerns. By 2014, this arrangement had evolved to include joint training, events and meetings of field staff. The management plan for the Tuli Circle Safari Area was also completed in 2014. Two community development trusts were established in Botswana and a community camp was erected in Zimbabwe to ensure that local communities benefit from tourism in the area.

2015 DEVELOPMENTS

The park rangers in the Greater Mapungubwe TFCA meet regularly to exchange information and develop strategies to overcome their particular challenges. Peace Parks Foundation procured tracking devices for the TFCA, which the park management committee handed to the Botswana rangers, as another step in jointly gathering data on the TFCA. To assist with cross-border operations and law enforcement efforts, the foundation also donated a quad bike to the TFCA.

Another successful Nedbank Tour de Tuli event was held from 13 to 18 August 2015. This, the 11th edition of the event, saw 340 participants cycle across almost 300 km of challenging and remote terrain in Botswana, Zimbabwe and South Africa. Participants also had the opportunity to meet some of the communities they are helping to uplift. Over the years, Tour de Tuli has hosted over 2 700 cyclists and raised more than R14 million for Children in the Wilderness (CITW). In 2015, 540 children attended a CITW camp, while 2 271 children attended CITW Eco-Clubs.

Throughout the year, joint working groups and trilateral technical committee meetings were held. As usual, the turnout was very good and proves the commitment of government and private-sector stakeholders to the development of the TFCA.

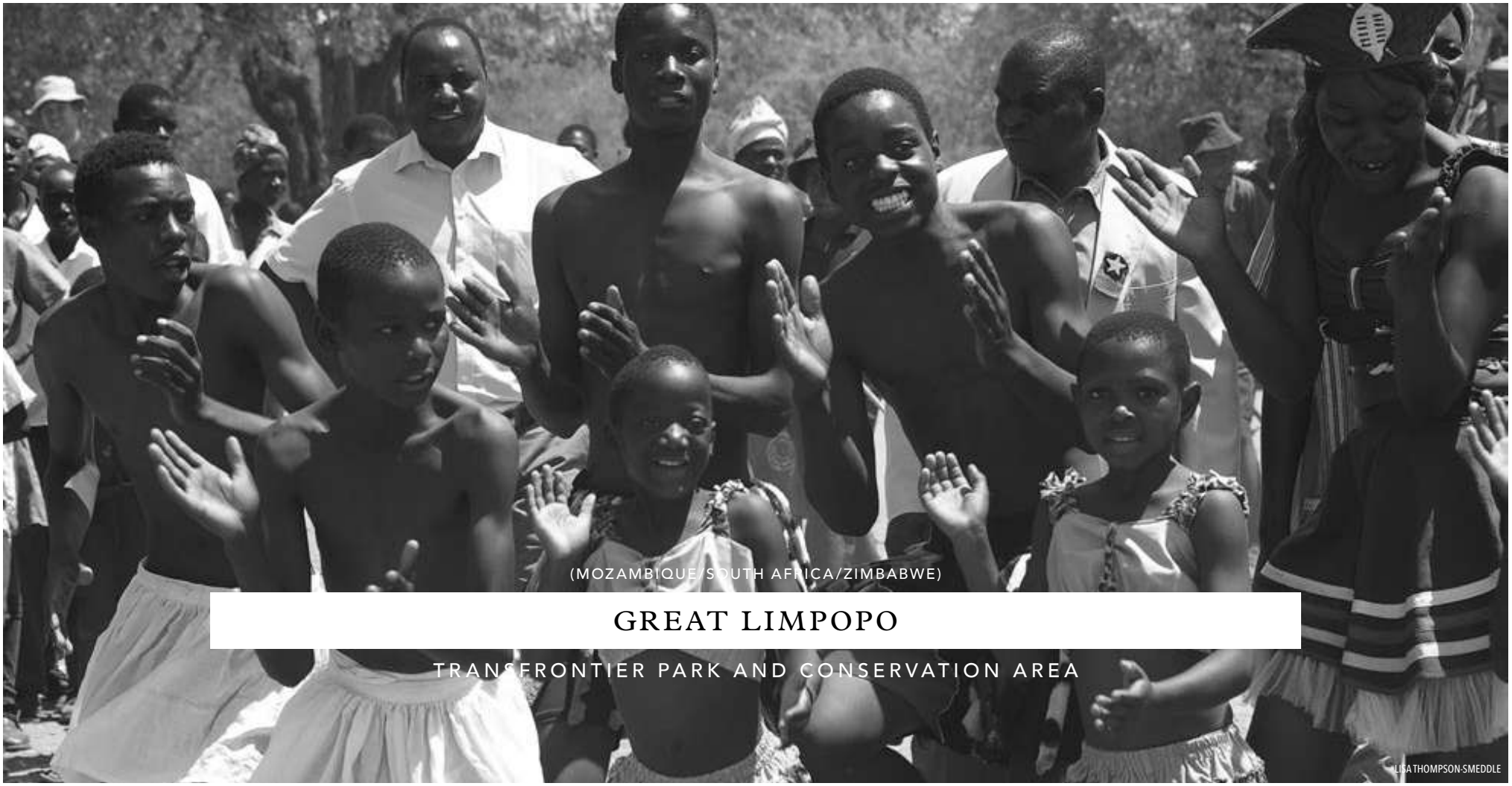

KOOS VAN DER LENDE


STEFAN CILLIERS


STEFAN CILLIERS



The TFCA hosted the first tri-nations camp for children. The children were selected from schools in the three partner countries that are situated in the TFCA sphere of influence. Children in the Wilderness facilitated the camp, the TFCA units in the partner countries helped with the preparations, and Peace Parks Foundation provided financial support. The camp was a resounding success and will be repeated in 2016.



(MOZAMBIQUE/SOUTH AFRICA/ZIMBABWE)

GREAT LIMPOPO

TRANSFRONTIER PARK AND CONSERVATION AREA

LISA THOMPSON-SMEDDLE

BACKGROUND

The heads of state of the three partner countries signed a treaty establishing the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park and Conservation Area on 9 December 2002. In 2006, the Giriyondo tourist access facility between the Limpopo and Kruger national parks was opened. Almost 5 000 heads of game have been translocated from Kruger to Limpopo National Park. This, combined with 50 km of fencing being dropped, has encouraged more animals, including over 1 000 elephant and over 1 000 buffalo, to cross the border of their own accord.

The harmonisation and integration of various policies to improve the cooperative management of the park are under way. Processes such as introducing a joint operations protocol and developing cross-border tourism products that will optimise Great Limpopo's tourism development opportunities are far advanced. In 2013 a wilderness walking trail in the Pafuri area was launched, the first of a range of cross-border tourism products to be developed in the context of the transboundary initiative and in partnership with a variety of key stakeholders.

In a major step to market Great Limpopo, its website, Facebook page and Twitter account were launched in 2014. In April 2014, Mozambique and South Africa signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on biodiversity conservation and management, with a view to addressing the scourge of rhino poaching in Great Limpopo. Throughout the year, senior officials from Limpopo and Kruger national parks met and focused on a number of strategic anti-poaching interventions. As a result of the transfrontier collaboration and joint operations, incursions along the border have dropped significantly.

2015 DEVELOPMENTS

On 31 March 2015, Limpopo National Park hosted a high-level meeting between Mozambique's Minister of Land, Environment and Rural Development, Mr Celso Correia, and his South African counterpart, Mrs Edna Molewa, Minister of Environmental Affairs. The ministers discussed the implementation plan of the MoU on biodiversity conservation and management that was signed in 2014. The implementation plan aims to facilitate coordinated law enforcement operations and the management and protection of Great Limpopo and its component protected areas.

The managers of Limpopo and Kruger national parks had previously successfully collaborated on a number of strategic anti-poaching interventions, including improved cross-border collaboration and operations, joint training initiatives and the development of a joint communications system. To formalise and expand these collaborative activities, a joint park management committee for Limpopo and Kruger national parks met for the first time on 9 April 2015. The committee focuses on matters such as protection, conservation management, tourism development, community benefits, communication and fundraising. A joint wildlife-crime strategy was developed to guide collaboration, and bilateral wildlife-crime meetings between the two park managers and field rangers are held regularly. Joint operations such as Operation Capricorn have been very successful, often leading to arrests and the recovery of firearms and other poaching equipment.

On 22 September 2015, a co-management agreement was signed for Zinave National Park. In terms of this agreement, the Mozambican National Agency for Conservation Areas and Peace Parks Foundation will jointly develop and manage Zinave as an integral component of Great Limpopo. A process is also under way to integrate into Great Limpopo the concession areas adjacent to Gonarezhou National Park in the north and the Greater Lebombo Conservancy located on the south-eastern boundary of Kruger National Park. In addition, following a training needs assessment, a joint training programme is being developed for Great Limpopo.

Over the past five years, two PhD researchers have documented a large diversity of wildlife species in Limpopo National Park with the use of camera-traps. The 49 mammal species above 3 kg that were snapped include bat-eared fox, aardwolf, African wild dog, serval, lion, cheetah, giraffe, elephant, hyena, zebra, eland and roan and sable antelope. The project goal is to provide the necessary information to improve the transboundary conservation management of key predator species such as lion, cheetah and African wild dog. The research has also identified and assessed potential corridors linking Limpopo and Banhine national parks. Along with the recent realignment of the Banhine National Park borders, the Limpopo National Park management has initiated the demarcation and protection of these corridors to develop ecological interconnectivity in Great Limpopo.

Sharing the benefits of Great Limpopo with those living in the surrounding area has been an important objective from the outset and a strategy for attaining this is taking shape. In 2015, the Great Limpopo joint management board commissioned the development of an integrated livelihoods diversification strategy. An integrated strategy to address the poisoning of elephants, lions and vultures in the area is also being developed.



The third successful Pafuri Wilderness Trail and Shangane Festival cross-border tourism event involving the South African and Zimbabwean components was held in October 2015. The TFCA has identified a range of cross-border tourism products to be developed. These include transboundary wilderness trails, self-drive 4×4 trails and the development of a cross-border tourism node in the Pafuri-Sengwe area, which forms the heart of the TFCA.

GREAT LIMPOPO
TRANSFRONTIER PARK





(MOZAMBIQUE)

LIMPOPO NATIONAL PARK

LISA THOMPSON-SMEDDLE

BACKGROUND

Mozambique proclaimed Limpopo National Park on 27 November 2001 and requested Peace Parks Foundation's assistance in overseeing the park's development as a project approved by the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) through KfW, Agence Française de Développement (AFD), the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) and the World Bank. In 2001, a project implementation unit, comprising staff from Mozambique and Peace Parks Foundation, was set up to develop this million-hectare park. All known suspected landmined areas and development sites were cleared of landmines and unexploded ordnance, according to international standards. The boundary for the community development zone was realigned to ensure that the communities living along the Limpopo and Elefantes rivers would have adequate space for their resource-utilisation needs. Park headquarters, staff housing, and workshop and accommodation facilities were built.

A variety of wilderness experiences are now on offer, including game walks, a hiking trail, a backpacking and fishing experience, canoeing and 4x4 trails. The project implementation unit oversees the development of the park and focuses on six major programmes. These programmes deal with community support, voluntary resettlement, protection, tourism development, infrastructure and administration.

The park's management plan provides for the participation of local communities in developing and managing the park, and ensures the equitable flow of benefits to those communities. In 2010, the Federal Republic of Germany, through GIZ, made funding available to investigate the feasibility of the community development zone along the Limpopo River. Based on this investigation, AFD funded agricultural projects in the community development zone that now include 18 community irrigation schemes, from which over 3 000 community members benefit. The communities belong to community associations that all benefit from food with a higher nutrient value, a sustainable source of food and the opportunity to generate an income.

In 2011, students from the Ecole d'Ingénieur Agro-Développement International teamed up with the park's community programme officials to implement a pilot nursery that supplies trees to resettled communities and for land rehabilitation in the park. The nursery supplies saplings to each family that is relocated as part of the park's community resettlement programme.

The construction of a field-ranger base at Mapai Gate was jointly funded by BMZ through KfW and AFD. The base functions primarily as a training base and headquarters for protection operations in the northern region. In 2013, the park contracted a theatre group from Massingir, the small town close to the park's headquarters, to raise awareness of rhino poaching among the communities in and around the park. Following the training and equipment of a new 30-man protection unit, an intensive protection zone (an area where people are not allowed) was also put into effect along the western border of the park. The implementation of the protection zone was communicated to the leadership of the province, district and community villages, and was accepted by all. The results-based incentive scheme for field rangers continued to bear fruit, with improved anti-poaching results and a continued year-on-year increase in poachers arrested. In 2014, project implementation contracts were signed between the government of Mozambique, the Joaquim Chissano Foundation and Peace Parks Foundation to strengthen Mozambique's efforts to combat wildlife crime in and around Limpopo National Park.

A new 56 km long fence that forms a boundary between the park's core zone and the south-eastern buffer zone was erected. The fence supports conservation objectives in that it restricts access into the core zone of the park while acting as a primary barrier against human–wildlife conflict.

To allow wildlife access to the river, three conservation corridors were created to link the park's core zone to the Limpopo River. These corridors will also enable animals to move to other conservation areas to the east, including Banhine National Park and Gonarezhou National Park in Zimbabwe. Signage was erected in the community development zone along the Limpopo River to remind community members of the corridor boundaries.

To ensure that the core wilderness zone is fully protected, a voluntary resettlement programme by the Mozambican government is under way. This entails relocating 1 600 households from eight villages in the park. Thus far two villages, comprising 185 families, have been resettled outside the park. Construction on a further 528 houses has been completed.


VALDEMAR CASIMIRO


ANTONY ALEXANDER

2015 DEVELOPMENTS

In April 2015, the newly appointed governor of Gaza province paid a first visit to Limpopo National Park, during which she presented a cheque for 20% of Limpopo National Park's revenue for 2014 to the local communities. Since the official opening of the park to tourists in 2006, the shared revenue has benefited local communities in Chicualacuala in the north of the park, Mabalane in the centre and Massingir in the south. The revenue has been used to purchase roofing materials for classrooms and teachers' houses, the construction of flour mills, the improvement of small water-supply systems, agricultural supplies, motor pumps, a ferry for crossing the Limpopo River in the rainy season and livestock development projects.

Also in April, 150 members of Mozambique's recently created environmental protection police force started working in the region in and around the park. The unit works closely with park rangers to combat wildlife crime and enforce the new environmental protection laws. In May, 27 security personnel were trained in environmental law, professional ethics and the protection of Mozambique's heritage.

In August, field-ranger refresher training was undertaken at the park's Mapai field-ranger base. It followed a course designed and presented by the Southern African Wildlife College, with instructional support from in-house senior field-ranger personnel, regional police and medical technicians. In this way the best regional field-ranger training practices were combined with the local context and content. The refresher training included instruction in new anti-poaching techniques and tactics, the application of Mozambique's new conservation law and the use of GPS and digital radios.

