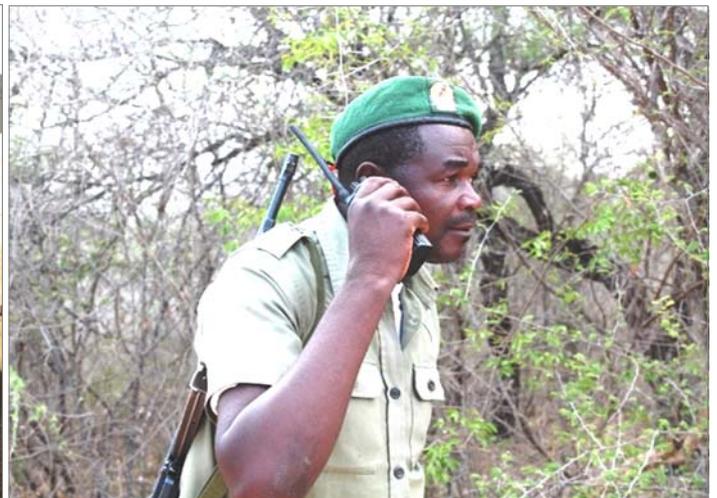




Peace Parks Foundation facilitates the establishment of transfrontier conservation areas (peace parks) and develops human resources, thereby supporting sustainable economic development, the conservation of biodiversity and regional peace and stability.

Visit us at www.peaceparks.org

Peace Parks Foundation Quarterly Review October–December 2015



In December, the Rhino Protection Programme, a partnership between the South African Department of Environmental Affairs, South African National Parks, Peace Parks Foundation and Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife, donated equipment to the value of R2.6 million to strengthen Mozambique's environmental law enforcement efforts and support the rangers and police corps at the frontline of the poaching crisis. The donation included an aircraft and followed on an investment in a R1.78 million digital communication system, completed in October.

DIRECTORATE

Werner Myburgh - CEO, Alzet Terblanche - Acting Personal Assistant

To ensure that the mission, goals and objectives of Peace Parks Foundation are fulfilled; and to develop and advance the peace parks concept, as well as provide project and financial management expertise and skills.

Major events

During the first three weeks of October, a Peace Parks Foundation delegation visited Europe as part of an ongoing effort to strengthen relationships with existing donors and supporters, as well as to develop new relationships. Senior Chief Inyambo Yeta, member of the Peace Parks Foundation board of directors, led the delegation in Amsterdam, Geneva and Stockholm, while Mr Joaquim Chissano, vice-chairman of Peace Parks Foundation, led the delegation in London, Frankfurt, Bonn, Oslo, Zurich and Monaco.

Peace Parks Foundation and the Joaquim Chissano Foundation won the World Bank bid as service provider to support projects that will enhance communities' livelihoods around Maputo Special Reserve and the Ponta do Ouro Partial Marine Reserve in Lubombo. Peace Parks Foundation has been supporting the Mozambican government in the development of these areas since 2006, so we are delighted to be able to continue to do so.

The Southern African Wildlife College was privileged to be included in HRH Prince Harry's visit to southern Africa. During his visit, the prince announced that the United for Wildlife partnership will work with and fund the college so that its graduates will be equipped with the best techniques and technologies available to protect some of the world's most endangered species.

It has been heartening to see the many governments, international entities, organisations, companies, foundations, non-profits and individuals come together to take a stand against wildlife crime. While benefiting a relatively small criminal fraternity, the consequences of this crime are far-reaching and devastating to developing economies and the very many communities dependant on wildlife-based ecotourism.

This quarter saw the installation of an advanced and secure communications system in Limpopo National Park. The system allows for cross-border communications between Limpopo and Kruger national parks, as part of their collaborative anti-poaching operations. This was supplemented with a major donation of equipment to support Mozambique's counter-poaching efforts, while boosting the operational efficacy and morale of the law-enforcement forces.

These donations follow on an agreement signed between the government of Mozambique, Joaquim Chissano Foundation and Peace Parks Foundation on 29 October 2014, to strengthen Mozambique's efforts to combat wildlife crime by supporting the development of dedicated anti-poaching operations in and around Limpopo National Park, as an integral component of the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park and Conservation Area.

The support was made possible thanks to the Rhino Protection Programme, a partnership between the South African Department of Environmental Affairs, South African National Parks, Peace Parks Foundation and Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife. The five-year multi-faceted programme is funded by the Dutch and Swe-



Mr Joaquim Chissano, HSH Prince Albert of Monaco, Ms Kathy Bergs and Mr Werner Myburgh. Fondation Prince Albert II has been a major supporter in the development of the Ponta do Ouro Partial Marine Reserve in Mozambique, as part of Africa's first transboundary marine reserve.



HRH Prince Harry discusses rhino protection with Ms Caroline Rupert (Board Member: Peace Parks Foundation), Mr Werner Myburgh, Ms Lize-Mari Lynch (Financial Manager: Peace Parks Foundation) and Ms Theresa Sowry (CEO: Southern African Wildlife College)

dish postcode lotteries and other private donors, to whom all involved remain extremely grateful.

