



ANNUAL REPORT | 2017



TRUSTEES' REPORT

Looking back on the past year, we are extremely proud that the Timbavati Foundation's Environmental School received the Into Africa Safari Ubuntu Service Award in March this year, in recognition of exceptional, outstanding and continuous contributions for services towards communities in need in South Africa. The Environmental School Manager, Lazaro Sibiyi, accepted the award on behalf of our Foundation. His leadership is evident from the enthusiasm shown by the facilitation staff under his wing, as well in the communities where our Foundation has received considerable praise. By growing these relationships with communities, we aim to expand our projects in the Community Upliftment and Social Care Programme in 2017-2018, so that more learners can benefit from the access to water project as well as basic sanitation at the schools we work with.

We would like to emphasise that our Foundation has always acknowledged that environmental education is a process as opposed to a once-off project, which is why our facilitators conduct follow-up visits at the schools. A team of five Environmental Monitors (EMs) visit the schools every week throughout the year; they cover topics that relate to the natural science subject in the schools, and/ or provide extracurricular activities. The scope and quality of these outreach activities would not be possible without the assistance of Kruger to Canyons Biosphere (K2C), which partners with us in the Environmental Monitor (EM) Programme, an Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) funded by the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA).

As most operational costs are funded by the Timbavati Private Nature Reserve (TPNR), we will never close for a lack of funding, and in this regard we may be more fortunate and different from other NGOs and PBOs that work to generate income to cover their basic operational costs. The funds that our Foundation receives are exclusively for direct programme and project-related costs, and

are allocated to growing initiatives at the schools in the communities over the next few years as widely as resources are available. All projects are handpicked by the Environmental School Manager in consultation with the School Committees.

The Timbavati Foundation would not be where it is today without the ongoing support from the TPNR. We also are incredibly grateful for another year of support from Deutsche Bank South Africa Foundation (DBSAF), and ongoing donations from Land Rover Waterford and Sandton. This year, we are also welcoming a new donor to the Environmental School: the Rand Water Foundation. We are looking forward to working together with them, not only in making environmental education inspiring to young people, but also in maximising access to water and sanitation for young people at schools, as this is where they spend most of their time. Lastly, we would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all our regular givers who donate what they can afford. We cannot stress it enough: please understand that every amount – small or big – makes a difference.

Above all, our thanks go to the dedicated staff, without whom we could not achieve the success we enjoy. Thank you to Lazaro Sibiyi (Environmental School Manager), Wendy van Schoor (Administration Manager) and the extraordinary team of facilitators, as well as the hospitality team, for your loyalty and your inspiration and motivation of young people.

Charles de Villiers
CHAIRPERSON

Dennis Rutter
TREASURER

Timothy Hancock
TRUSTEE



ENVIRONMENTAL SCHOOL MANAGER'S MESSAGE



It gives me great pleasure to be a member of the Timbavati Foundation family, which has served the local communities in the Acornhoek area so well over the last 15 years. The year under review has been a busy one, which included upgrades of the Environmental School to improve the learning environment and experience for learners.

I am extremely proud of our team of environmental facilitators who continue to enthusiastically inspire and motivate primary and secondary school learners to understand, and take care of, the environment. It has been encouraging to continuously receive proposals from new schools requesting incorporation into our overnight Environmental School Programme, as this indicates that the Foundation is appreciated by the school communities we work with.

Our interactions with 31 high schools and 26 primary schools focus on quality rather than on quantity, however we know that we can spread the word further and faster by engaging an increasing proportion of learners and educators, which is why we aim to bring new schools on board every year.

The conservation sector is thriving in Bushbuckridge, and through our Environmental School programme we have made young people enthusiastic about nature conservation and the environment. Unfortunately, however, there are few affordable education opportunities in nature conservation for young people from poor home situations.

In order to build an inclusive workforce in the conservation, eco-tourism and related hospitality sectors, we support motivated learners who have passed matric and completed our environmental education programme to get the relevant education grounding and connections, to support them to successfully seek opportunities in the area where they grew up.

For this reason, we grant bursaries to school leavers to further their education in nature conservation or tourism at

the Southern African Wildlife College (SAWC) in Hoedspruit or the SA College for Tourism (SACT) in Graaff-Reinet (Eastern Cape). By offering new connections and financial support for their professional growth, we enable young people to leapfrog some of the barriers to employment in this rural area that are actually quite small, but which seem insurmountable to them.

Incrementally, the number of graduates who have received our financial support and ended up in the conservation and hospitality industries has grown. They play key roles, some in permanent positions in the conservation sector, with others serving as interns to gain further experience. With our support most of them find their first job in the sector, enabling them to take financial care of their family.