Thanks to Fondation Hoffmann, additional equipment was delivered to the park. This included spotlights for night operations; handcuffs, backpacks and water bottles for patrol operations; cooking equipment for livelihood improvement; and GPS units and mobile phones for data-capturing purposes. The mobile phones have a camera, basic GPS, voice recorder and cyber-tracker software. A solar charger was also delivered to allow longer patrol operations.

Following Mozambique's decision to incorporate the Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool (SMART) for measuring, evaluating and improving the effectiveness of patrols and site-based conservation activities, the tool is being tested in three of the country's national parks, namely Limpopo, Bazaruto and Niassa. Eventually it will be rolled out in all 12 conservation areas, with a centralised database in Maputo. The first training event, sponsored by the National Administration of Conservation Areas (ANAC), took place at the park headquarters in Massingir.

Tourism figures for 2015 were 11% up on 2014, when Mozambique's pre-election phase had an impact on visitor numbers. The park has 40 beds, plus numerous campsites.


ANTONY ALEXANDER


ANTONY ALEXANDER


KOOS VAN DER LENDE

Towards the end of the year, the park started a new environmental awareness programme to educate local inhabitants on the importance of conservation. To instil an awareness of wildlife conservation at an early age, children from local schools tour the park and learn about the importance of conserving wildlife and the environment. Children from the local communities also attend a series of environmental education film events in Massingir.



(MOZAMBIQUE/SOUTH AFRICA/SWAZILAND)

LUBOMBO

TRANSFRONTIER CONSERVATION AND RESOURCE AREA WHICH INCLUDES FOUR DISTINCT TFCA PROJECTS

LUBOMBO CONSERVANCY-GOBA-USUTHU-TEMBE-FUTI TFCA	(MOZAMBIQUE/SOUTH AFRICA/SWAZILAND)
PONTA DO OURO-KOSI BAY TFCA	(MOZAMBIQUE/SOUTH AFRICA)
NSUBANE-PONGOLA TFCA	(SOUTH AFRICA/SWAZILAND)
SONGIMVELO-MALOLOTJA TFCA	(SOUTH AFRICA/SWAZILAND)

PAUL SUTTON



CLAIRE BINNEMAN

BACKGROUND

On 22 June 2000, four protocols were signed to establish the Lubombo Transfrontier Conservation and Resource Area. The inclusion of a fifth component, the Songimvelo-Malolotja TFCA and the incorporation of Swaziland into the Usuthu-Tembe-Futi TFCA were formally approved at a trilateral ministerial meeting in 2004.

In March 2014, the Lubombo Commission decided to merge the Lubombo Conservancy-Goba TFCA with the Usuthu-Tembe-Futi TFCA, linking the Lebombo Mountain ecosystem with the coastal plains. This decision, based on landscape-planning and ecosystems considerations, will streamline institutional arrangements and also benefit the communities in Swaziland. The new boundary reflects an initial consolidation phase and will focus on three core transboundary areas:

- Maputo Special Reserve-Tembe Elephant Park-Bekhula-Tsanini Community Conservation Area
- Catuane-Ndumo Game Reserve-Usuthu Gorge Community Conservation Area-Mambane Community Conservation Area
- Goba-Lubombo conservancies.

As part of developing the Lubombo Transfrontier Conservation and Resource Area, the governments of Mozambique and South Africa, with support from Peace Parks Foundation, began a wildlife translocation programme to Maputo Special Reserve in 2010. The translocations reintroduce animals that were historically found in the area to enable the fast recovery and subsequent increase of the reserve's wildlife populations. This is essential to developing the reserve as a tourist destination.

This multi-year endeavour has been made possible thanks to Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife's donation, capture and transportation of wildlife from reserves in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa, to Maputo Special Reserve in Mozambique.

In 2014, a joint operations strategy for the Maputo Special Reserve/Tembe Elephant Park component was signed into force by the relevant authorities and approved by the Lubombo Commission. The strategy called for the formation of a park management committee, which was formally established in July 2014.

The Maputo Special Reserve/Tembe Elephant Park committee oversaw the aerial census for Maputo Special Reserve, which was conducted in collaboration with Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife staff based in Tembe Elephant Park. The census indicated that the introduced populations are steadily increasing.

2015 DEVELOPMENTS

The first phase of wildlife translocations to Mozambique's Maputo Special Reserve was concluded in September 2015, with the introduction of 87 zebra and 119 blue wildebeest. In total, 1 115 animals have been translocated since 2010, including kudu, warthog, impala, nyala, zebra, giraffe and blue wildebeest. The Maputo Special Reserve/Tembe Elephant Park management committee continued its collaboration on the implementation of the joint operations strategy and matters of mutual interest.

In August 2015, the iSimangaliso Wetland Park Authority, the management of the Ponta do Ouro Partial Marine Reserve and Peace Parks Foundation entered into an agreement to conduct a multi-sectoral study. The aim of this study, which will encompass the coastal areas of Mozambique and South Africa in the Ponta do Ouro-Kosi Bay TFCA, is to assess the impact and threats posed by large development projects in the TFCA.




ISIMANGALISO


ROGER DE LA HARPE


ROGER DE LA HARPE


HENNIE HOMANN



(MOZAMBIQUE)

PONTA DO OURO PARTIAL MARINE RESERVE

ROGER DE LA HARPE



NICO GRUNDLINGH

BACKGROUND

In August 2008, the Mozambican government submitted the marine reserve to UNESCO for inclusion in its tentative list of properties to be considered for World Heritage Site nomination during the ensuing years. On 14 July 2009, the government declared a 678 km² marine protected area, stretching from Ponta do Ouro in the south to the Maputo River Mouth in Maputo Bay in the north. The Ponta do Ouro Partial Marine Reserve stretches three nautical miles into the Indian Ocean and includes the waters around Inhaca Island and Portuguese Island.

The marine reserve has a rich diversity of marine life and is the most important leatherback and loggerhead turtle nesting ground along the Mozambican coast. Leatherbacks are the largest sea turtles and are classified as critically endangered by the World Conservation Union (IUCN), while loggerhead turtles have been classified as endangered. To monitor and protect the turtles coming ashore to lay their eggs, a marine monitoring programme was established to augment the programme that has been in place since 1994, thanks to Pierre Lombard and his family. Since December 2007, members of the communities of Ponta do Ouro, Milibangalala, the Machangulo Peninsula, Malongane and Mamoli have been trained as turtle monitors by the Association for Coastal and Marine Research, Centro Terra Viva and the management of the marine reserve, supported by Peace Parks Foundation and its donors, notably Fondation Prince Albert II de Monaco. After the training the monitors were employed for the season. The initiative also aims to raise awareness and improve understanding within the communities in an effort to further protect the turtles.

Throughout the nesting season, stretching from October to the end of March, the reserve management and turtle monitors undertake vehicle and foot patrols of the turtle nesting sites to protect the nesting females and their eggs and monitor the number of nesting females. The monitors also collect data on the turtles, including how many of them have been tagged, the size of the animals, whether they were laying eggs or not and, if the animals were not sighted, how many tracks there were. During the hatching stage, the monitors note the number of eggs hatched. The presence of the monitors is considered vital for the protection of the turtles. The reserve's turtle-monitoring programme links up with the one across the border, in South Africa's iSimangaliso Wetland Park, a World Heritage Site, where turtles have been monitored since 1963.

The marine reserve headquarters were opened in 2011 and the management and community action plans were approved. With support from the Turing Foundation, two all-terrain vehicles were purchased in 2014 for beach patrols by the marine rangers. Also in 2014, 20 years of turtle monitoring and conservation in Mozambique were celebrated.

2015 DEVELOPMENTS

Signage was erected to further safeguard the delicate marine life and coral reefs in the marine reserve. The signage spells out what is allowed in the various zones, i.e. multiple-use area, restricted area or marine sanctuary, making it easy for visitors to see which activities are freely allowed, which ones need special permits and which ones are prohibited.

Marine biologists from Centro Terra Viva and Ponta do Ouro Partial Marine Reserve conducted an annual reef survey in the marine reserve. In just four dives, the biologists identified over 60 species of reef fish. These included three species of sharks, namely the grey reef shark, the zebra shark and the tawny nurse shark. Until now, the reef surveys had been concentrated in the southern section of the marine reserve, i.e. from Techobanine to Ponta do Ouro. This year the survey aimed to select new monitoring stations of the reefs in the northern sections of the marine reserve to complement the ongoing monitoring programme. Thanks to the partnership between Centro Terra Viva and the marine reserve, through the National Administration of

Conservation Areas (ANAC), an initial survey of biodiversity and the coral structures of reefs was conducted. These reefs in the northern section of the marine reserve have proven to be of priceless ecological value and well worth protecting and monitoring.

In the last quarter, the marine reserve received two motorbikes and one quad bike from ANAC, funded by the World Bank's Mozbio project. Thanks to the Turing Foundation, the reserve also received a jet ski and trailer. In December, in partnership with Centro Terra Viva and funded by Peace Parks Foundation, two marine guards and two community members were trained as skippers. A further two marine guards and two community members were also trained as advanced divers and dive masters, respectively. The equipment and training will increase the efficacy of patrols and law enforcement.

The marine reserve manager coordinated the monitoring of the 2014/2015 turtle nesting season, which ended on 31 March 2015. Collaborators in this year's effort were Centro Terra Viva, Pierre Lombard and family, Machangulo Group, Dolphin Encountours, White Pearl Resort, Petromoc and Toyota. During the season there were 1 997 recordings of loggerhead turtles and 67 of leatherback turtles coming ashore to lay their eggs – a turtle may return more than once. Altogether, 843 loggerhead and 42 leatherback hatchlings were recorded. The trend of data collected since 2007 indicates that the numbers for loggerhead turtles are increasing and that those for leatherback turtles are stable.


ROGER DE LA HARPE


ROGER DE LA HARPE

(MOZAMBIQUE)

MAPUTO SPECIAL RESERVE

BACKGROUND

In 2005, the Mozambican government secured a loan from the World Bank to develop Maputo Special Reserve. These developments included infrastructure and accommodation upgrades, and the construction of headquarters and accommodation facilities. In addition, a co-financing agreement between Mozambique and Peace Parks Foundation was signed in 2006 to develop, manage and extend Maputo Special Reserve. A park management unit was appointed to oversee this process. An important component of the programme entails the implementation of a community development strategy in and around the reserve. The aim of the strategy is twofold: to bring about the sustainable economic development of and benefit-sharing by communities, and to promote consultation and participation to develop nature-based tourism and conservation enterprises. The strategy will be implemented by a community development coordinator, who was appointed by the foundation.

On 14 June 2011 – in one of the most important developments in Lubombo Transfrontier Conservation and Resource Area to date – the Mozambican government proclaimed the Futi Corridor as an extension of Maputo Special Reserve, thereby expanding the reserve by 24 000 ha. Only the international border fence between Mozambique and South Africa now separates Maputo Special Reserve from Tembe Elephant Park in South Africa.

The wildlife sanctuary in the Futi Corridor, adjacent to Tembe Elephant Park, was fenced in 2012. In 2013, a multidisciplinary team was formed to address wildlife crime and the illegal trade in meat. Their combined efforts have seen a marked increase in snare removal and a drop in the number of small wildlife being poached.

Marking a milestone in the development of the reserve, its headquarters were opened in 2014. The headquarters were funded by the World Bank and include entrance gates at Futi and Gala, both with a reception office, boom gate and kiosk. The head-office complex includes 11 offices, two refurbished houses for senior staff, dormitories for field rangers, a water-supply system and a VSAT system for Internet connection. Two ranger stations were also built.

2015 DEVELOPMENTS

The elephant-restraining line along the western boundary of the reserve to prevent human–wildlife conflict was completed. An elephant-restraining line consists of electrified wires that run about two metres above ground, thus allowing community members free movement while protecting crops from elephants. Ultimately, the entire reserve will be fenced with a game fence on the outside and the elephant-restraining line on the inside. At this stage, only 5 km remains to be game-fenced.

Law enforcement continued throughout the year, with a Bantam microlight aircraft being used regularly for aerial patrols to supplement the daily foot patrols. An observation post was set up in the central plains area to combat wildlife crime, while essential equipment was supplied to the anti-poaching unit to support their work at night. This included new tyres, vehicle recovery equipment, better-quality torches with spare batteries and battery packs for spotlights and binoculars.

(ANGOLA/BOTSWANA/NAMIBIA/ZAMBIA/ZIMBABWE)

KAVANGO ZAMBEZI (KAZA)

TRANSFRONTIER CONSERVATION AREA

TOM VARLEY



KOOS VAN DER LENDE

BACKGROUND

A memorandum of understanding (MoU) for the establishment of Africa's biggest conservation area and the world's largest terrestrial transfrontier conservation area, Kavango Zambezi (KAZA) TFCA, was signed in December 2006. To guide its development, the five governments commissioned a pre-feasibility study, facilitated by Peace Parks Foundation. In June 2010 the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), through KfW, committed funding for KAZA TFCA's development. Peace Parks Foundation was appointed as implementing agent by the partner countries to provide financial management and technical and co-financing support to the KAZA Secretariat. The Netherlands Directorate-General for International Cooperation also supported various projects.

On 18 August 2011, the presidents of the republics of Angola, Botswana, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe signed a treaty that formally and legally established the TFCA. The Kavango Zambezi TFCA was officially

launched on 15 March 2012 when the ministers responsible for the environment, wildlife, natural resources, hotels and tourism of the five partner countries hosted various stakeholders in the town of Katima Mulilo, Namibia, and unveiled the KAZA TFCA treaty. In 2013, BMZ, through KfW, donated further funding for KAZA's development. In 2014, *Oryx – The International Journal of Conservation* published a study proving that a population of zebra undertake the longest big-mammal migration in Africa. The zebra travel along a 500 km round-trip route in an almost direct north-south axis between Namibia and Botswana in KAZA TFCA.

In 2014, Botswana's Okavango Delta became the thousandth site inscribed on UNESCO's World Heritage List. In the same year, the KAZA TFCA master integrated development plan (IDP) was finalised. The five separate IDPs, with the master IDP for KAZA TFCA as a whole, will promote the sustainable and equitable development, utilisation and management of the TFCA. To further enhance tourism to KAZA, the governments of Zambia and Zimbabwe launched the KAZA TFCA 'univisa'. The visa allows visitors access to both countries for the duration of one month. It also covers access to Botswana for day trips through the Kazungula border post, allowing tourists access to three countries.