PROGRAMMES & PROJECTS TRANSFRONTIER CONSERVATION AREAS (TFCAs)

Paul Bewsher—Programme Manager, Sedia Modise and Piet Theron—TFCa support office managers. Arrie van Wyk—Project Manager, Lee-Anne Robertson—Project Administrator and 36 specialist technical and operational staff seconded to TFCAs

To oversee the implementation of the foundation's TFCa programme, which includes coordination of the various projects by providing technical and logistical support as well as hands-on project and associated financial management.

Greater Mapungubwe TFCa (Botswana / South Africa / Zimbabwe)

The TFCa hosted the first tri-nations camp with children from all three partner countries and selected from schools in the TFCa sphere of influence. The camp took place from 7–11 December 2015 and was facilitated by Children in the Wilderness. The TFCa units of the partner countries assisted with the preparations, while Peace Parks Foundation supported the process with financial resources for the children who needed to obtain travel documents. The camp was a resounding success and will be repeated in 2016.

To assist with cross-border operations, a quad bike was purchased and delivered during December and has assisted tremendously with law enforcement efforts in the TFCa.



Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park (GLTP) (Mozambique / South Africa / Zimbabwe)

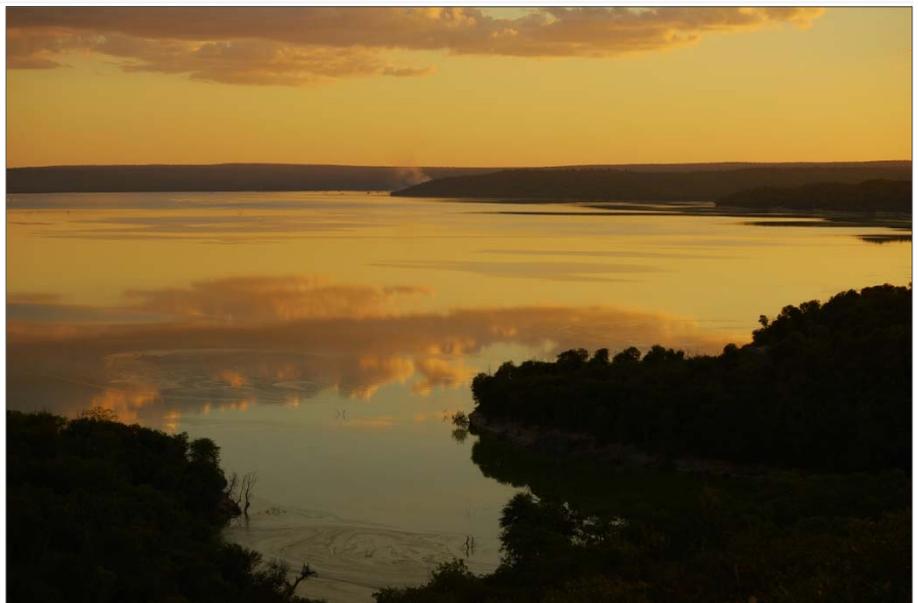
Sharing benefits of the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park with those that live around it has been an important objective since its inception, and a strategy for attaining this is taking shape. The Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park Joint Management Board has commissioned the development of an integrated livelihoods diversification strategy focused on areas adjacent to the core area, in other words the broader Great Limpopo Transfrontier Conservation Area. Click [here](#) for more on this development.

An integrated strategy to address the poisoning of elephants, lions and vultures in the TFCa is also being developed.

LIMPOPO NATIONAL PARK

The radio network is operational, as are the new solar system panels providing its power. A section leader passed his first year Higher Level Certificate training at the Southern African Wildlife College (SAWC) and two applicants have been accepted for the Advanced- and Higher Level Certificate training in 2016.

Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool ([SMART](#)) training was undertaken and equipment distributed to commence the data collection process.



The magnificent Massingir Dam, measuring 103 km² and featuring an abundance of bird life

Four new booms were built and will be installed to provide better access control into the park and into the park's buffer zone, where communities reside. Work continues on improving the access roads for protection staff.

To increase tourism to the park, a boat launch slipway at Massingir Dam was completed and work on the picnic and camping sites will commence in February 2016.

Lubombo Transfrontier Conservation and Resource Area (Mozambique/ South Africa Africa /Swaziland)

PONTA DO OURO PARTIAL MARINE RESERVE

The reserve received two motor-bikes and one quadbike from the National Administration of Conservation Areas, 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.



Skippers undergoing their training

Kavango-Zambezi (KAZA) Transfrontier Conservation Area (Angola/Botswana/Namibia/ Zambia/Zimbabwe)

A strategy is being developed for the protection of the TFCA's large carnivore, as well as for the establishment of a consortium of researchers and NGOs active in the TFCA.

SIMALAHA COMMUNITY CONSERVANCY

Between 2013 and 2015, 543 animals were translocated to restock the Simalaha Community Conservancy for tourism development. The translocated animals have settled in well and in December, 10 zebra, 57 wildebeest and 97 impala young were counted.