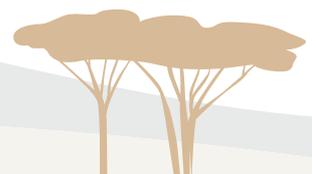
It has been my dream to change the lives of people from under-resourced areas. Although I am not wealthy, I can say that my dream has come true, as I am able to fulfil this mission through the Timbavati Foundation. Where opportunities are presented and support is given, young people from poor home situations are able to put their talents, knowledge and capabilities to good use, and they, themselves, become an instrument of change and development.

In conclusion, I would like to share a quote from the American statesman, Theodore Roosevelt, who was also an author, explorer, soldier, naturalist and reformer: "Here is your country. Cherish these natural wonders, cherish the natural resources, cherish the history and romance as a sacred heritage, for your children and your children's children. Do not let selfish men or greedy interests skin your country of its beauty, its riches or its romance."

Lazaro Sibiyi

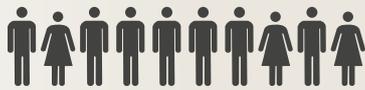
ENVIRONMENTAL SCHOOL MANAGER

(Advanced Certificate in Nature Conservation Transfrontier Conservation Management)





ACHIEVEMENTS



Environmental Education

35 700 learners & educators assisted

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION PROGRAMME

Environmental School

The Environmental School reached 700 Grade 7 to 11 learners and educators from 57 primary and high schools through an overnight programme. The programme provided an interactive environmental education syllabus and a stay-over of one night (primary schools) or two nights (high schools), with training being tailored to the activities, needs and challenges of the communities in the area. Training takes learners out of the classroom and into the bush, as the Foundation believes that people learn best through experiential activities. The training course covered the following themes: soil and vegetation; soil erosion/pollution control; water conservation; permaculture gardening; relationships with animals, plants and birdlife; anti-poaching (to combat the ever-present rhino poaching

crisis); and interaction between animals. The learners were between the ages of 9 and 18, many of whom, despite living on the edges of the vast conservation areas around them, had never been in a game park or private nature reserve, and thus had never truly experienced the magnificence of the bush.

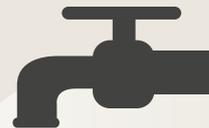
Outreach Programme

The Foundation's Outreach Programme was facilitated by four Environmental Monitors (EMs) at 18 primary schools, bringing environmental education directly to Grade 4, 5 and 6 learners in mainstream education. A fifth EM joined the team in February of this year. Learners who attended the Environmental School Programme made presentations on what they had learnt to the rest of the students at their school assemblies, enabling the outreach team to reach an additional 35 000 learners. This follow-up programme helps the Foundation to emphasise the conservation messages communicated during the Environmental School programme.

COMMUNITY UPLIFTMENT & SOCIAL CARE PROGRAMME

Access to water

Many learners have no access to water during their day at school, with some, especially female staff and female learners, fetching water kilometres away from their



Access to Water

1 806 people assisted





schools. For this reason, our Foundation sinks boreholes and installs water tanks to provide schools with access to water and to ensure food security. Last year, the Timbavati Foundation assisted Maphutaditshaba High School and Funjwa Primary School with repairs on their existing boreholes, benefiting a total of 1 266 learners, whilst needs assessments have been carried out at various other schools. Guidance and solutions for water harvesting and retention were also offered. It is striking how learners make do with very little water at home and at school. Learners are said to use 75 litres of water for a family of up to eight, whilst the average South African uses 150 litres a day.

Rain water harvesting

In addition to sinking boreholes, rainwater harvesting in the rainy season is an effective source of ensuring water all year round and in case of emergencies. Rain water can be

“If there is not water, our learners get dehydrated, especially over the hot summer months. Some of the learners stay a couple of hours, then they leave. School attendance can improve when schools gain access to water.”

***- Nancy Marobela
Educator at Funjwa Primary School***

“We experienced some problems with the borehole in summer, and so we did not always have water during our school day. During the first interval at school, we would fetch water from the nearest well in the village, but it would not be enough for all the 522 learners. Some learners got dizzy. Now the borehole has been fixed, we can just walk to the tap during break time. We are hydrated.”

***- Thato Mashego,
A Grade 12 learner at Maphutaditshaba High School***



used for watering greenery and vegetable gardens. Last year, Maphutaditshaba High School received a 5 000 litre water tank, which was connected directly to the buildings' gutters in order to harvest rain water.