2015 DEVELOPMENTS

The KAZA TFCA master IDP was approved by the partner countries and will guide the development of the TFCA. In reviewing KAZA's development needs, it was noted that some are geographically specific, while others are more general and relate to the TFCA as a whole. The six geographically specific areas that have been identified are referred to as wildlife dispersal areas and are located in the following areas: Kwando River, Zambezi-Chobe floodplain, Zambezi-Mosi Oa Tunya, Hwange-Kazuma-Chobe, Hwange-Makgadikgadi-Nxai and Khaudum-Ngamiland.

The wildlife dispersal areas emphasise the interconnectivity of the various protected areas. The master IDP identifies location-specific challenges and proposes a range of approaches to help address those challenges. These include land-use mapping, infrastructure development, socio-economic investments, policy harmonisation, transboundary collaboration and natural resource management support. The TFCA-wide development needs have been divided into tourism investment facilitation and community-based enterprise development. Following the adoption of the KAZA TFCA master IDP, KfW donated funding for its implementation.

The KAZA univisa was welcomed by tourism operators and put to good use by visitors, as a document that eased accessibility to the TFCA's marvels. Altogether 50 000 visas were used during the year.




MICHAEL VILJOEN

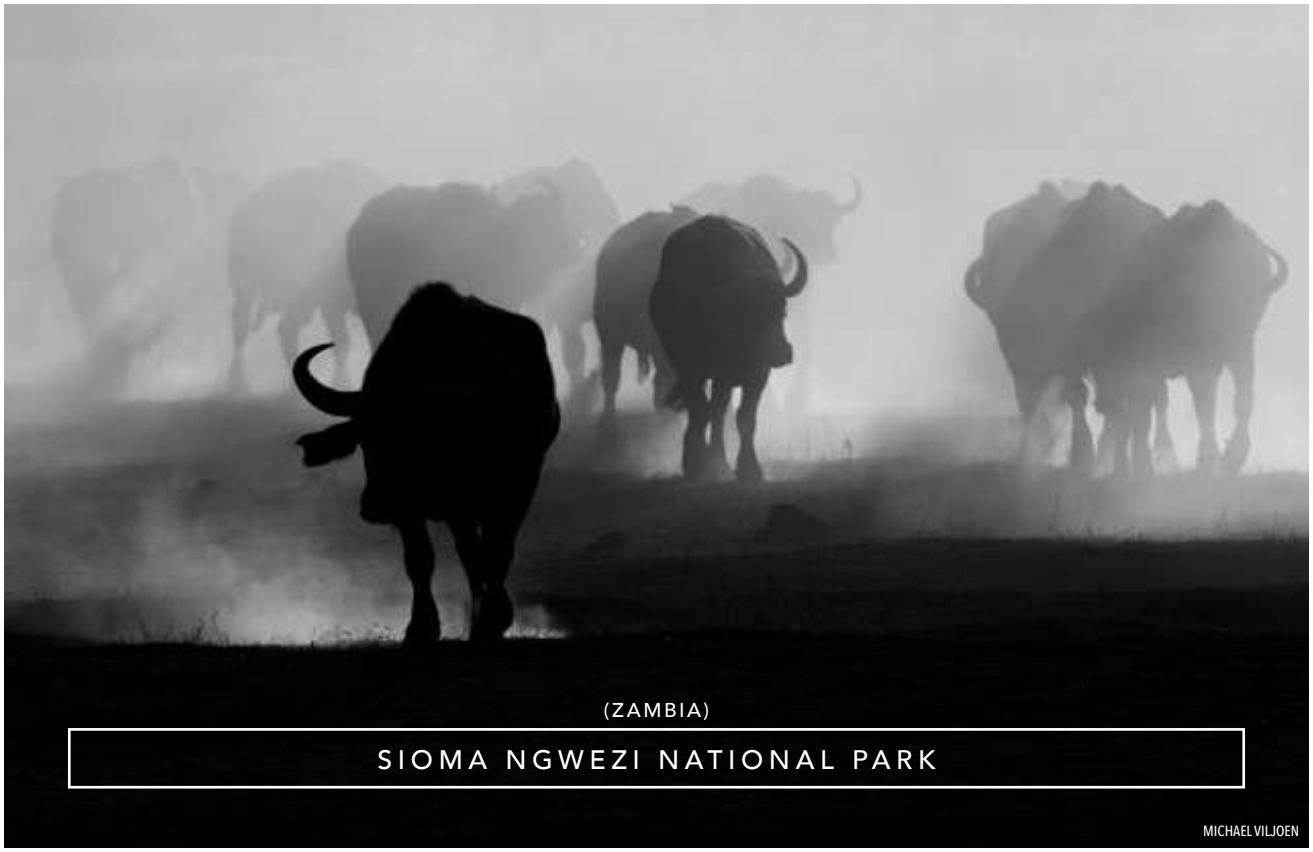

KOOS VAN DER LENDE


KOOS VAN DER LENDE

Lions have vanished from more than 80% of their historic range and estimates place the wild lion population at about 20 000 individuals. The vision of Panthera, a global wild-cat conservation organisation, is to increase the population to a minimum of 30 000 by 2030, by protecting and connecting core lion populations in key conservation areas across Africa. In KAZA, Panthera's primary goal is to secure existing populations of lion in gazetted protected areas and to enable them to utilise key wildlife dispersal areas between these.



MICHAEL VILJOEN



(ZAMBIA)

SIOMA NGWEZI NATIONAL PARK

MICHAEL VILJOEN

BACKGROUND

Situated in south-western Zambia, Sioma Ngwezi National Park is strategically positioned on the borders of Zambia with Namibia and Angola. While the park now forms part of the national conservation estate of Zambia, it was previously part of the traditional conservation estate of the Barotse Royal Establishment, reflecting the value that traditional African societies place on areas that contain significant wildlife. Wedged between the Luiana Partial Reserve in Angola and the Bwabwata National Park in Namibia, the park plays an essential ecological role in wildlife movement along the Kwando and Zambezi rivers despite it not extending all the way to the Zambezi River. The park and the surrounding area within the West Zambezi Game Management Area have therefore been earmarked for intensive wildlife recovery.

As part of their grant to KAZA TFCA, KfW allocated funding to Sioma Ngwezi National Park. Initial efforts were concentrated on field patrols, infrastructure development, the mitigation of human–wildlife conflict, participation in the Community-Centred Conservation and Development (CCCD) programme, compilation of work plans and the finalisation of the Ngonye Falls development plan. In 2010, Peace Parks Foundation, with support from The Rufford Foundation and the CCCD programme, erected an elephant-restraining line around Kabula village, which had been subjected to consistent elephant crop raids. Since the erection of the line, the elephant raids have stopped and the community members are no longer losing their food sources to elephants. An elephant-restraining line consists of electrified wires that run about two metres above ground, thus allowing community members free movement while protecting crops from elephants.

Thanks to a donation from the Cleveland Zoological Society in 2012, tents were erected at the Kwando ranger outpost, a wooden cabin was built to accommodate the technical adviser, and a boat and outdoor motor were purchased for law enforcement patrols on the Kwando River. In another development, vital to visitor numbers, the road between Sesheke and the park was tarred.



MICHAEL RAIMONDO

In 2013, a hangar and a microlight aircraft were sponsored by Club 21 members Mr Neville and Mrs Pamela Isdell. The microlight is used to monitor and protect the wildlife in the park. In 2014, construction was completed on the first headquarters ever to be built in the park. Funded by BMZ through KfW as part of the KAZA TFCA development, the headquarters include an office complex comprising 10 offices, a boardroom, a kitchenette and a storeroom, as well as an operations block comprising a radio control room, an armoury, two storerooms and an operations office. A separate ablution block also forms part of the complex. In addition, 20 houses for junior staff and five houses for senior staff were built. The design of a radio network covering the project area and making it possible to communicate with neighbouring countries was also finalised.

2015 DEVELOPMENTS

A VSAT system was installed at the park headquarters, giving the offices Internet connection, and a borehole was sunk to ensure a steady stream of potable water.

As part of the CCCD programme, another eight village scouts were appointed after those previously employed had been promoted to wildlife police officers.

Thanks to a grant from Mr Neville and Mrs Pamela Isdell, two additional vehicles were purchased for use in the park. This has significantly improved the ability to deploy personnel. In addition, building materials were purchased to build two pickets, which will serve as permanent deployment posts for the wildlife police officers, to improve the policing of the park. Camping equipment was also purchased to expedite deployment.

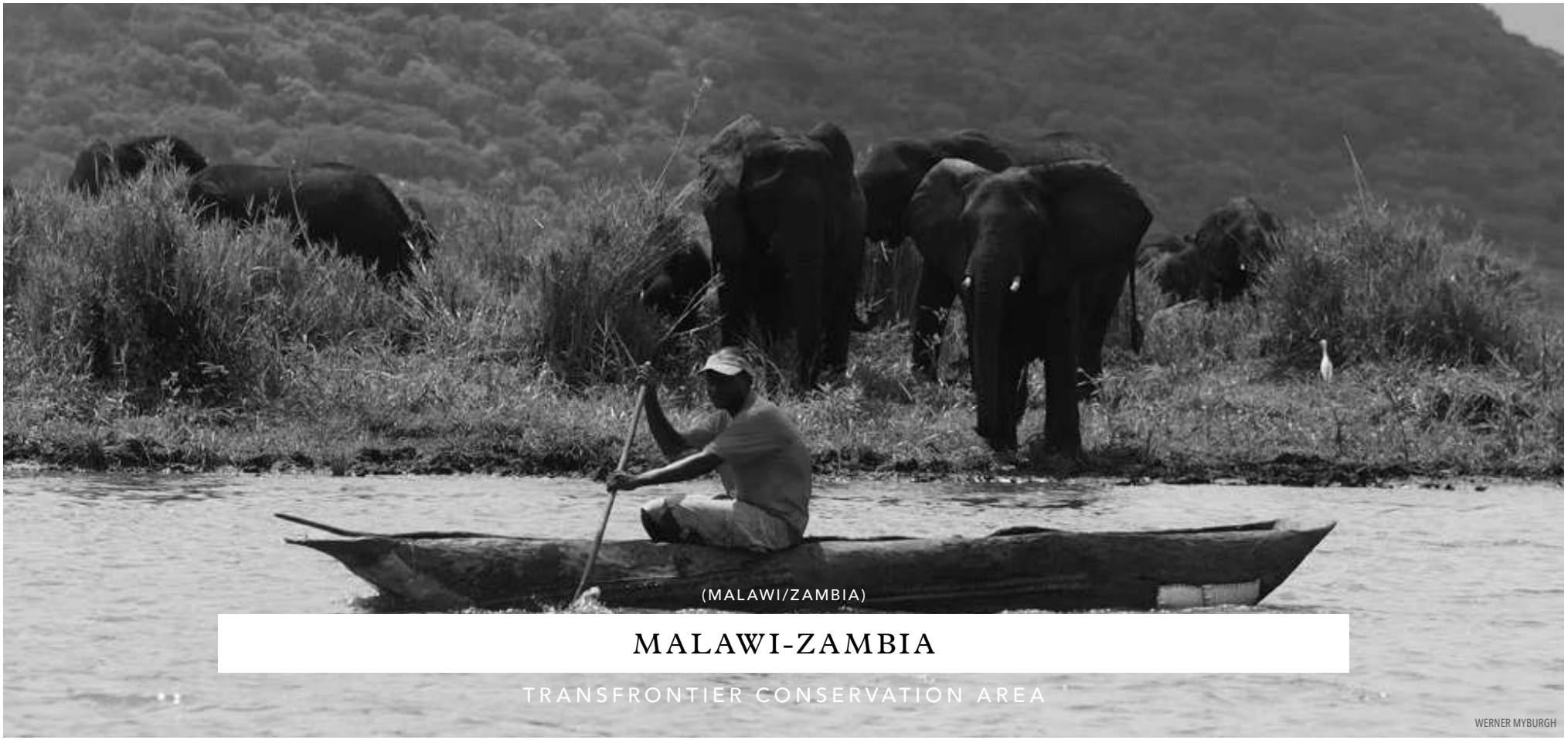
An old building previously used by the Department of Veterinary Services on the northern boundary of the park was renovated by WWF Zambia, as part of the CCCD programme, and is now used as a permanent picket by wildlife police officers to increase the Zambian Wildlife Authority (ZAWA) presence in that area.

The general management plan for the Lower West Zambezi Game Management Area, the largest in Zambia, was finalised in November 2015 and now awaits signature by the government.

The Zambia Wildlife Act was revised and promulgated this year. This Act makes provision for vastly increased fines to be imposed for poaching. In a recent case, a person was arrested for possession of ivory and received a sentence of R82 000 or two years' imprisonment with hard labour. This should go a long way in discouraging wildlife crime. To combat wildlife crime, the park employs a light aircraft, four vehicles and two patrol boats. In addition, 190 km of tracks have been opened up for patrols, while 32 rangers and 12 wildlife scouts have been trained and equipped. Law enforcement operations are conducted jointly by Angolan, Namibian and Zambian forces. The joint operations have yielded good results: poaching arrests increased from 11 in 2014 to 84 in 2015.



MICHAEL VILJOEN



(MALAWI/ZAMBIA)

MALAWI-ZAMBIA

TRANSFRONTIER CONSERVATION AREA

WERNER MYBURGH

BACKGROUND

A memorandum of understanding (MoU) towards the establishment of the Malawi-Zambia TFCA was signed on 13 August 2004.

The Nyika-North Luangwa component of the Malawi-Zambia TFCA comprises Malawi's Nyika National Park, the Vwaza Marsh Wildlife Reserve, Zambia's North Luangwa National Park, Nyika National Park, Lundazi Forest Reserve, Mitenge Forest Reserve, Mikuti Forest Reserve and the Musalangu Game Management Area. A joint law enforcement project operated by a single unit across international borders to combat poaching was initiated in 2005. The reduction in poaching and the improvement in animal sightings allowed the start of a wildlife restocking programme for Nyika National Park and Vwaza Marsh Wildlife Reserve in 2007. In April 2011, the World Bank's board of executive directors approved a Global Environmental Facility (GEF) trust fund grant for the more effective cross-border management of biodiversity in the TFCA. In addition, co-financing commitments were secured from the Norwegian embassy in Malawi, Peace Parks Foundation and the governments of Malawi and Zambia.

Thanks to the funding, field activities got off the ground in earnest. With sufficient fuel, which had previously been a serious constraint, law enforcement activities could be implemented more systematically. Office furniture, vehicles, equipment and uniforms were also procured, while key project staff members were recruited and staff training got under way.

A joint radio network for Kasungu and Lukusuzi national parks was completed and is fully functional thanks to a US Fish & Wildlife Service sponsorship.

Uniforms and patrolling equipment for the 135 field rangers were also delivered. Maintenance on 60% of tourism and management roads in Nyika National Park and Vwaza Marsh Wildlife Reserve was completed by the Nyika-Vwaza Trust in terms of the MoU with the TFCA. All the entrance gates, staff houses and offices were renovated and new staff houses were constructed.