Malawi-Zambia Transfrontier Conservation Area (Malawi/ Zambia)

A delegation comprising the German Federal Ministry for Cooperation and Development (BMZ), Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) and KfW representatives visited the Nyika component of the TFCA from 24-25 October. BMZ has committed significant funding to the TFCA and the fact-finding mission was focused on implementing projects to develop the TFCA.

The signing of the Malawi-Zambia TFCA Treaty on 7 July 2015 has given the development of the TFCA new impetus. The necessary institutional structures to ensure efficacy are being put in place, while an integrated tourism development plan will be drafted to help realise the economic potential of the TFCA. A socio-economic baseline assessment will also be done to serve as a benchmark for an integrated approach to designing community development projects.



TFCA partners meeting with BMZ

INFORMATION SYSTEMS AND GIS

Craig Beech—Information Systems Manager, Brennan Walsh—Spatial Database Administrator, Jeanine van Eysen—IT Administrator, Marina Faber—GIS Analyst, Arlene Herbst—GIS Senior Technician, Denton Joachim—GIS Technician, Michaela Riehl—GIS Practitioner, Nico Gründlingh—Intern

To offer effective spatial support to the foundation's facilitation process of transfrontier conservation, to reach the foundation's clients in southern Africa with Geographic Information Systems (GIS) solutions through innovative Internet mapping, thereby becoming the leading organisation in transfrontier conservation GIS.

ESRI AFRICA USER CONFERENCE

Esri, an international supplier of geographic information system (GIS) software, web GIS and geodatabase management applications, held its first ever Africa user conference in November 2015.

As a further donation to Peace Parks Foundation, Esri offered it a stand to showcase its work and spatial support to the region's TFCAs. The foundation was acknowledged for its leading use and implementation of the full suite of ArcGIS software, and was also instrumental in arranging a Conservation GIS side event for spatial data and information users who are contributing to conservation spatial knowledge.

SENSA

The Sustainable, Environmental and Safe tourism in protected areas (SENSA) aims at fostering ecotourism through the use of advanced satellite-based applications, thus providing new opportunities for protected areas and for ecotourism actors, consequently increasing their revenues.

It addresses the needs of end users, i.e. responsible travellers and tourists, seeking authentic and natural travels in well-preserved wilderness areas. Satellites support environmental mapping, site accessibility, travellers' itineraries in protected areas, geo-localised emergency services and travellers' onsite field observations.

With the first phase of SENSA's application in Kgalagadi drawing to a close, the system will now be tested in /Ai/Ais-Richtersveld and Greater Mapungubwe, where its application will enhance cross-border tourism products and law enforcement activities.

DATABASE AND MONITORING TOOL

Field data collection devices were distributed to the turtle monitoring team in Ponta do Ouro Partial Marine Reserve to allow for close-to-real-time monitoring of turtle nesting and tagging along the coast.

The development of a dolphin monitoring database and application was also presented and a test device unit left to test the system's functionality.



Denton Joachim, Craig Beech, Marina Faber, Arlene Herbst and Brennan Walsh at the Esri Africa User Conference

Following a work session with Mozambican colleagues, a monitoring tool and database will now be developed for each of the community development projects in Maputo Special Reserve and in Ponta do Ouro Partial Marine Reserve. The field data collection devices will allow for easy, efficient and standardised capturing, thereby ensuring accurate long-term monitoring and reporting.

KAZA TFCA

Time was spent with the KAZA monitoring and evaluation officer to ensure that all the necessary key performance areas and indicators, which will be required for the State of KAZA Report, are being monitored, and that they will form an integral part of the evaluation system going forward.

MALAWI-ZAMBIA TFCA

In Malawi, invasive species are regarded as the second largest threat to conservation of biodiversity after direct habitat destruction. Using GPS, the Malawi-Zambia TFCA was

assisted in tracking the extent of bracken fern invasion in Nyika. Imagery analyses will enable the calculation of the rate of expansion of the species in the park. Park management will then be in a position to determine and implement mitigation management practices.