In the 2017-2018 year, the Timbavati Foundation will be focusing on rain water collection in many more schools. The schools that participate in this project are also likely to save on electricity, as they do not need to pump up water to irrigate greenery or vegetable gardens.





Bursaries for ex-learners

It is the aim of the Timbavati Foundation to motivate young people from the Acornhoek area to improve their job prospects in the nature conservation and tourism sectors. The Foundation ensures that they can get the relevant education, grounding and connections to support them to successfully seek growth and job opportunities despite home and work pressures. Last year, the Foundation invested in bursaries for two young people from the school communities we work with. The two aspire to a career in nature conservation and/or tourism, and had successfully completed our Environmental Education programme. They furthered their education with the six-month Introduction to Nature Conservation and Environmental Education Bridging Course at the Southern African Wildlife College (SAWC), and both graduates have found jobs as Environmental Monitors (EMs) at the local primary schools to raise environmental awareness. The EMs of the K2C biosphere form part of the department's Environmental Monitor programme in partnership with the South African National Parks (SANParks).

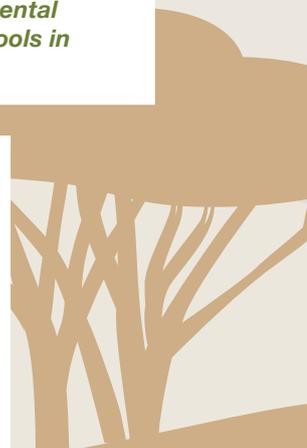
Last year, the Foundation also selected two young women from poor home situations to further their studies at the SA College for Tourism (SACT) in Graaff-Reinet, which is supported by Peace Parks Foundation. They are currently pursuing advanced, and mostly practical, training at a hotel in the same town.

The Timbavati Foundation's Environmental School received the Into Africa Safari Ubuntu Service Award in March this year, in recognition of exceptional, outstanding and continuous contributions for services towards communities in need in South Africa.



“I did not know much about the environment before I started the six month bridging course. The course covered conservation, environmental education, field ranging, leadership and level 1 first aid. A month after I finished my course, I found employment as an Environmental Monitor at the schools. I am very happy. Each day, I want to teach myself and the grade 4, 5 and 6 learners something new that I can share with the learners. I use the internet on my phone to look up things so that I can facilitate to the best of my abilities. I noticed that learners are most interested when you link environmental awareness to income generation projects such as a recycling project.”

***- Karen Manoreng (19 years)
a Timbavati Foundation Bursary recipient raising environmental awareness at primary schools in Acornhoek***





CONSERVATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS PROGRAMME

The Foundation supplied and assisted with the construction of netted gardens at a total of three schools: Tsakana, Ludlow and Moholoholo, and supplied materials to two of the schools. All these schools are part of the Environmental Education and Outreach Programme. Learners then acquired skills that have enabled them to establish their own mini vegetable gardens at home.



Conservation & Environmental Awareness

1 583 learners & educators assisted with netted gardens



Health Care

150 people assisted

HEALTHCARE PROGRAMME

In partnership with Hlokomela, a programme of the Hoedspruit Training Trust (HTT), primary healthcare services are offered from the premises of the Timbavati Foundation on Mondays from 10 to 12 in the morning. Easy access to treatment for chronic diseases as well as other ailments has shown to be incredibly helpful to employees from neighbouring game lodges and camps, as they do not have to wait for attention in public clinics. This year, the nurse also offered 15 minute training sessions on TB, STIs, diabetes and HIV/AIDS to each group of high school learners at the Environmental School. The health clinic consulted with 150 people, of which five were tested positive after taking a HIV test and have been offered treatment.



OUR GENEROUS DONORS & PARTNERS

Timbavati Foundation would not be where it is today without the support of Mrs Inky de Villiers, whose donation enabled the Foundation to build and open a new and improved Environmental School in 2013, providing accommodation to an increased number of learners. We also remain grateful to Timbavati Private Nature Reserve (TPNR); without their support the Foundation would not be able to offer the fantastic programmes that get students out of their traditional classrooms and into the bush to experience real life environmental issues.

A number of loyal donors have generously supported us throughout the year, and we remain extremely thankful for the confidence they have shown us in pursuing our mission to support children and young people in this poverty-stricken area. Our donors include Deutsche Bank South Africa Foundation (DBSAF) through their Corporate Social

Investment (CSI) programme, Land Rover Sandton and Waterford, as well as a number of trusts, foundations and individual givers. This year we are also thrilled to welcome the Rand Water Foundation on board as a new funder.