In 2014, two housing units and an office block at Njalanyankhunda Camp and an operations room at Kaperekezi Camp were completed. The Nyika guesthouse in the Zambian component of the TFCA was upgraded, while a parking lot and a storeroom were constructed at Kazuni in Vwaza Marsh Wildlife Reserve. Three new management roads were opened and the construction of concrete bridges to replace the wooden ones commenced in Vwaza.

New TFCA signage was placed at the gates of Nyika, Vwaza and Bambanda-Zaro Camp. The supply of power at Kazuni in Vwaza was a significant development that benefits the park management and tourists alike. As elephant leaving the Vwaza Marsh Wildlife Reserve caused extensive human–wildlife conflict in the neighbouring areas, an electrified fence was erected to close the eastern and southern boundaries of the reserve.

A refresher course in law enforcement was held at the Bambanda-Zaro Wildlife Sanctuary, involving 33 wildlife police officers and park and wildlife assistants. An analysis of the law enforcement situation in the Nyika component indicated a 60% decline in poaching and a 40% decline in the killing of animals between 2013 and 2014.

In August 2014, the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) committed funding to SADC under its financial cooperation programme to develop the Malawi-Zambia TFCA.

2015 DEVELOPMENTS

Early in the year, a strip count was done in Bambanda-Zaro Wildlife Sanctuary, spanning the Malawi-Zambia border of the TFCA, to measure the wildlife numbers against the number of animals introduced and the previous counts conducted. It was found that most of the wildlife numbers had either remained stable or had increased.

In April, the SADC Secretariat approved a three-year project to support the development and management of the Kasungu-Lukusuzi component of the TFCA. The project will be funded by the German government, through the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), and will focus on institutional planning and coordination, effective management of protected areas, community livelihood support and land-use planning between the two parks.

A regional inter-agency committee meeting on wildlife crime took place on 28 May 2015. This was the first meeting of its kind and brought together several agencies concerned with wildlife crime, including the police, Interpol, and judiciary, anti-corruption, forestry and wildlife agencies. This will be a standing committee that will help to coordinate efforts to combat wildlife crime in all its forms. The good cooperation on anti-poaching continued. The high fines imposed by the courts in both partner countries attest to the awareness and cooperation of both the police and the judiciary on the seriousness of wildlife crime.

Invasive plant control on the Nyika Plateau is ongoing. During the year, efforts were focused on an area where bracken fern is mechanically removed. The purpose is to weaken and deplete the food supply of the fern and let natural grass take over. If this type of treatment is successful, efforts will be extended to a wider area.

Thanks to World Bank funding, the electric fence around Vwaza Marsh Wildlife Reserve now stretches from Bambanda-Zaro on the Zambian border up to Kamphenda, with a 42 km section completed. This leaves a perimeter of about 40 km still unfenced. Also thanks to World Bank funding, the renovation of staff houses in Nyika and Vwaza continued, with a total of 17 houses renovated. The replacement of wooden bridges, which poachers easily burn, with concrete ones also continued.



MALAWI–ZAMBIA
TRANSFRONTIER CONSERVATION AREA


WERNER MYBURGH


PETRO KOTZE

A significant event in southern Africa's TFCA development took place on 7 July 2015, when the presidents of Malawi and Zambia signed a treaty that formally establishes the Malawi-Zambia TFCA. Peace Parks Foundation was represented by its vice-chairman and former president of Mozambique, Mr Joaquim Chissano. The treaty is supported by the TFCA's integrated management development framework, which was signed by the respective ministers on 5 July 2015. This is an extensive and comprehensive five-year plan that will guide the work of various TFCA structures.



(SOUTH AFRICA)

!AE!HAI KALAHARI HERITAGE PARK

KGALAGADI TRANSFRONTIER PARK

CRAIG BEECH

BACKGROUND

In November 2009, South Africa's National Lottery Distribution Trust Fund donated R4.8 million to support the development of the !Ae!Hai Kalahari Heritage Park in the Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park. The !Ae!Hai Kalahari Heritage Park is managed by a joint management board comprising representatives of the ‡Khomani San and Mier communities and South African National Parks (SANParks). The heritage park aims to maintain the cultural and traditional knowledge of the ‡Khomani San and Mier communities, while improving their opportunities to earn a livelihood. One of the key objectives of the project is to expose Bushman children, youths and adults to the traditional lifestyles of their ancestors. This is done through attendance of a traditional veld school at the Imbewu Camp in the !Ae!Hai Kalahari Heritage Park.

Following the 2002 land settlement agreement reached between the ‡Khomani San and Mier communities and the government of South Africa and SANParks, it was later agreed that, instead of donating more land, SANParks would donate and translocate game to stock the ‡Khomani San's Erin Game Ranch. The animals were translocated in 2012.

In 2013, Peace Parks Foundation worked with the Helderberg Sunrise Rotary Club to generate donations from more than 50 Rotary clubs in Germany for the !Ae!Hai Kalahari Heritage Park project. The German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) provided matching funding. In 2014, a project-steering committee consisting of ‡Khomani San, Rotary and Peace Parks Foundation representatives was established to oversee the implementation of the project. Representatives from SANParks also attend the committee meetings.

Two ‡Khomani San and one Mier community member obtained a Higher Certificate in Nature Conservation at the Southern African Wildlife College, while one of the students completed the Advanced Certificate in Nature Conservation. Their studies were funded by the National Lottery Distribution Trust Fund. Early in 2014, a workshop was held to identify custodians of traditional culture to ensure its survival and to plan the structure and functioning of the veld school. A veld school curriculum was developed, covering subjects such as plant identification and usage, traditional healing practices, tracking and track interpretation, hunting and weapon making, and language (Nama and N/uu, the last original indigenous South African San languages).


CHARL PAGE


THOMAS MACKENZIE


KOOS VAN DER LENDE

2015 DEVELOPMENTS

In February 2015, the Bushman Council and SANParks reached an agreement about the implementation of the provisions of the 2002 land claims settlement.

On 13 May 2015, the ǂKhomani San's tented camp on Erin Game Ranch, to the south of Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park, was opened. The tented camp was constructed and furnished thanks to funding from Rotary Deutschland Gemeindienst and BMZ, with Peace Parks Foundation acting as implementing partner. It consists of six safari tents with wooden decks, ablution blocks and a central kitchen. The game ranch has become an important source of income for the communities in the !Ae!Hai Kalahari Heritage Park, thanks to sustainable resource use. Wildlife Ranching South Africa has been instrumental in the success of the project. The organisation provided extensive training of community members at the GhoenasKraal training facility, co-funded by Rotary; donated wildlife and equipment; and closed in the cold-storage area.

During a veld assessment of Erin Game Ranch it was determined that four additional wildlife species could be introduced. In September, SANParks kindly donated and translocated 13 ostrich, 14 eland and five giraffe to the ranch. Previously, 722 animals had been translocated, including blue wildebeest, hartebeest, springbok and gemsbok, thanks to SANParks, Tswalu Game Reserve and a low-interest loan from Jamma International that allowed the community to buy game. Game counts conducted in November indicated the following adult numbers on Erin Game Ranch: 419 gemsbok, 558 springbok, 274 red hartebeest, 183 blue wildebeest, 13 ostrich, 3 camel, 5 giraffe, 48 steenbok and 25 duiker.

Veld school, the initiative to share indigenous knowledge among the ǂKhomani San community members, was held four times in 2015. Two staff members attended a tourism business management course, while four attended a first-aid/health and safety course, organised and funded by SANParks, which will enable the individuals to become registered tourism guides.


ARRIE VAN WYK


THOMAS MACKENZIE

The SA College for Tourism's Tracker Academy did on-site evaluations of 11 ǂKhomani trackers, awarding them certificates to acknowledge their level of skill. Dirk Pienaar, a ǂKhomani student, graduated from the Southern African Wildlife College with a Higher Certificate in Nature Conservation – Conservation Implementation and Leadership. He was also awarded a prize for the Most Outstanding South African Student of the year. He has furthermore been awarded, and has accepted, a scholarship to attend the college for a second year to study for an Advanced Certificate in Nature Conservation – Transfrontier Conservation Management.



(MOZAMBIQUE)

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FACILITY

LUBOMBO TRANSFRONTIER CONSERVATION AND RESOURCE AREA

HENNIE HOMANN

BACKGROUND

In 2005, the Mozambican government appointed Peace Parks Foundation to provide assistance with its community development strategy in the Matutuine district. The goals of this strategy were to provide technical and professional training to community members, and to bring about the sustainable economic development of and benefit-sharing by communities living in and around Maputo Special Reserve. This would be done through a consultative and participatory process that would also develop nature-based tourism and conservation enterprises. The foundation subsequently appointed a community-development coordinator to implement the strategy.

In 2011, Ahi Zameni Chemucane, a community association representing 850 people from three rural Mozambican communities, signed a 25-year partnership agreement with the Bell Foundation and received an interest-free loan from African Safari Lodge Foundation to develop a luxury ecotourism lodge in the northern section of Maputo Special Reserve. This was the first time that a Mozambican community had received long-term concession rights to a prime tourism site in a major nature reserve.

In 2013, following a donation by COmON Foundation, the Community Development Facility (CDF) was launched as a joint initiative between the government of Mozambique, COmON Foundation and Peace Parks Foundation. The CDF is intended to serve as a long-term financing mechanism to unlock community enterprise and socio-economic development opportunities in the Mozambican component of the Usuthu-Tembe-Futi TFCA. This TFCA forms part of the broader Lubombo Transfrontier Conservation and Resource Area.

One of the first projects to be completed was the provision of fresh drinking water to nine communities, comprising 10 362 people and their cattle. Pumps linked to solar panels are used to pump the water. To manage the water-supply project, a water management committee was established for every borehole. In addition, the SA College for Tourism provided hospitality training to 18 Chemucane community members to work at the community's lodge. The Matchia community, which specialises in growing chillies, harvested 14 tonnes of chillies in 2013 and 2014. Apart from the chillies and other cash crops, food crops are also planted for their own consumption.

2015 DEVELOPMENTS

HOSPITALITY TRAINING

Community liaison forums are playing a positive role by ensuring good communication between reserve management and the communities.

The 18 Chemucane community members concluded their training at the SA College for Tourism. The training covered a range of hospitality skills such as housekeeping, table attendance, front-of-house, assistant chef and English literacy. Their practical evaluation took place at a four-star guesthouse, where they prepared food for 12 people and attended tables during the event. Fourteen students are now working in key positions at Anvil Bay, the community's lodge. On-the-job training will reinforce their skills and the lodge manager is assisting staff with further English language training.

Anvil Bay Lodge employs 31 people, of whom 28 are from three beneficiary communities. The lodge also created training opportunities for various community members, including six carpenters and two tailors, who make tents and other requisites such as linen, uniforms and tablecloths for the lodge.

CHILLI PROJECT

The Matchia community farmers were paid for their chilli harvest. The farmers continued to deliver fresh chillies to Piri-Piri Elefante Mozambique, which uses the chillies to keep elephants away from crops. The plants were meanwhile fertilised to improve fruit formation and weight. The new storage room for the chillies was completed and an additional three hectares of land were cleared to plant more chillies, bringing the total production area for the 2015/2016 season to seven hectares. Irrigation equipment was purchased for the new production area.

The larger tract of land means that 40 farmers will be involved, benefiting 200 people. With technical assistance from the Elephant Pepper Development Trust, farmers were trained to produce 27 000 chilli seedlings. They were also trained on crop rotation, eradicating pests, fertilisation, better ways to retain moisture in the soil, how to manage their money and conserving the environment.

VEGETABLE PROJECT

The Bindzu agricultural project, which benefits the Tchia community, was launched in February 2015. Greenhouses were erected in which community members can produce vegetables, using drip irrigation. Fertiliser, pesticides and seed were procured and community members were trained in better production management skills and rotating vegetable crops throughout the year. The farmers harvested and delivered 2.6 tonnes of green beans to Zimpeto Market in Maputo. The harvest of green beans, cucumbers, carrots and sweet peppers was sold in a variety of markets in Maputo and to large retailers. Training and assistance were provided in packaging the produce for the market and in networking with agricultural service providers and suppliers. The project is providing an income to 30 farmers and food security to 150 people.

CONSERVATION AGRICULTURE PROJECT

The year started with the conservation agriculture officer training 60 farmers, benefiting 300 people. Plots were demarcated for individual farmers, and the delivery of farming equipment marked the beginning of the new approach to crop production, namely sustainable farming, in the Matutuine district. A data sheet was prepared to collect information as a baseline assessment in the first year, recording the sizes of fields and the current production rate, i.e. bags per hectare. Training addressed land-use management and how to maintain productive capacity to attain the important socio-economic goals of improved food security and a better quality of life. The farmers were also trained in the application of organic fertiliser. The land was cleared to prepare the area for planting.