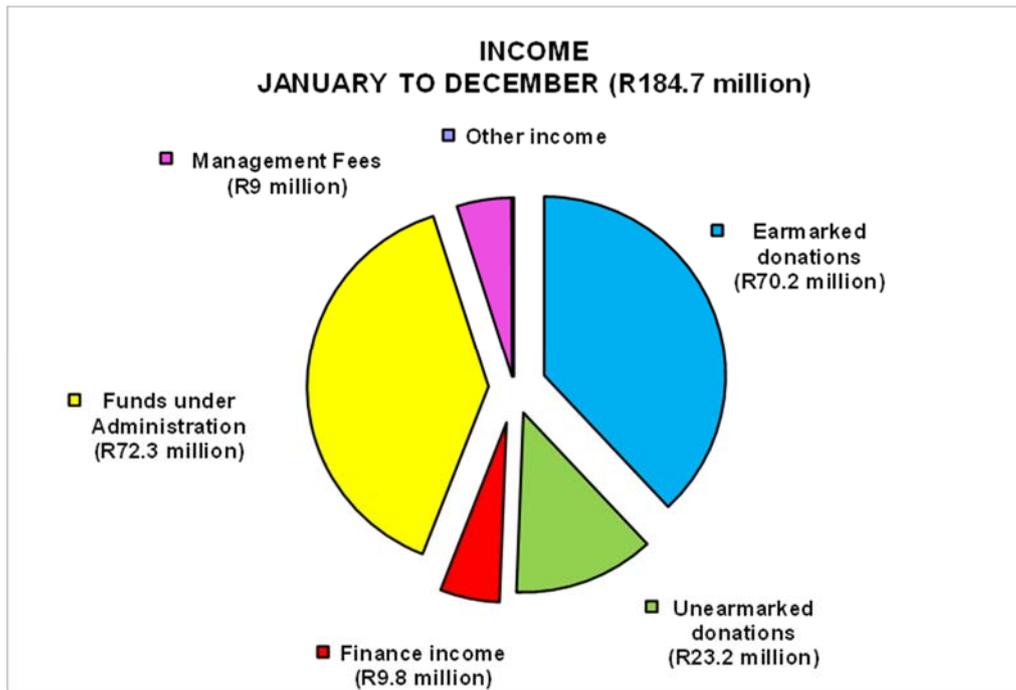
FINANCE

Lize-Mari Lynch—Financial Manager, Annine Jansen van Vuuren—Accountant, Con Cornelissen—Accountant, JP Theart—Accountant, Louis Basson—Assistant Accountant, Louise Rossouw—Assistant-Accountant: Financial Reporting, Lorriane Joone—Financial Assistant

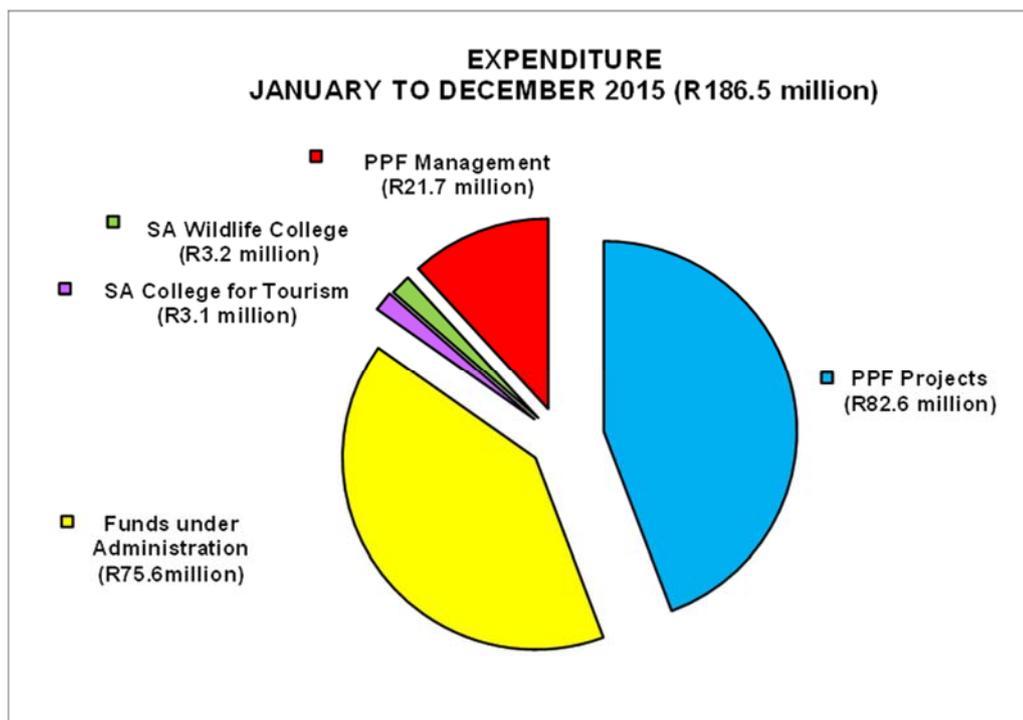
To develop and maintain accounting and control systems that will ensure accurate accounting records, reliable financial reports, compliance with company and tax laws, the protection of assets and the efficient management of funds, including payments and receipts.

Financial overview for the period January to December 2015

Income: Full year 2015 budgeted income is R 167 million. Income for the period amounted to R185 million as follows:



Expenditure: Full year 2015 budgeted expenses are R203 million. Expenditure, including project capital purchases, for the period amounted to R187 million as follows:



FUND DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Kathy Bergs— Senior Manager: Development, Claire Binneman—Senior Fundraiser, Christa Robijn—Senior Fundraiser, Angela Bundy—Grant Administrator, Irma Engelbrecht—Communications Manager, Lise-Marie Greeff-Villet— Communications Coordinator
Human Resources and Office Management: Dyan Lee—Coordinator, Talia Gründlingh—Travel Administrator, Dawid Erasmus—Messenger, Salomie Erasmus—Housekeeping

To achieve greater long-term financial stability for Peace Parks Foundation by consistently communicating its vision, mission, objectives and programmes, thereby increasing interest in the foundation's work and enlarging its supporter base, as well as conceptualising new and strengthening existing sustainable fundraising initiatives.