The donations to our school and community projects amounted to R307 000 in the last year. As shown in the financials on the next page, the organisation ended the year with a surplus of R643 857. The Foundation will therefore increase its spend in the 2017-2018 financial year in consultation with the committees at the schools we work with. These funds will be spent on special projects in our Conservation and Environmental Awareness Programme and/or in the Community Upliftment and Social Care Programme (e.g. the construction of netted gardens, the placement of water tanks, and/or the sinking of boreholes).

Timbavati Foundation is sincerely grateful for the financial support we received from the following individuals, foundations, trusts, companies and other organisations in the last financial year (2016-2017):



Africa Safari

Buffelshoek Trust

Ceylon Foundation

Christine Coulthard

Conservation South

Africa

Deutsche Bank South

Africa Foundation

(DBSAF)

Hancock Gifts Trust

Into Africa Safaris

Jonathan van Rooyen

Justin Louw

Land Rover Sandton

Land Rover Waterford

Natural Justice

Pim Den Hartog

Rand Water Foundation

Richard Davies

Sithole Family

SMH Financial Services

South African

Environmental

Observation Network

(SAEON)

Timothy Hancock

Charitable Trust

Tom Hancock

Tutwana School

Umlani Safaris

V.R. Schild

Wildlands Trust

Woolworths: My School

Card

PARTNERSHIPS

We would also like to thank Wildlands Trust for partnering with us in the Indigenous Trees for Life Programme, as well as Kruger to Canyons Biosphere (K2C) for partnering with us in the Environmental Monitor (EM) Programme, which has provided meaningful employment for young local people who have graduated from conservation or tourism colleges. The EM Programme is an Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) funded by the Environmental Protection and Infrastructure Programmes (EPIP) of the Department of Environmental Affairs, and is implemented by South African National Parks.



FINANCIALS

THE TIMBAVATI FOUNDATION (Registration number IT 1683/2009)

Financial Statements for the year ended 28 February 2017

Detailed Income Statement

	2017 R	2016 R
Revenue		
Fundraising events	-	112,658
Donation Timbavati Private Nature Reserve	1,200,000	1,110,158
Section 18A donations	548,204	403,773
Other donations	184,523	55,945
	1,932,727	1,682,534
Other income		
Fair value adjustment on investments	99,602	17,380
Dividends received	9,256	7,461
Interest received	104,407	79,695
Profit on sale of fixed assets	52,916	-
	266,181	104,536
Operating expenses		
Audit and accounting	1,721	16,240
Bank charges	6,465	6,358
Computer	9,102	4,491
Depreciation of assets	113,741	146,819
Donations	-	10,300
Salaries	642,319	613,168
Environmental School	5,371	21,914
Fundraising	59,361	31,624
Gas	23,094	29,928
Insurance	9,331	20,402
Municipal	44,679	59,026
Petrol & oil	48,206	89,389
Printing & stationery	13,131	14,065
Promotional	12,615	23,318
Repairs & maintenance	133,110	142,587
Environmental School - catering	81,100	149,653
Staff welfare	12,099	14,452
Telephone & fax	32,264	39,745
Travel - local	342	1,004
	1,248,051	1,434,483
Surplus for the year	950,857	352,587
Distribution to beneficiaries	307,000	546,940
Surplus (shortfall) for year	643,857	-194,353

Statement of Financial Position as at 28 February 2017

	2017 R	2016 R
Assets		
Non-Current Assets		
Property, vehicles & equipment	271,672	90,116
Current Assets		
Inventories	2,010	4,262
Receivables	112,558	99,232
Investments and cash	4,224,458	3,617,836
	4,339,026	3,721,330
Total Assets	4,610,698	3,811,446
Equity & Liabilities		
Equity		
Trust capital	100	100
Reserves	1,000,000	1,000,000
Accumulated surplus	3,454,004	2,810,145
	4,454,102	3,810,245
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Trade & other payables	156,594	1,201
Total Equity & Liabilities	4,610,698	3,811,446



TRUSTEES

Charles de Villiers
Dennis Rutter
Timothy Hancock

MANAGERS

Lazaro Sibiya (Environmental School Manager)
Wendy van Schoor (Administration Manager)

Photographs: Celia van der Merwe, Hedwich Tulp,
Lazaro Sibiya, Ockie Schoeman, Wendy van Schoor,
and other Timbavati Foundation staff.

Timbavati Foundation
PBO Reference Number 930031721
Section 18A approved
BEE certified

For more information, [click here](#) to watch the Timbavati Foundation video

BANK DETAILS

Standard Bank of South Africa
Account holder: Timbavati Foundation
Account Number: 272 983 047
Branch code: 052752
Account type: Cheque
SWIFT CODE: SBZAJJ

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