ANDREA BORGARELLO


WERNER MYBURGH


ROGER DE LA HARPE


ANDREA BORGARELLO

MASTER PLAN

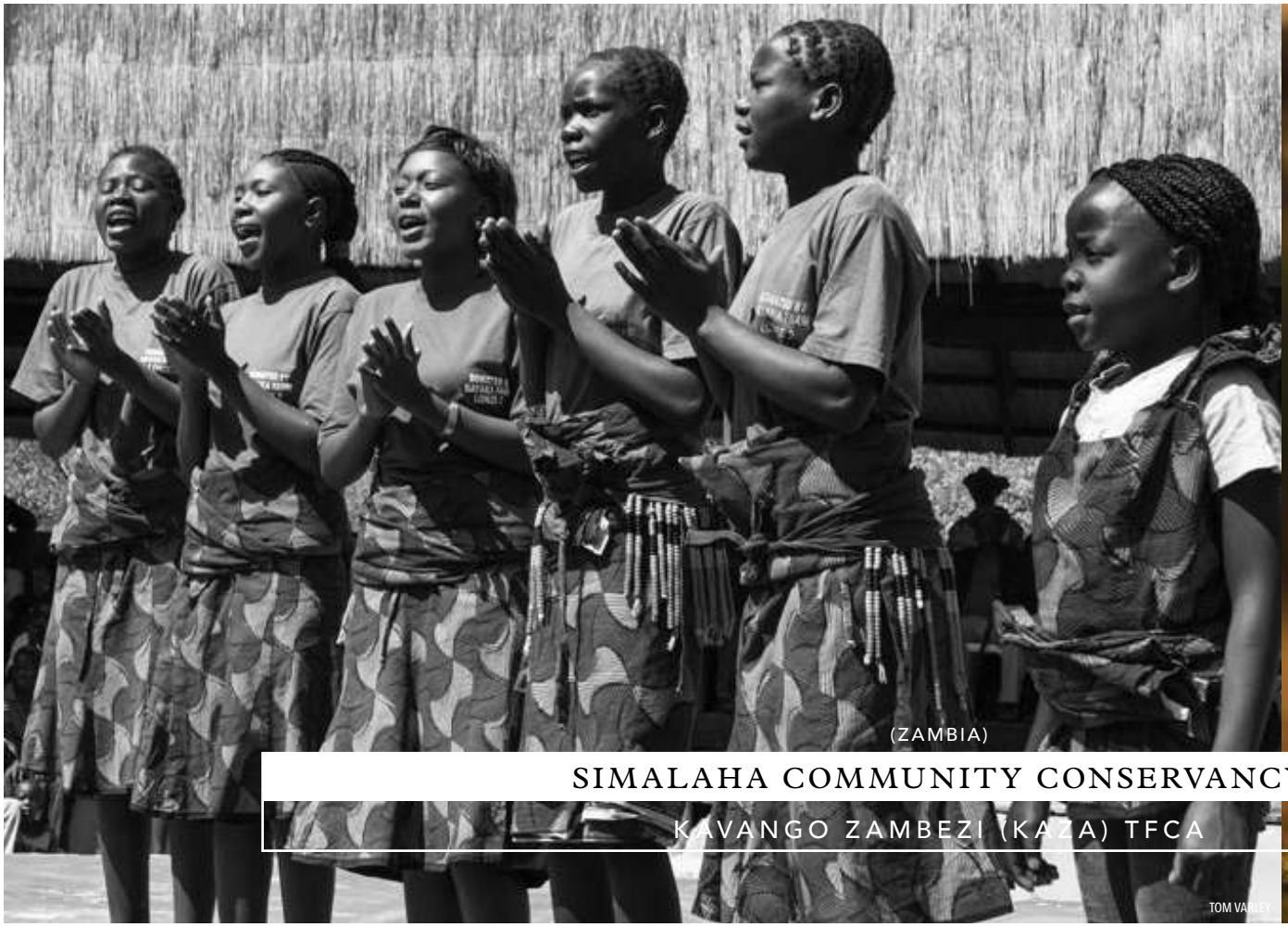
A master plan for the Maputo Special Reserve-Ponta do Ouro Partial Marine Reserve-Machangulo complex was developed. It includes the expansion of existing projects and new initiatives such as the reproductive health of people.

SUSTAINABLE FISHING IN MAPUTO BAY

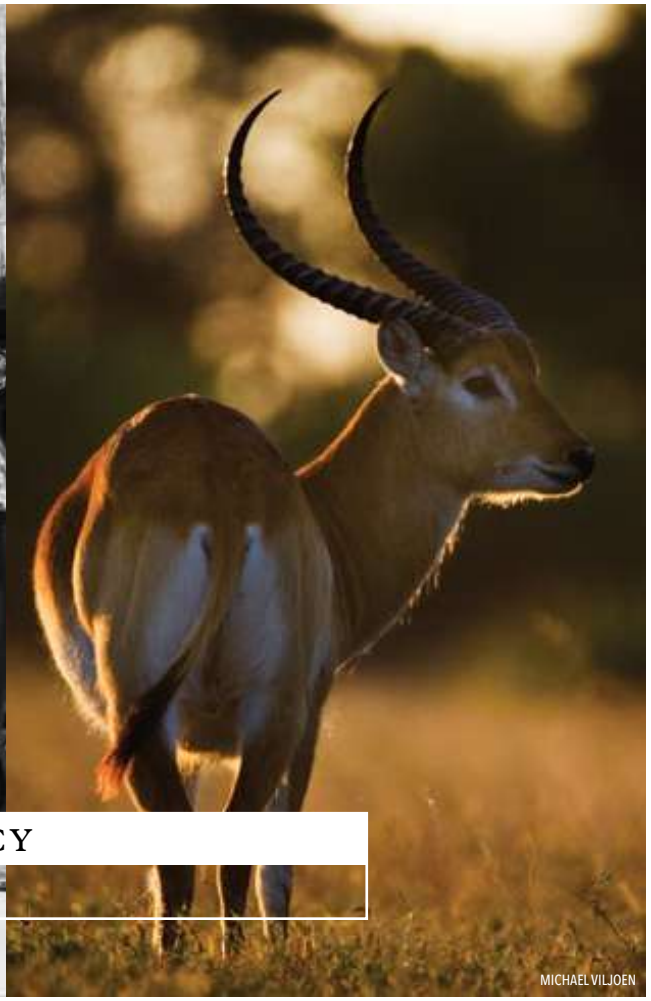
In November 2015, a contract was signed with Centro Terra Viva to research the extent of artisanal fishing in Maputo Bay, thanks to support from Fondation Ensemble. The project was introduced to the Machangulo Community Fishing Association, with a request to identify candidates who could monitor fishing catches. A first introductory meeting was held with community councils to explain the objectives of the project and obtain guidance on its implementation.

MOZBIO PROJECT

Also in November 2015, the consortium of Peace Parks Foundation and the Joaquim Chissano Foundation won the World Bank Mozbio bid as service provider, over the next three years, to support the development of projects to enhance the livelihoods of communities living adjacent to Maputo Special Reserve and Ponta do Ouro Partial Marine Reserve. The consortium presented a work plan that will be implemented once the contract with the National Administration of Conservation Areas (ANAC) has been signed.



TOM VARLEY



MICHAEL VILJOEN

(ZAMBIA)

SIMALAHA COMMUNITY CONSERVANCY

KAVANGO ZAMBEZI (KAZA) TFCA



PAUL BEWSHER

BACKGROUND

The Kavango Zambezi (KAZA) TFCA has many distinguishing features of global importance, among them the largest contiguous population of African elephant on the continent, numbering approximately a quarter of a million animals. Of significant benefit to both the local communities and this huge elephant population was the establishment of the Simalaha Community Conservancy in south-western Zambia, spanning the Kazungula and Sisheke chiefdoms. Simalaha is one of Zambia's first community conservancies and will be an important area in KAZA TFCA to re-establish wildlife populations and their migration routes. This benefits the community by increasing wildlife numbers, promoting tourism development and enhancing livelihood options. Thanks to Stichting Energo funding, matched by mostly free labour from the community, two staff houses were built in 2011 to accommodate teachers at Mwandi School in an attempt to attract better-quality teachers. A third teacher's house was built in 2012 and a new borehole drilled to supply water to the three new houses.

In 2012, Peace Parks Foundation received a generous donation from the Swedish Postcode Lottery to develop a wildlife sanctuary in the Simalaha Community Conservancy and improve human rights, including food security, by training community members in better farming methods. Solar panels were also installed at local schools and clinics to provide electricity for lights.

The re-establishment of wildlife on the Simalaha floodplains was initially proposed by the communities. Following extensive consultations, the communities of Senior Chief Inyambo Yeta and Chief Sekute declared that land should be dedicated to wildlife use for tourism development.

In October 2012, the Simalaha Community Conservancy was officially launched by Chief Sekute of the Sekute Chiefdom and Senior Chief Inyambo Yeta of the Sisheke Chiefdom. They also opened the conservancy offices at Mwandi Kuta. The first wildlife translocation to the Simalaha Community Conservancy took place in October 2013.

In 2014, the implementation of conservation agriculture made good progress, thanks to the support of the Swedish Postcode Lottery and Kadans Foundation, with its partners Hitachi Data Systems and Hercuton. Despite a dry spell, the average maize yield per hectare increased from 0.2 tonnes using conventional farming methods to 1.9 tonnes using conservation farming techniques. One family was able to increase their maize yield five times on approximately 90% less land, using conservation farming techniques. Altogether 878 farmers were trained, 450 of whom were also supported with donations of maize and other seeds, cassava cuttings, treadle pumps and manure.

Zebra were returned to the Simalaha floodplains for the first time in decades in September 2014. This followed the translocation of 135 wildebeest and 100 impala in 2013. Thanks to MAVA Fondation pour la Nature, 22 community members were trained as wildlife scouts. They also received uniforms, camping equipment, binoculars and hand-held radios. A new 4x4 pick-up vehicle was procured for use by the conservancy wildlife manager.

2015 DEVELOPMENTS

The conservancy wildlife manager and the community wildlife scouts carried out regular patrols to monitor the wildlife. No incidents of poaching have been recorded since the animals were introduced into the fenced sanctuary in 2013. The wildlife scouts also do fence maintenance work in the field. A wildlife police officer from Zambia Wildlife Authority (ZAWA) was seconded to the project to oversee the work of the scouts.

In August 2015, a group of eight giraffe was offloaded in the wildlife sanctuary during a festive event that was well attended by traditional leaders, senior government officials and community members. The giraffe were joined by 32 puku, 25 red lechwe, 140 impala, 25 waterbuck and 28 zebra. In all, 543 heads of game have been relocated to Simalaha since its inception. The animals have settled in well and are producing young.


TOM VARLEY


THOMAS MACKENZIE


ALAN SPARROW


ALAN SPARROW

Farmer selection and the training of lead farmers by the conservation agriculture coordinator continued in close cooperation with the government agricultural extension workers. Another 150 new farmers are trained in conservation farming each year. The 150 new farmers received maize, sorghum, groundnut, cow pea and millet seed. Farmers with access to surface water were supplied with treadle pumps and produce both winter and summer crops. During the 2015/2016 farming season, the 150 farmers also received extra sorghum seed as a measure against the poor rains received so far. Consultations to explore ways of improving the market value of the key crops grown by the farmers are now under way.

Thanks to support from MAVA Fondation pour la Nature, new equipment was bought for general management and, specifically, to manage roads and fire-breaks. The event to celebrate the arrival of the new tractor, trailer and rotary mower was a colourful one with the attendance of senior government officials and traditional leaders from both the Sekute and Sisheke chiefdoms. The opportunity was used to ceremoniously hand over bicycles to the lead farmers in the conservation agriculture project.

Combatting Wildlife Crime

RHINO PROTECTION PROGRAMME



HENNIE HOMANN

BACKGROUND

On 4 February 2014, the Dutch Postcode Lottery awarded its Dream Fund to Peace Parks Foundation and WWF Netherlands, to assist these two organisations in their efforts to save southern Africa's rhino from extinction. The Dream Fund gives charitable organisations an opportunity to realise courageous, innovative new projects. The Swedish Postcode Lottery also donated funding to combat rhino poaching and subsequently a number of foundations and private donors have followed suit.

Because South Africa is home to 79% of Africa's wild rhino, Peace Parks Foundation has been working closely with the South African government and its conservation management authorities, South African National Parks (SANParks) and Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife, to initiate detailed projects as part of the multifaceted Rhino Protection Programme.

A historic agreement between the government of Mozambique, the Joaquim Chissano Foundation and Peace Parks Foundation was signed on 29 October 2014. The aim of this agreement is to strengthen Mozambique's efforts to combat wildlife crime by supporting the development of dedicated anti-poaching operations in and around Limpopo National Park, an integral component of the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park and Conservation Area. An essential element of the project entails supporting the judicial system in Mozambique to effectively implement the new Conservation Areas Act that will bring about much stiffer penalties for anyone involved in illicit wildlife-product trafficking.


GREEN RENAISSANCE


GREEN RENAISSANCE


ANTONY ALEXANDER


LISE-MARIE GREEFF-VILLET


LISE-MARIE GREEFF-VILLET

2015 DEVELOPMENTS

The Rhino Protection Programme focuses on developing and implementing practical, well-considered methods to counteract wildlife-crime syndicates. This entails providing more protected-area support; stopping the trade in rhino horn through the harmonisation of policies, legislation and counter-trafficking activities; and reducing the demand through campaigns that aim to raise awareness and change behaviour.

RHINO-HORN ASSET MANAGEMENT

Investigations into the possible chemical alteration of rhino horn concluded that it was not a viable option to do so. Instead, the focus will now be on other potential devaluation options, i.e. the irradiation of rhino horn and rapid-response and tracking solutions. During the year, four rapid-response and tracking pilot projects were initiated with partner organisations. In September 2015, the first test group of rhino in reserves managed by Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife was fitted with sensors. The relevant reserves were equipped with tracking systems so that staff could better monitor the daily movement of rhino throughout these areas.

PRIORITY SUPPORT IN PROTECTED AREAS: SECURITY AND PROTECTION

tracking courses. Management and law enforcement staff in all rhino reserves were equipped with new digital two-way radios that allow for secure communication with a much-improved reach. Gate access control is being improved, while guard observation towers are being placed at strategic positions.

LIMPOPO NATIONAL PARK

The Limpopo National Park was provided with a Savannah S Light Sport aircraft, which will augment aerial counter-poaching and wildlife-monitoring activities. This followed the installation of an advanced digital communication system, which also enables cross-border communication with Kruger National Park. The Mozambique Environmental Police and park field rangers were given equipment to enhance their patrol capacity. The rangers also received computers, printers, appliances and furniture for their new living quarters and offices. More than 80 counter-poaching staff received guard and field-ranger training, in association with the Southern African Wildlife College. Park roads and access control were improved, while the base camps were upgraded.


GREEN RENAISSANCE

TECHNOLOGY

Peace Parks Foundation, SANParks and the South African Council for Scientific Research (CSIR) are working together to research and test an innovative and customised radar surveillance and detection system. Various unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) projects were also tested. Currently a UAV team is deployed in Kruger National Park, while a further UAV team is supporting Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife operations. The CSIR provided an independent analysis of UAV technology.

COMMUNICATIONS AND ADVOCACY

Peace Parks Foundation, Wilderness Foundation Africa and Thanh Bui, a popular Vietnamese musician, launched a demand-reduction initiative whereby 15 000 Vietnamese youth from 12 international schools in Ho Chi Minh City were introduced to the crisis of rhino poaching and invited to enter the Wild Rhino Competition. Selected as the winners from more than 1 500 entries, 22 young people from Vietnam won a trip to South Africa for their first ever rhino experience, and to learn about conservation and species protection. This was followed by a workshop where the students worked on proposals of how they would counter the demand in their own country.

TRAFFIC, the wildlife-trade monitoring network, has developed a demand-reduction campaign directed at the wealthy upper-class consumer group in Vietnam. In 2015, TRAFFIC, WWF Netherlands and Peace Parks Foundation concluded an agreement for an extensive communication campaign over a wide range of media. The Chi campaign aims to reduce the demand for rhino horn in the Vietnamese business community, which consumes 90% of all poached rhino horn to demonstrate success and social status.

VETERINARY SUPPORT AND RHINO ORPHAN CARE

The capacity of the Kruger National Park and Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife veterinary teams to treat the rhino that survive the brutal attacks by poachers, was augmented. This enabled veterinary staff to process crime scenes to collect evidence for forensic analysis and veterinary research. New capacity and facilities were also put in place to rescue, care for, rehabilitate and release the ever-increasing number of rhino orphans from these areas. In 2015, 30 orphans were taken into care. The orphans hold the destiny of their species in their DNA and form a vital part of the strategies to manage and protect rhino populations.