A Peace Parks Foundation delegation visited Amsterdam, Geneva, Stockholm, London, Frankfurt, Bonn, Oslo, Zurich and Monaco during the first three weeks of October. The visit is part of an ongoing effort to strengthen relationships with existing donors and supporters, as well as to develop new relationships.

The delegation was led by Peace Parks Foundation board members Senior Chief Inyambo Yeta of the Barotseland Royal Establishment for the first week and former Mozambican president Joaquim Chissano for the next two weeks.

There were numerous highlights of the trip, notably the highly successful Save the Rhino event co-hosted in Zurich by Mr Hansjürg and Mrs Francesca Saager and Mrs Katharina Büttiker. Thank you to the many friends and supporters who had made this extremely worthwhile trip possible.

A German website was launched at www.peaceparks.de to expand the reach with potential supporters in that market.

Media releases on the [support to Mozambique](#) to combat wildlife crime, as well as Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife's [extensive work](#) on countering the scourge of rhino poaching, were disseminated.

Peace Park Club members were treated to an exclusive opportunity to view the leatherback and loggerhead turtles in Ponta do Ouro Partial Marine Reserve from 23 - 26 November. A warm welcome to new Peace Parks Club member Stephan Sager.

Thank you for the generous support of the Dutch and Swedish postcode lotteries, who provided operational funding for the period under review. The foundation is also grateful for funding received from the World Bank's Mozbio fund for community development in the Maputo Special Reserve and Ponta do Ouro Partial Marine Reserve, as well as the European Union and the National Lotteries Commission's support of the SA College for Tourism.



Mr Werner Myburgh, Mrs Francesca Saager, Mr Joaquim Chissano, Ms Kathy Bergs and Mr Hansjürg Saager at the Zurich event



Peace Parks Foundation supporters and friends at the event of 3 December

The foundation was able to thank its many supporters at a cocktail function, hosted by chairman Mr Johann Rupert, on the evening of 3 December. With background music provided by an acoustic jazz trio, guests were able to enjoy canapés and sparkling wine, before learning of the highlights of 2015,

as presented by CEO Mr Werner Myburgh. This was followed by an update on the Rhino Protection Programme, presented by Major General (Ret) Johan Jooste, Head of Special Projects, SANParks.

SUPPORT PROGRAMMES

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

Thomas Mackenzie—Community Development Programme Manager and 19 specialist technical and operational staff

To promote sustainable economic growth and development for local communities living within and adjacent to the transfrontier conservation areas, enhancing a relationship of cooperation that ensures ecology integrity and reduces human wildlife conflict.

Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park !AE!HAI KALAHARI HERITAGE PARK

SANParks translocated 13 ostrich, 14 eland and five giraffe to the community-owned Erin Game Ranch during October. Previously, 722 animals were translocated, including blue wildebeest, hartebeest, springbok and gemsbok. Game count results from November indicated the following adult numbers on Erin: 419 gemsbok, 558 springbok, 274 red hartebeest, 183 blue wildebeest, 13 ostrich, three camel, five giraffe, 48 steenbok and 25 duiker.

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

Lubombo TFCA MAPUTO SPECIAL RESERVE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FACILITY Ahi Zamani Chemucane Community Association Hospitality Training

The second group of Chemucane learners trained by the SA College for Tourism started working on a training basis at Chemucane lodge. A total of 18 community members benefited from the training in tourism and hospitality and 14 of these are employed at Anvil Bay, the Chemucane lodge.

Conservation Agriculture

The first 60 community members participating in the project were trained in the application of fertiliser and in agricultural production. Unfortunately crops sown in October and November were lost because of the prolonged drought. Another attempt will be made once sufficient rain has fallen.

Bindzu & Tchia Agricultural Project

The harvest of green beans, cucumbers, carrots and sweet peppers was sold in a variety of markets in Maputo, as well as to large retailers. A



Photo: Andrea Borgarello_World Bank

new diesel-powered pump was replaced, at no extra cost to the project.

Matchia Community Chilli Project

Land preparation was concluded and a total of seven hectares prepared for 2015/2016 season. With technical assistance from the Elephant Pepper Development Trust, farmers were trained to produce 27 000 chilli seedlings. They were also trained on eradicating pests, fertilisation and better ways to maintain moisture. Irrigation equipment, consisting of main lines, sub-lines and drips lines was purchased for the new area of production.

Machangulo Project

An agricultural extension officer was appointed to oversee conservation agriculture and honey production and serve as a liaison between communities located in the northern section of the reserve. A master plan for the Maputo Special Reserve/Ponta do Ouro Partial Marine Reserve/Machangulo complex was developed and includes the expansion of existing projects, as well as new initiatives such as reproductive health.