LISE-MARIE GREEFF-VILLET


GREEN RENAISSANCE

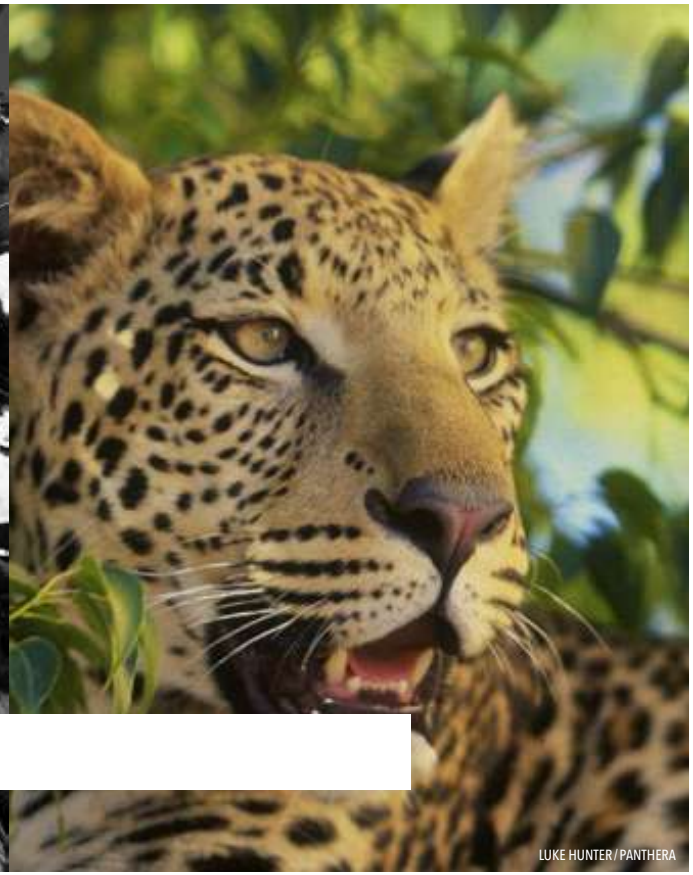

TALIA GRÜNDLINGH


GREEN RENAISSANCE


GREEN RENAISSANCE



STEVE WINTER / PANTHERA



LUKE HUNTER / PANTHERA

FURS FOR LIFE PROJECT

Peace Parks Foundation joined forces with Panthera, a global wild-cat conservation organisation, in a new partnership to protect and revive southern Africa's leopard populations. Supported by Cartier, Peace Parks Foundation and Panthera are working through Panthera's Furs for Life Project to conserve the world's most persecuted big cat – the leopard. In southern Africa, leopard skins are coveted by members of the Nazareth Baptist 'Shembe' Church, who wear the skins during religious celebrations and ceremonies. To reduce the hunting of leopards and the high demand for leopard skins among the Shembe community, Panthera collaborated with digital designers and clothing companies to create a high-quality, durable and realistic fabric cape, known as an *amambatha*.

TFCA Veterinary Wildlife Programme


SANHU

BACKGROUND

Development partners Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency, the University of Pretoria (UP) and Peace Parks Foundation reopened the refurbished Hans Hoheisen Wildlife Research Station on the western border of Kruger National Park in August 2010. This wildlife research station provides a dedicated platform for local and international researchers to conduct research on animal diseases and related problems at the interface between people, livestock and wildlife. The Hans Hoheisen Wildlife Research Station was refurbished and upgraded thanks to an investment by the Hans Hoheisen Charitable Trust, Fondation Hoffmann, Alexander Forbes, the Turner Foundation and Peace Parks Foundation.

Peace Parks Foundation, with support from the Turner Foundation, made a donation to prioritise research on veterinary problems in TFCAs. Foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) was selected as the research topic to assess FMD vaccine efficacy under different vaccination regimes and improve current diagnostic techniques.

In 2014, the environmental impact study for the development of the Hans Hoheisen Wildlife Research Station was completed and permission was obtained to develop the bio- and chemical-waste disposal extensions. A Section 20 approval was also obtained from the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries to be able to conduct and process biological specimens in the laboratories.



SANHU


ROGER DE LA HARPE


SANHU


SANHU


SANHU


LOUIS VAN SCHALKWYK

The Hans Hoheisen Wildlife Research Station had a productive year. A grant from the Hans Hoheisen Charitable Trust – managed by Nedbank Private Wealth – funded the servicing and calibration of important laboratory equipment, including centrifuges, microscopes, weights, autoclaves, and biohazard and laminar flow cabinets. The correct functioning of this equipment is vital to maintaining the accreditation status of the laboratories at the research station and ensuring that research results are accurate. The laboratories are crucial to conducting veterinary, ecological and other research on the difficulties faced by TFCAs, and gaining insight into and finding solutions to problems.

A Zoonotic Research Prioritisation workshop on Peri-Urban Human–Animal–Environment Interface was conducted by the Belgium Institute in collaboration with the India Research Initiative and the University of Pretoria. Zoonoses refers to diseases that can move between animals and people. The workshop trained selected researchers to study the zoonotic research priorities for the next five years for a number of countries in Africa, Asia and South America.

Later in the year, a Wildlife Poison workshop was held to teach delegates how to handle animals, both alive and dead, that had been poisoned. A Biodiversity Monitoring workshop, presented by the University of Cape Town's Animal and Demography Unit, taught delegates how to monitor a variety of species.

The research station is challenged by high electricity costs, so the viability of alternative energy solutions, such as solar power, is being investigated.



Training

SA COLLEGE FOR TOURISM

SACT

BACKGROUND

The SA College for Tourism in Graaff-Reinet in the Eastern Cape was founded in 2001 by the late Dr Anton Rupert, then chairman of Peace Parks Foundation. Every year, the college accepts 90 economically marginalised young women from rural areas adjacent to transfrontier conservaton areas (TFCAs) for a year-long training course that focuses on developing hospitality service skills combined with life skills. Upon completion of their training, graduates are placed at small and medium-sized hospitality establishments, either in internships to gain hands-on experience or in learnerships to obtain further qualifications. Thus equipped, graduates are encouraged to return home and find employment in the tourism infrastructure supported by TFCAs.

Agreements were reached with a number of hospitality establishments such as South African National Parks (SANParks), private game reserves and game lodges, to enable graduates not permanently employed to work as paid interns.

In 2012, a memorandum of understanding (MoU) between Peace Parks Foundation and the SA College for Tourism was developed. The MoU formalised the relationship between the two institutions over a wide range of college management spheres, notably internal auditing services, fundraising assistance and public relations.

In 2012, the college won both the BHP Billiton Achiever Award and the *Mail&Guardian* Investing in the Future Education Award. The Reinet Foundation donated significant funding in 2014 to set up an endowment fund for the college. Proceeds of the fund may be used to cover the operational costs of the college.

The Drostdy Hotel in Graaff-Reinet, donated to the college by the Rupert family, reopened its doors on 27 November 2014, following extensive renovations to the property. The hotel annually offers internships and learnerships to hospitality graduates and serves as an operational training area for the college students. Hotel profits are ploughed back into the training of hospitality students at the college.

The college also has a Tracker Academy, training students in the age-old indigenous knowledge and skill of tracking animals in the wild. Since 2010, the Tracker Academy has been training 16 trackers every year.

The Culture, Art, Tourism, Hospitality and Sport Sector Education and Training Authority of South Africa (CATHSSETA), which in 2011 accredited the Tracker Academy as a skills development training provider, extended its accreditation to include the academy's Lead Tracker training programme with the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA). The Tracker Academy thus became the only training provider in the country offering two fully accredited tracker-training courses, placing it at the forefront of tracker training. The Field Guides Association of Southern Africa is continuing its endorsement of the Tracker Academy Tracker Level 1–4 certificates.


ALAIN PROUST

SA College for TOURISM

SA College for Tourism TRACKER ACADEMY


SACT


SACT


SACT

Graduation day was preceded by a dinner for graduation guests at the Drostdy Hotel. The guests were addressed by His Excellency Mr Marcus Cornaro, Head of Mission of the European Delegation to South Africa. Guests were welcomed to the graduation ceremony by Mrs Gaynor Rupert, chairperson of the college. Congratulating the college team on achieving this milestone, Mrs Rupert paid tribute to the donors, supporters and friends of the college and thanked them for making it possible for the college to go from strength to strength, year after year.


SACT

Sincere thanks go to the donors who support the college: Anglo American Chairman's Fund; CATHSSETA; Dr Edwin de la Harpe Hertzog; DHK Architects; Dutch Postcode Lottery; Embassy of Finland; Empowers Africa; European Union; Stephen Falcke; Mr Pat M Goss; Itumeleng Community Trust; Jagersfontein Developments; Legacy Trust; Leinberger Family; Lloyds Travel of Sandton; Londolozi Game Reserve; Marsh Africa; Werner Myburgh; National Lotteries Commission; Barbara Pudel; Old Mutual Foundation; Rand Merchant Bank; Remgro; Dr Harold Riley; Rupert Nature Foundation; Koos and Rona Rupert Education Trust; Hansjürg and Francesca Saager; Samara Private Game Reserve; Shoprite Checkers; The Smythe Family; Irene Staehelin; The Thornybush Collection; Glenn van Heerden; Richard and Lyell van Rensburg; and the Van Zyl Family.





SUPPORT PROGRAMMES

Training

SOUTHERN AFRICAN WILDLIFE COLLEGE

SAWC

GREEN RENAISSANCE

BACKGROUND

The Southern African Wildlife College, situated 10 km west of the Orpen Gate of Kruger National Park, opened its doors in 1997. It is proudly supported by WWF South Africa and Peace Parks Foundation, who share the vision of building the capacity of staff in wildlife areas. The programmes presented at the college cover the full spectrum of skills needed to sustain and rehabilitate wildlife areas. The foundation has been sponsoring student bursaries since 1997 and, in 2004, took over from WWF South Africa the responsibility of covering any operational shortfalls.

Following the development of a new business plan in 2010, the college expanded its relevance and reach and created opportunities to ensure its financial sustainability. It has also developed and diversified its training products to cover a broad spectrum of essential skills needed in the conservation sphere. The college now presents courses that will not only develop and open up career opportunities for conservation personnel but will also help to transform the biodiversity economy of the region and open up southern Africa's existing protected area network and transfrontier conservation areas (TFCAs).

Following its registration as a Private Further Education and Training (FET) college, the college achieved accreditation as a Private Higher Education and Training (HET) institution. In 2013, the college also entered into a new agreement with Peace Parks Foundation, by which the foundation contributes to the annual costs of the college's flagship training courses, the Higher Certificate in Nature Conservation – Conservation Implementation and Leadership, and the Advanced Certificate in Nature Conservation – Transfrontier Conservation Management. The foundation also assists with fundraising for conservation projects and serves as a business partner for training initiatives in the TFCAs.

During 2014, the college developed its 2015–2019 business plan, which follows on from its strategy to diversify its training products, establish strategic long-term relationships within the conservation sector and take advantage of business opportunities in the skills development field. In June, the college won the prestigious *Mail&Guardian* Greening the Future Award in the newly established category 'Skills for Sustainability'. The college was also a runner-up in the 2014 Rhino Conservation Awards in the category 'Best Awareness, Education and Fundraising' for rhino protection and conservation.

2015 DEVELOPMENTS

The year 2015 has been the most successful one in the history of the college. Its income target was surpassed and 2 000 students were trained across different conservation disciplines.

A finance agreement between the Southern African Development Community (SADC), KfW and the college is enabling the expansion of the college's current facilities, funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) through KfW. In anticipation of this, Peace Parks Foundation signed a pre-financing agreement with the college to finance staff housing, infrastructure, a new biomass aerobic system, a sewerage treatment plant and a fully operational field-ranger training camp.

SOUTHERN AFRICAN
WILDLIFE COLLEGE

The collaboration will provide significant funding to help train wildlife area managers and field rangers who can protect southern Africa's endangered species, while also providing support to the community-based natural resource management unit. In addition, the development of and training in the use of the Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool (SMART) will be funded, with the emphasis on capacity building and best practice. This will ensure credible and transparent monitoring to determine the effectiveness of various wildlife area management practices, in particular anti-poaching efforts.

In 2015, the college continued to play a vital role in countering wildlife crime in the region by training field rangers at various levels and conducting aerial patrols though its Wildlife Guardian Programme. The college also worked closely with government and private reserves on the western border of Kruger National Park to assist with the monitoring of rhino populations and the tracking of poached animals.

As part of the Rhino Protection Programme, the college was integral to training that took place in the Kruger and Limpopo national parks throughout the year, while extensive training is on the cards in Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife reserves, including those owned by communities, in 2016. The training of patrol leaders for Kruger National Park was developed and expanded to include several special operations not previously covered. Buy-in from Kruger National Park and the operational sector allowed college staff to do a lot more hands-on training and development of the current patrol leaders deployed in the park. The inclusion of ground-to-air training, using helicopters and fixed-wing aircraft, also increased the capabilities of the field rangers. Night-vision equipment improved the operational capabilities of the rangers and increased their confidence to conduct night patrols. Kruger National Park specialists added value to the process, integrating their operational experience in the training.

Musketry training was conducted by a college trainer who travelled from section to section in the park and conducted the training for each field-ranger group stationed there. The programme has proven to be invaluable for field and section rangers alike. The adaptability of the college's African Field Ranger Training Services Division allowed for the best possible training of the rangers in the field.


SAWC


SANHU

Our sincere thanks go to the donors who supported the college in 2015: Afrisam; Aimpoint; Bathawk anti-poaching aerial patrol donors; Count Lucio Labia (South Africa); Dallas Safari Club; Dioraphte Foundation; Denel PMP; Distell Foundation; Effervescents; First Rand Foundation – Rand Merchant Bank Fund; First Rand Trust; Friends of African Wildlife and its donors; Hoedspruit Steel & Cupboards; Hunter Legacy 100 Fund (in support of approved SCI Foundation projects); KfW Stiftung; K-9 Anti-Poaching Unit donors; KLK USA 'A Wild Night Out' auction donors; Lee-Anne Davis – Our Horn is NOT Medicine donors; MAVA Fondation pour la Nature; Mr Durcesio Mello (Jetstar Aviation – Brazil); Mr and Mrs Weber (Switzerland); Mr and Mrs Walhof (Netherlands); Ms Natalie Robertson (Dubai); Mrs Fanja Pon / Ms Sommer Johnston (Germany); MyPlanet Rhino Fund; Safari Club International Foundation; SA Hunters and Game Conservation Association; Scott Dunn (via Tusk Trust); Southern African Wildlife College Trust and its donors; Swedish Postcode Lottery; the late Ms Lahann (South Africa); The Rufford Foundation; the Sheldon Family Trust; Timbavati Foundation; Transboundary Conservation Foundation; Tusk Trust (UK); Tusk Trust (USA); WWF Nedbank Green Trust.