Sustainable Fishing in Maputo Bay

A contract with Centro Terra Viva to research the extent of artisanal fishing in Maputo Bay was signed. The project was introduced to the Machangulo Community Fishing Association with a request to identify candidates for monitoring fishing catches.

Mozbio Project

The consortium of Peace Parks

Foundation and the Joaquim Chissano Foundation won the World Bank bid as service provider to support the development of projects for enhancing communities' livelihoods in Maputo Special Reserve and Ponta do Ouro Partial Marine Reserve. The consortium presented a work plan, to be implemented once the contract with the National Administration of Conservation Areas has been signed.

KAZA TFCA SIMALAHA COMMUNITY CONSERVANCY Conservation Agriculture

Farmer selection and the training of lead farmers was carried out, working closely with the government agricultural extension workers. All existing village action groups, which oversee the implementation of community projects and the coordination of land allocation, received training, as well as the new farmers. Maize, sorghum, groundnuts, cow peas and millet seed were procured and distributed to the 150 new farmers. Cassava cuttings were secured for delivery in 2016.

The Sesheke and Kazungula District are both in a high-risk situation in terms of food security. The drought throughout southern Africa has been detrimental and while crops were planted, many have failed to germinate. To try to alleviate the situation, extra sorghum seed was purchased and delivered to each of the new farmers. The conservation agriculture manager has also arranged that breweries in Livingstone will buy any excess sorghum that the farmers can produce.

COMBATTING WILDLIFE CRIME

Brad Poole—Programme Manager, Douglas Gillings—Project Manager, Heloise de Villiers—Programme Administrator

To assist the TFCA partner countries and their conservation agencies in developing strategies, in securing funds and in implementing key interventions to combat wildlife crime

The Rhino Protection Programme is funded by the Dutch Postcode Lottery, Swedish Postcode Lottery, Fondation Hoffmann, Neville and Pamela Isdell, Mrs Irene M. Staehelin, The Charge, The Reinet Foundation, The Rufford Foundation, The Sophia Foundation and The Van Zyl Family.

CHEMICAL ALTERATION

In concluding the investigations into the possible chemical alteration of rhino horn, it was deduced that this was not a viable option and the decision was made to concentrate on other potential devaluation options, namely the irradiation of rhino horn and rhino rapid response and tracking solutions.

RHINO TRACKING AND RAPID RESPONSE

Four rhino tracking, early warning and rapid response pilot projects were initiated with partner organisations to investigate and test various options around sensor technology and how the Internet can be leveraged to enhance the efforts around rhino protection and combatting wildlife crime. The objective of these systems is to monitor animals in real time and provide early warning and monitoring combinations to determine if an animal is at risk or has been poached. This will assist the various conservation agencies to increase the effectiveness of their response. This is also envisaged to significantly increase the success and effectiveness of evidence collection at crime scenes, in order to increase conviction rates and further deter would-be poachers.

SUPPORT TO KRUGER NATIONAL PARK



A new accommodation unit was erected to house security personnel in Skukuza, and the counter-poaching unit received four all-terrain vehicles to improve patrol capabilities in remote locations.

The ranger training programme for 2015 concluded with more than 300 rangers and patrol leaders benefiting from advanced counter-poaching and leadership skills education.

SUPPORT TO LIMPOPO NATIONAL PARK

As part of its commitment to further bilateral cooperation in the war against wildlife crime, Mozambique was presented with [a donation of equipment](#) to the value of R2.6 million to help strengthen its environmental law enforcement efforts. The donation included a brand new Savannah S Light Sport Aircraft, to augment aerial counter-poaching and wildlife monitoring activities. Peace Parks Foundation also completed the installation of an advanced digital communication system in Limpopo National Park. This system allows for encrypted, secure communication with a much improved quality of sound and reliability. It also enables cross-border communications between Limpopo and Kruger national parks, as part of their joint operations requirements.



SUPPORT TO EZEMVELO KZN WILDLIFE

New digital radio systems were installed in eight of Ezemvelo's rhino reserves, with five more reserves to receive similar systems early in the new year. Peace Parks Foundation also started with the roll-out of improved gate security, as well as the installation of guard observation towers at strategic positions along reserve boundaries. Ithala was the first reserve to receive upgraded gate surveillance capacity, while the first two of 13 towers were erected at Weenen and Spioenkop.

TECHNOLOGY

Following a recent change in regulations governing the operation of unmanned aerial vehicles (drones), the foundation's service provider, UAV and Drone Solutions, became the first operator to receive a UAV pilot license from the Civil Aviation Authority in South Africa. This allowed for crucial UAV test programmes and operational counter-poaching support to resume in Kruger National Park in December.

FURS FOR LIFE PROJECT



Photo: Michael Viljoen

Thanks to the generous support by Cartier, Peace Parks Foundation has joined forces with Panthera to reduce the number of leopard killed for their fur, which is used in traditional ceremonies throughout Africa. Working with local communities, the aim is to deliver 18 000 capes made of fabric by 2017.