Project Funding: Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ); National Treasury's Jobs Fund; Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation; USAID/RESILIM, WWF-SA; WWF Nedbank Green Trust; German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, through KfW.

How to support us


MICHAEL RAIMONDO


CRAIG BEECH

AN INVITATION TO LEAVE A LIVING LEGACY

Peace Parks Foundation offers the opportunity to invest in a brighter future for Africa and in sustainable conservation solutions with global relevance. Individuals can become a Peace Parks Club member by donating $5 000, or corporations can join by donating $50 000 every 10 years.

PEACE PARKS CLUB

Eight new individual members joined the Peace Parks Club in 2015: Mr Hans A Bachmann, Mrs Lorraine Coetzee, Mr George L Ohrstrom II, Mr Frank Clifford Meaker, Mr Paul Oliver Sauer Meaker, Miss Paula Cato Meaker, Mr Timothy Nash and Mr Stephan L Sager. Messrs Patrick Goss and Richard Goss renewed their 10-year membership. Four club members made further donations, namely Mr Antoine Friling, WL Hancock Gifts Trust, The Timothy Hancock Charitable Trust and Mr Andreas Michael la Roche.

Peace Parks Club members enjoy the opportunity to participate in exclusive experiences conducted in the TFCAs. Some club members participated in the translocation of zebra to Maputo Special Reserve, while others witnessed the translocation of giraffe to Simalaha Community Conservancy. Later in the year, club members visited the community projects of the Maputo Special Reserve as well as the nesting sites of leatherback and loggerhead turtles in Ponta do Ouro Partial Marine Reserve.

Peace Parks Foundation's chairman, Mr Johann Rupert, hosted a cocktail function at the picturesque L'Ormarins wine estate near Franschhoek for friends and supporters of the foundation. He shared with them the progress that was made during the course of the year and General (Ret) Johan Jooste provided the keynote address.

LEGACY SOCIETY

The Legacy Society gives supporters the opportunity to include Peace Parks Foundation in their Will as a beneficiary of their estate. A living legacy can also be established to make annual contributions to the foundation's operational expenses or to a specified project or programme. Legacy Society chairman, Mr Hansjürg Saager, and his wife, Mrs Francesca Saager, hosted a luncheon at Eikendal wine estate near Somerset West to provide feedback on the foundation's activities to existing and potential members.

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 USA and the UK. In 2015, Dr Jamie McCallum was appointed as director of Peace Parks Foundation UK, while Dr Isabel Gerstenberg-Helldorff now represents the foundation in Germany.

Thank you!

the Swedish Postcode Lottery, MAVA Fondation pour la Nature, Kadans Foundation and COmON Foundation for the Simalaha Community Conservancy; and Mr Neville and Mrs Pamela Isdell for their support of Sioma Ngwezi National Park in the Kavango Zambezi (KAZA) TFCA.

A Sustainable, Environmental and Safe Tourism in Protected Areas (SENSA) application was piloted in Kgalagadi, thanks to support received from Siel Voyages and the Luxembourg Institute of Science and Technology.

Cartier International enabled the Furs for Life Project to lead the way in leopard conservation. Thanks to the generous support of Mr Neville and Mrs Pamela Isdell, The Lindbergh Foundation, The Rufford Foundation and TRAFFIC, the Rhino Protection Programme can continue the work begun with the Dutch and Swedish Postcode Lotteries' donations. In addition, Mr Hansjürg Saager and Mrs Katharina Büttiker's Animal Trust hosted a very successful Save the Rhino event in Zurich during the foundation's annual fund development trip to Europe.

Kadans Foundation, Stonehage Fleming and Markus Freiherr and Isabel Freifrau von Jenisch also generously hosted fundraising events on behalf of the foundation in Haaren, London and Frankfurt respectively. Led by Peace Parks Foundation board members, Senior Chief Inyambo Yeta and vice-chairman Mr Joaquim Chissano, the delegation held 40 meetings in seven countries, sharing progress made as well as future needs with existing and potential supporters.

Thank you to all the donors who so generously supported the two training colleges, the SA College for Tourism – including the Tracker Academy – and the Southern African Wildlife College (listed on pages 39 and 41 respectively).


TOMAS MABULANGUE


WERNER MYBURGH


KATHY BERGS


KATHY BERGS


TOMAS MABULANGUE

'Our story has had many protagonists, sharing generously of their patronage, their wisdom and their skill to bring vigour to the peace parks dream. How the story continues is now up to you, and me, and Africa.'

– Johann Rupert, Chairman: Peace Parks Foundation

Sponsors and Donors



ROY BEUSKER/NPL

MORE THAN €35 MILLION THUS FAR!

As an annual beneficiary of the Dutch Postcode Lottery, Peace Parks Foundation became the fortunate recipient of €1.35 million on 26 January 2016. The Dutch Postcode Lottery has been a loyal supporter of the work of Peace Parks Foundation for over 14 years. In 2014, Peace Parks Foundation and WWF Netherlands received the ground-breaking support of €14.4 million from the Dutch Postcode Lottery's Dream Fund for their Rhino Protection Programme, to save African rhino from extinction. The Dream Fund gives charitable organisations an opportunity to play a role in courageous and ground-breaking new projects. Thus far, Peace Parks Foundation has received over €35 million from the Dutch Postcode Lottery, which has translated into the significant and wide-ranging development of transfrontier conservation projects and the Rhino Protection Programme. Peace Parks Foundation thanks the Dutch Postcode Lottery and the lottery players for their very generous and continued support of its work.

SEK72 MILLION ALREADY RECEIVED!

Peace Parks Foundation Sweden, as a beneficiary of the Swedish Postcode Lottery, was the privileged recipient of SEK8 million on 14 March 2016. In 2014, Peace Parks Foundation received an additional SEK9 million to combat rhino poaching. This year the non-profit sector received SEK1.08 billion from the Swedish Postcode Lottery. Since 2010, Peace Parks Foundation has received SEK72 million (€7.7 million) from the Lottery. Thank you very much to the Swedish Postcode Lottery and the lottery players for this substantial contribution and their continued support of the foundation's work.

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 €6.6 billion to 318 charities for people, nature, culture, and health and welfare. To learn more about Novamedia charity lotteries, go to **www.novamedia.com**.

NATIONALE POSTCODE LOTERIJ



ROY BEUSKER/NPL






HENNIE HOMANN


MIGUEL GONÇALVES


PATRICK BLACK

Club 21

ABOVE $40 MILLION
Dutch Postcode Lottery

$5 MILLION TO $10 MILLION
Swedish Postcode Lottery

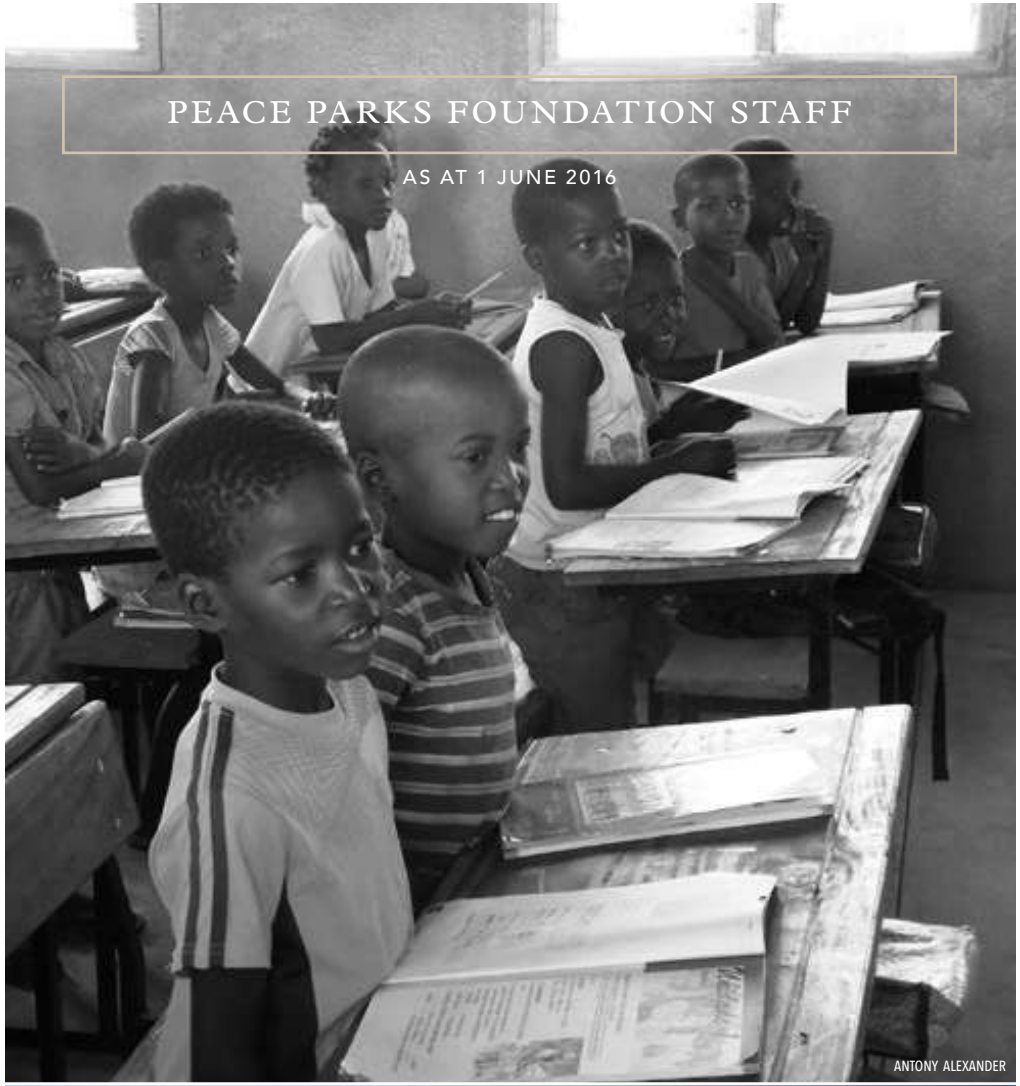
$2 MILLION TO $5 MILLION
COmON Foundation
Remgro
Richemont
Rupert Family Foundations / Reinet Foundation
Vodafone Group Foundation
WWF Netherlands

$1 MILLION TO $2 MILLION
HRH Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands *†1 December 2004*
Absa Bank
Cartier
Chrysler Corporation Fund
Daimler
De Beers
Deutsche Bank
The Edmond de Rothschild Foundations
Esri
Exxaro
Mr Paul Fentener van Vlissingen *†21 August 2006*
Donald Gordon Foundation
Fondation Hoffmann
Dr HL Hoffmann
Mr Neville and Mrs Pamela Isdell
MAVA Fondation pour la Nature
Philips
The Rufford Foundation
Ms Pierrette Schlettwein
Swedish Postcode Foundation
Turner Foundation
Total

Peace Parks Club

PEACE PARKS FOUNDATION STAFF

AS AT 1 JUNE 2016



ANTONY ALEXANDER



KOOS VAN DER LENDE

KAVANGO ZAMBEZI (KAZA) TRANSFRONTIER CONSERVATION AREA

Dr Morris Mtsambiwa	:	Executive Director
Frederik Dipotso	:	Programme Manager
Phillipa Mamhare	:	Financial Manager
Tichawona Chiweshe	:	Accountant
Bernard Rego	:	Administration Officer
Rui Lisboa	:	Country Liaison Officer, Angola
Chilule Mlazie	:	Country Liaison Officer, Botswana
Godfrey Mtare	:	Country Liaison Officer, Zimbabwe
Elvis Simba Mwilima	:	Country Liaison Officer, Namibia
Liwena Sitali	:	Country Liaison Officer, Zambia
Joao Ngola	:	Translator and Interpreter
Ditsietsi Thagame	:	Cleaner

Sioma Ngwezi National Park (Zambia)

Errol Pietersen	:	Technical Adviser

Simalaha Community Conservancy (Zambia)

Alan Sparrow	:	Technical Adviser
Mwambwa Nyambe	:	Conservancy Manager
Chrispin Muchindu	:	Conservation Agriculture Coordinator

MALAWI-ZAMBIA TRANSFRONTIER CONSERVATION AREA

Humphrey Nzima	:	International Coordinator

BOTSWANA TFCA UNIT

Ingrid Otukile	:	TFCA Programme Manager

ZAMBIA TFCA UNIT

Prof Andrew Nambota	:	National TFCA Director

ZIMBABWE TFCA UNIT

Alec Dangare	:	Country Liaison Officer
Kudakwashe Chipunza	:	Programme Officer

JOAQUIM CHISSANO FOUNDATION

Joel Cossa	:	Programme Manager


CLAIRE BINNEMAN


PETER KIRK

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE REPORT

Governance framework



WERNER MYBURGH


HENNIE HOMANN

Peace Parks Foundation is committed to the promotion of good corporate governance, integrity and ethics. The board of directors is responsible for ensuring that governance standards are met, and is assisted by management to ensure a culture of good governance and compliance.

Included in the consolidated annual financial statements are the colleges, the SA College for Tourism NPC (non-profit company) and the Southern African Wildlife College NPC, which provide training for tourism managers and trackers, and conservation managers 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 50% share in the joint venture, 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, quarterly reports 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 also readily available on its website at www.peaceparks.org.

The third King Report on Corporate Governance for South Africa (King III) came into effect on 1 March 2010 and the board is satisfied that Peace Parks Foundation has met the principles contained in King III throughout the period under review. When a principle of King III has not been adhered to, this is explained, where relevant. Although only a summary of the terms of reference of the board committees is disclosed in this report, the complete terms of reference document is available from the company secretary.

Peace Parks Foundation does not have an internal audit department/function as this is not cost effective. The internal audit function is outsourced for certain projects 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 III requires the annual reporting of financial, sustainability and social performance. The foundation's annual review has therefore been adjusted to provide stakeholders with the required information on its corporate governance.

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 (TFCAs) in southern Africa.

The foundation has a fully functional board of directors. The board consists mainly of independent non-executive directors (see 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 board does not ask the directors for non-binding approval for the foundation's remuneration policy. The rationale and basis for the group's executive remuneration policy is carefully considered by the human resources and remuneration committee and is disclosed in the annual financial statements. The chairman of the board, Mr Johann 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 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. 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, at the foundation's expense, 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 on page 50 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 financial manager attends all the meetings. The CEO and the external auditor are invited to attend all meetings.

The main role of this committee is to help the board to fulfil its responsibilities regarding risk management, internal controls, the effectiveness of the financial manager and the finance team, external and internal audits, accounting policies, public reporting and information technology systems, and to monitor compliance with laws, rules, codes of conduct and standards.