During the period under review, an additional 1 327 fabric capes were distributed to members of the Shembe Church, bringing the total number of capes donated in 2015 to 5 486, and to 10 647 since the onset of the project. Research has shown that the endorsement of fabric capes by the church leadership and other dignitaries has had a significant impact on the behaviour of Shembe members, increasing acceptance of and demand for the capes as an alternative to leopard skin.

TRAINING

SA COLLEGE FOR TOURISM

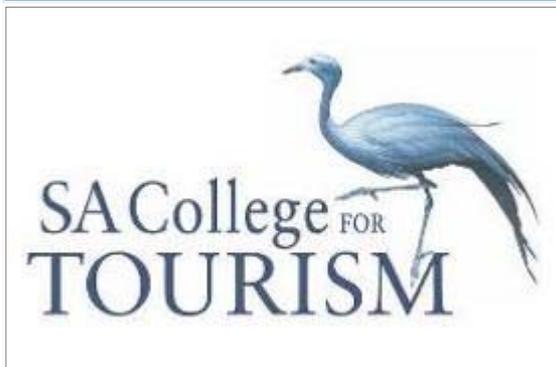
André Kilian—Executive Director

Hospitality Division: One training manager, four trainers, two training support staff and four general staff members

Tracker Academy: One training manager, two trainers and one assessor. **Drostdy Learnership Training Programme:**

One assessor Drostdy Hotel Laundry Service: One manager and four assistants

To train and capacitate unemployed and marginalised individuals, predominantly women, from rural communities in hospitality services and in tracking animals in the wild, to enable them to benefit from the opportunities offered by the nature-based tourism industry in or adjacent to the TFCAs.



On 20 November 2015, SA College for Tourism ended its 15th year on a high note when it celebrated the graduation of 89 young women and 16 young men from rural southern Africa with national certificates in hospitality services and tracking animals in the wild respectively. This brought to an end a successful training year which saw the hospitality training division achieving its highest year-end exam results ever and, as was the case with the Tracker Academy, yet another 100% pass rate.

Graduation Day was preceded with a dinner for graduation guests at 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 company. 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.

The 19 Drostdy Hotel learnership participants, i.e. 2014 graduates, who will graduate at a function at the hotel on the 15th of January, have all been placed successfully with hospitality establishments.

The number of participants in the graduate tracking efforts of the college has reached 957 out of a possible 1 100. According to the report, a 95% deployment rate has been achieved in respect of the 89 young women who graduated in November 2014.

All but one of the first tracker trainee intake of 2014, who graduated in November 2014, are permanently employed in the conservation industry. The exception has embarked on further training with the Field Guide Association of Southern Africa. Of those employed, four have found jobs at private eco-tourism lodges, one on a private game farm and the remaining two are working in unarmed animal monitoring positions.

Of the eight graduates who completed their tracker training at

Londolozi at the end of June 2015, seven have found employment with African Parks in Zambia, with the Kwandwe Reserve in the Eastern Cape, at Timbavati River Lodge in Limpopo and at Samara Private Game Reserve as a rhino monitor. The last of the group has been recruited by a research team in Namibia working with Honey Badgers.

Of the 74 students trained since 2010, 68 have been deployed, which translates to a rate of 92%. Of the group of 11 students who completed their training in November, Mthabiseni Nkwanyan found employment at K9 Conservation (anti-poaching), Sakhile Mthetwa was employed as a full-time tracker at Thornybush Nature Reserve, Vusi Mathebula was employed by Earth Touch, a wildlife film company, while Mowell Dsunisane and Sersant Sibuyi took up guiding posts at private lodges in Sabi Sands Game Reserves. This is an exceptional feat, since the students only graduated on the 20th of November.



SOUTHERN AFRICAN WILDLIFE COLLEGE

Theresa Sowry—Chief Executive Officer, André Cornelius—Executive Manager: Operations, Sharmain Hanekom—Executive Manager: Finances and 90 staff members

To produce, through cutting edge, hands-on training programmes, highly competent and motivated protected area managers that are able to manage and conserve their protected areas and associated fauna and flora on a sustainable basis within the stated conservation objectives and in cooperation with local communities.



The year 2015 was the most successful one in the history of the college. The income target of over R36 million was surpassed and 2 000 students were trained across different conservation disciplines. Occupancy rates were higher than ever, while seven staff houses were built and occupied and the ranger training station became fully operational as part of the college expansion. The K9 unit became a reality thanks to the WWF Nedbank GreenTrust and, starting 2016, rangers will be trained as dog handlers to help fight rhino poaching.

GRADUATION AND ROYAL VISIT

This marked the 18th year that the college has been offering its flagship protected area management programmes designed to help achieve long-lasting conservation results across the region. During 2015, 50 students from nine different countries across the southern African region graduated from the college's Higher and Advanced Certificate Programmes in Nature Conservation.