Since King III came into effect, audit and risk committee meetings have been held regularly to evaluate the foundation's performance with regard to the King III principles, identify weaknesses, and adapt procedures and policies to ensure good corporate governance.

Risk analysis is done annually and all significant risks are summarised into a risk analysis document itemising each applicable risk, the level of risk, the mitigating action and procedures required, the person responsible for the action/procedure and how regularly this action/procedure should be carried out.

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 10 members, of whom nine are non-executive directors and one is an executive director.

The chairman of the board is also the chairman of the executive committee. The committee meets four times a year. All issues that can impact on 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 three independent non-executive directors and one executive director. It is chaired by Mr JJM van Zyl, an independent non-executive director. The committee meets at least once a year to discuss remuneration principles and policies.

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 appointments and positions within the company.

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

The fundraising committee consists of three members, of whom two are non-executive directors and one is an executive director.

The committee meets twice a year and the CEO is the acting chairperson at these meetings.

The main role of this committee is to provide constructive input into fundraising/development plans and initiatives through the review and approval of the fund development strategic document.


THOMAS MACKENZIE


KOOS VAN DER LENDE


TOM VARLEY

PEACE PARKS FOUNDATION NPC (REGISTRATION NUMBER 1997/004896/08)

ABRIDGED CONSOLIDATED ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015



MICHAEL VILJOEN

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Directors' responsibilities and approval

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

and monitoring all known forms of risk across the group. While operating risk cannot be fully eliminated, the group endeavours to minimise it by ensuring that appropriate infrastructure, controls, systems and ethical behaviour are applied and managed within predetermined procedures and constraints.

Based on the information and explanations given by the Peace Parks Foundation NPC 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's cash flow forecast for the year to 31 December 2016 and, in the light of this review and the group's current financial position, are satisfied that the group has or has 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's financial statements. The financial statements have been examined by the group's external auditors and their report is presented on page 54.

The financial statements set out on pages 54 to 60 which have been prepared on the going concern basis, were approved by the board on 22 June 2016 and were signed on its behalf by:

Mr JP Rupert (CHAIRMAN)

Mr W Myburgh (CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER)





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 2015, 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.

Mrs LM Lynch

Independent auditors' report

TO THE MEMBERS OF **PEACE PARKS FOUNDATION NPC** (REGISTRATION NUMBER 1997/004896/08)

The summary consolidated financial statements of Peace Parks Foundation NPC, contained in the accompanying abridged report, which comprise the summary consolidated statement of financial position as at 31 December 2015, the summary consolidated income statement and the summary consolidated statements of comprehensive income, changes in equity and cash flows for the year then ended, and related notes, are derived from the audited consolidated financial statements of Peace Parks Foundation NPC for the year ended 31 December 2015. We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on those consolidated financial statements in our report dated 22 June 2016. Our auditor's report on the audited consolidated financial statements contained an Other Matter paragraph: "Other Reports Required by the Companies Act" (refer below).

The summary consolidated financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by International Financial Reporting Standard for Small and Medium-sized Entities and the requirements of the Companies Act of South Africa as applicable to annual financial statements. Reading the summary consolidated financial statements, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the audited consolidated financial statements of Peace Parks Foundation NPC.

DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE SUMMARISED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The directors are responsible for the preparation of the summary consolidated financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act of South Africa as applicable to summary financial statements, and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of summary consolidated financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITY

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the summary consolidated financial statements based on our procedures, which were conducted in accordance with International Standard on Auditing (ISA) 810, Engagements to Report on Summary Financial Statements.

OPINION

In our opinion, the summary consolidated financial statements derived from the audited consolidated financial statements of Peace Parks Foundation NPC for the year ended 31 December 2015 are consistent, in all material respects, with those consolidated financial statements, in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act of South Africa as applicable to summary financial statements.

OTHER REPORTS REQUIRED BY THE COMPANIES ACT

The "Other Reports Required by the Companies Act" paragraph in our audit report dated 22 June 2016 states that as part of our audit of the consolidated financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2015, we have read the Directors' Report and the Company Secretary's Certificate for the purpose of identifying whether there are material inconsistencies between these reports and the audited consolidated financial statements. These reports are the responsibility of the respective preparers. The paragraph also states that, based on reading these reports, we have not identified material inconsistencies between these reports and the audited consolidated financial statements. The paragraph furthermore states that we have not audited these reports and accordingly do not express an opinion on these reports. The paragraph does not have an effect on the summarised consolidated financial statements or our opinion thereon.

PricewaterhouseCoopers Inc.

PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS INC. DIRECTOR: D Adriaans REGISTERED AUDITOR STELLENBOSCH 22 JUNE 2016

Directors' report

PEACE PARKS FOUNDATION NPC (REGISTRATION NUMBER 1997/004896/08)

Statement of financial position FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

PEACE PARKS FOUNDATION NPC (REGISTRATION NUMBER 1997/004896/08)

Statement of financial performance FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

PEACE PARKS FOUNDATION NPC (REGISTRATION NUMBER 1997/004896/08)

Statement of Changes in Funds

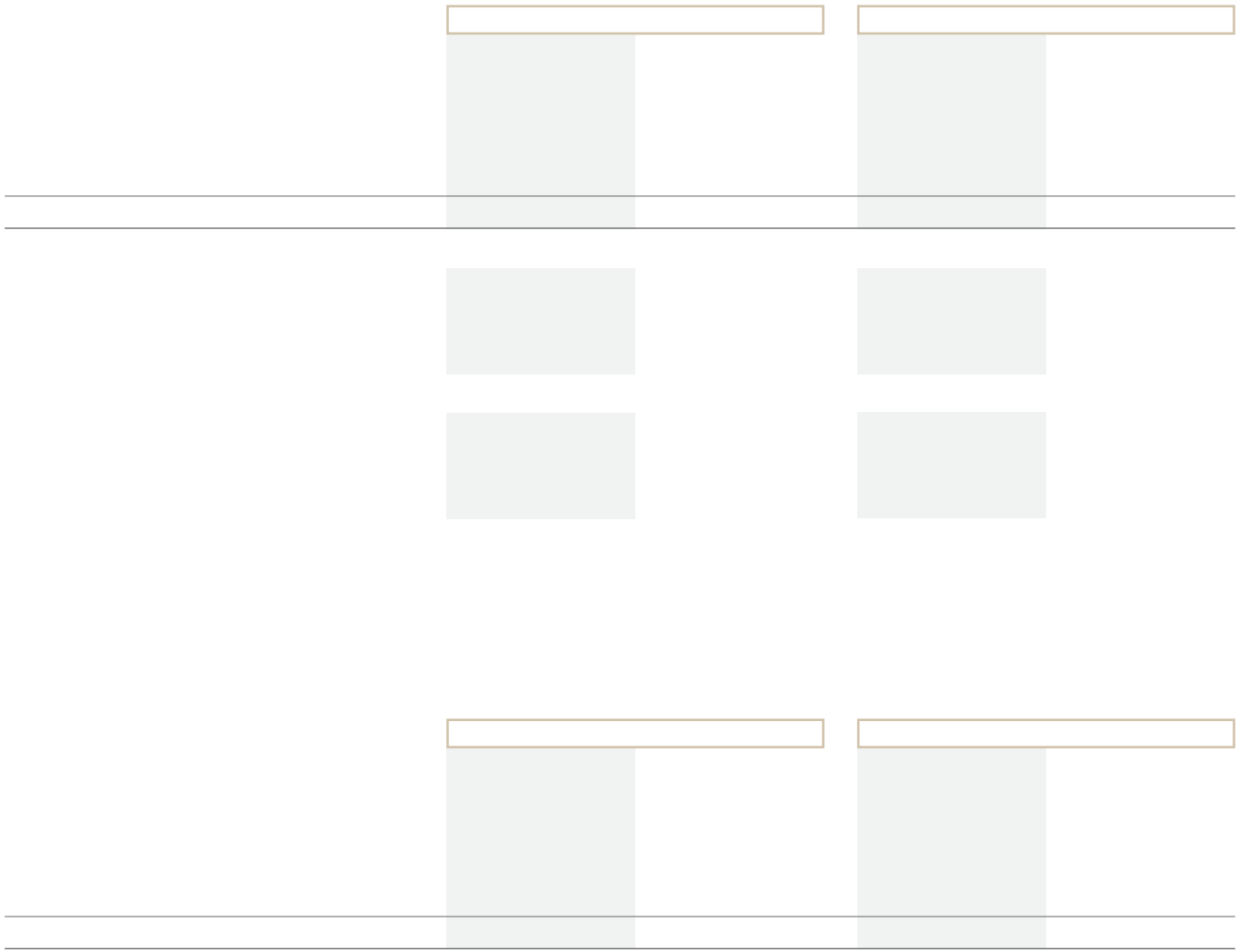
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

PEACE PARKS FOUNDATION NPC (REGISTRATION NUMBER 1997/004896/08)

Statement of cash flows FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

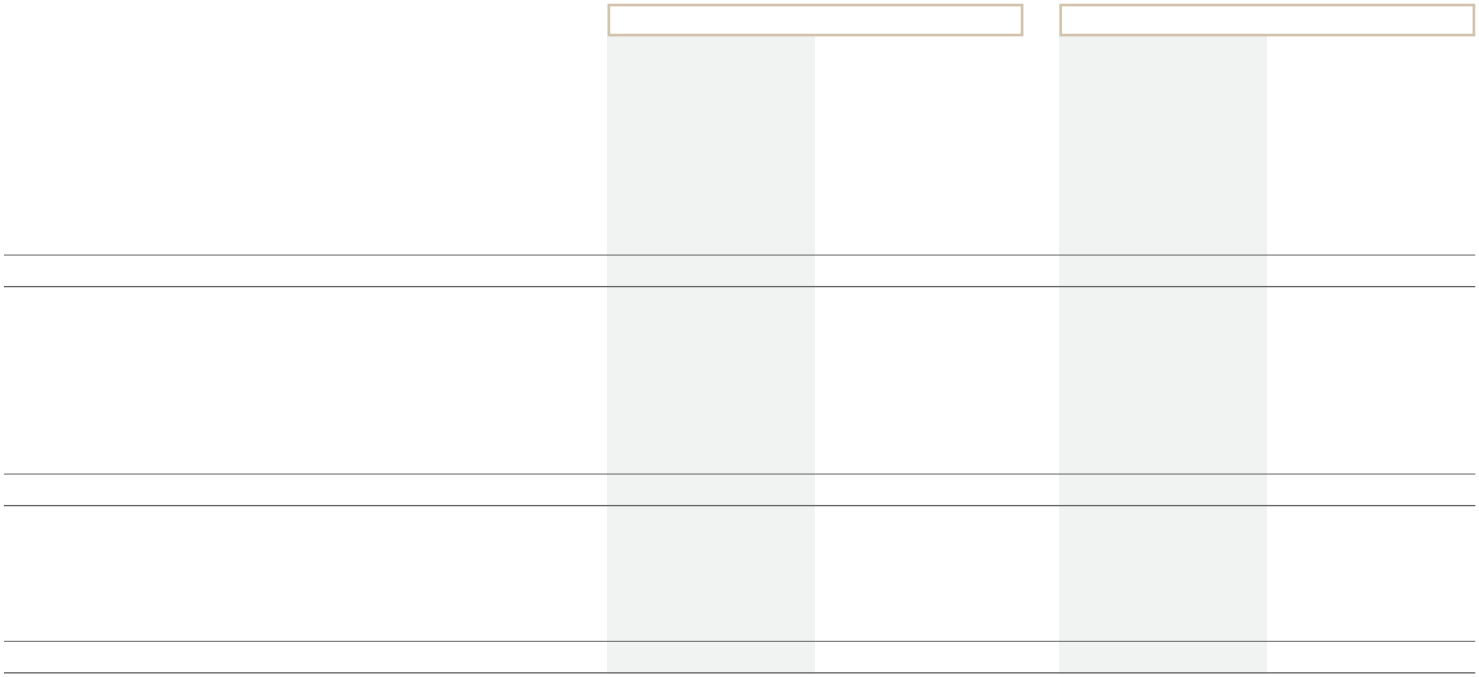
Notes to the financial statements

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

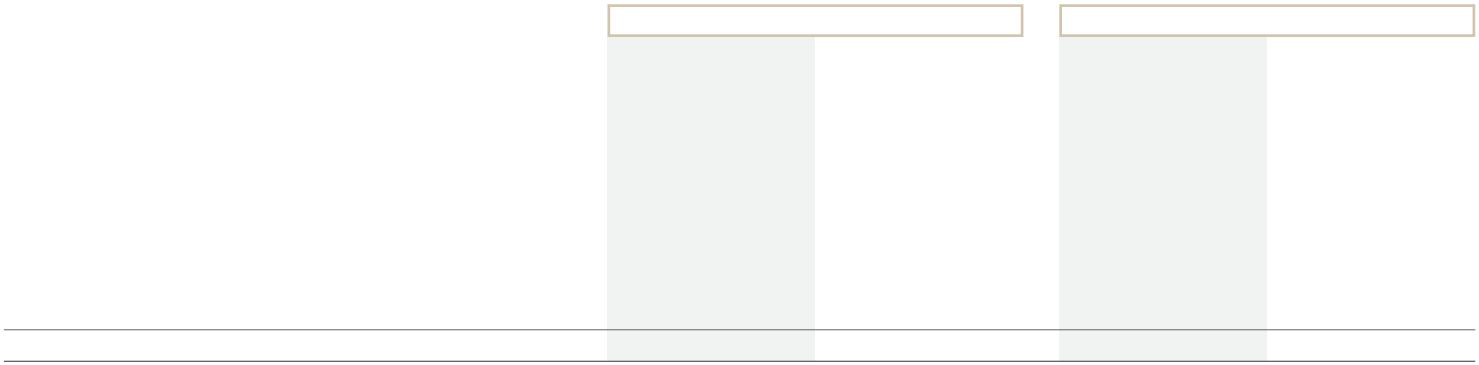


Notes to the financial statements

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015



Appendix A





BUSINESS ADDRESS AND REGISTERED OFFICE : Peace Parks Foundation
11 Termo Road
Techno Park
Stellenbosch 7600
South Africa

POSTAL ADDRESS : PO Box 12743
Die Boord
Stellenbosch 7613
South Africa

TELEPHONE : +27 (0)21 880 5100
TELEFAX : +27 (0)21 880 1173
EMAIL : parks@ppf.org.za
WEBSITE : www.peaceparks.org

PEACE PARKS FOUNDATION HAS AN ETHICS HOTLINE.
Details are at www.peaceparks.org under Contact Us

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Peace Parks Foundation facilitates the establishment of transfrontier conservation areas (peace parks) and develops human resources, thereby supporting sustainable economic development, the conservation of biodiversity, and regional peace and stability.