The college was privileged to be included in HRH Prince Harry's visit to southern Africa. Following his visit to Kruger National Park on 2 December, he met with students at the college's field ranger training base and then went on to meet with the graduands of the Wildlife Area Management training programme.

During his visit, Prince Harry spoke of his love of Africa and concern for its wildlife. In addressing the graduands, Prince Harry called the battle against poaching a test for all humanity, which we cannot afford to fail. "There is no pretending that this will be easy," he added. "But when we win this battle, the victory will belong to those of you on the frontline." Prince Harry also said: "I am delighted to announce today that my brother's United for Wildlife partnership will work with, and fund, the Southern African Wildlife College so that its graduates are equipped with the best techniques and technologies available to protect some of the world's most endangered species." The collaboration will provide significant funding to help train wildlife area managers and field rangers protecting southern Africa's endangered species, whilst also providing support to the Community-based Natural Resource Management unit.

The Higher Education and Training Wildlife Area Management students, who hail from nine countries including Congo Brazzaville, Ethiopia, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Zimbabwe and Zambia, celebrated their graduation in a ceremony that honoured their dedication and commitment to conservation and their studies.

The guest speaker was Professor Bimo Nkhata, Director and Associate Professor of the Water Research Node at Monash University in South Africa. Professor Nkhata, who is an alumni of the first Wildlife Area Management Programme offered at the college in 1998, highlighted how education is vital to achieving success. "I am without doubt a living testimony to the value and power of education that enables us to build our futures to progress and become leaders in organisations, communities, business or government and in the field of conservation."

The much-anticipated Southern African Wildlife College Trust scholarship awards went to three students from the Higher Certificate class, namely Francis Chitsa (Zimbabwe), Dirk Pienaar (South Africa) and Sambiana Limbani (Zambia). The scholarships awarded will enable these students to continue their studies at the college, where they will complete the Advanced Certificate programme.



During the graduation ceremony, five students were awarded for their outstanding achievements and hard work during the year. From left: Justice Mafumba - Best Financial Management Student and Best Student Overall in the Advanced Certificate in Transfrontier Conservation Management (Cum Laude), Francis Chitsa - Best Animal Studies Student and Best Student Overall in the Higher Certificate in Nature Conservation Implementation and Leadership (Cum Laude), Maybin Mwansa from Zambia Wildlife Authority - the Rosie Sturgis Award for the Most Improved Student, and Lovison Ncube - Hans Hoheisen Award for the Best Protected Area Management Student, all of whom are from Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife Management. Absent from the photo was Dirk Pienaar from Ae!Hai Kalahari Heritage Park, in the Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park, who was awarded the WWF South Africa Award for the Most Outstanding South African Student.



A non-profit organisation

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Fundraising number:
005-294 NPO

PBO number:
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Peace Parks Foundation
has an ethics hotline

Details are at
www.peaceparks.org
under Contact Us



The peace parks process

The peace parks concept is as glorious as it is bold: vast conservation areas straddling national borders, of sufficient scale to incorporate entire biomes, of sufficient integrity to restore the ancient patterns of diverse ecological systems and reconnect the shared cultures of local communities.

Southern Africa's peace parks today incorporate over half of the declared conservation estate in the region. These areas are astounding in their extent (collectively measuring over a million square kilometres) and in their natural magnificence, rich

biodiversity and cultural significance.

The establishment of each peace park is complex and far-reaching, involving many stakeholders. The typical process involves distinct phases of activity, which can take many years to achieve.

Peace Parks Foundation facilitates each of the development phases. These include engendering political support, promoting joint planning and management structures, boosting good governance and capacity building and optimising the delivery pipeline to

ensure that 100% of donor funding finds its way to projects on the ground.

The foundation also supports the development of a favourable environment for public/private partnerships and the overall improvement of the quality of life of people living in and adjacent to the peace parks.

Visit us at
www.peaceparks.org

An invitation to invest

Peace Parks Foundation enjoys the support of international public funders and financial institutions, listed companies, family foundations and individuals. The foundation gives donors the opportunity to invest not only in a brighter future for Africa, but also in sustainable solutions for a better world.

Donors are the lifeblood of the foundation, providing all the working capital requirements of the organisation and facilitating vital conservation, tourism and community projects on the ground.

There are many options of support available. The foundation's Club 21 comprises individuals, families and corporate members who have

donated US\$1 million or more to the foundation's work.

The Peace Parks Club comprises corporate members that donated \$50 000 and individual members who donated \$5 000. A membership is valid for 10 years. The option of \$10 000 p.a. over six years for corporate members or \$1 000 p.a. over six years for individual members also exists.

Other options of support include bequests through the Peace Parks Foundation Legacy Society and the funding of specific projects, ranging from social development and education to conservation.

In order to optimise the foundation's fundraising potential, structures that allow donations to be

made in a tax-efficient manner have been created in Germany, the Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland, the UK and the USA.

We invite you to become part of this African story of hope and progress and would welcome a conversation on how you can support the work of Peace Parks Foundation in whatever way, no matter how big or small.

For more information on the support options, kindly contact Kathy Bergs at:

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