GROOTBOS FOUNDATION

CHANGING LIVES THROUGH:

GREEN FUTURES
FOOTBALL FOUNDATION
SIYAKHULA

www.grootbosfoundation.org
2014 / 2015 HIGHLIGHTS OVERVIEW

- Achieved a reach of more than 5 000 beneficiaries
- 1 200 kg’s of honey produced
- 3 tonnes of organic produce supplied to Grootbos lodges
- Water rebottling project started
- Candle recycling started
- Careers and Enterprise Programme, in partnership with ABSA
- 6 019 hectares cleared of alien vegetation
- 461 indigenous trees planted as part of the forest rehabilitation
- Elim Road project landscaping completed
OUR VISION

Transforming communities and conserving our environment through the creation of sustainable livelihoods and active citizenship

Our story shows how the Grootbos Foundation continued its commitment to the conservation of the Grootbos Private Nature Reserve, the greater Walker Bay conservancy and how it made a real difference in children’s and the broader communities’ lives throughout the year.

Foreword

From humble beginnings, the Lutzeyer family’s passion for the community and environment that surrounds their lodges, to the formal establishment of the Grootbos Foundation in 2003, our programmes continue to grow from strength to strength and touch the lives of many people in a positive way. As we look back over the last 12 months, it is with pride and gratitude, as we recognise and celebrate just how much the Grootbos Foundation has achieved in the last year, and more importantly, consistently over the last 12 year journey.

Our annual community survey, was completed in April with a sample of 156 respondents from 3 local communities (Masakhane, Blompark, Stanford); and 79% were positive about the Grootbos Foundation and wanted to participate, continue to participate or learn more about our projects.

While the most important validation of the difference that we run programmes make is the approval and license of the communities in which we operate, it is warming to receive external and peer recognition from time to time. It is with immense pride that Foundation Directors Lean and Julie accepted the WTM Africa Gold Award for Poverty Reduction, and that Lean and Jan Lutzeyer accepted the We Are Africa Innovation Award on behalf of Grootbos Private Nature Reserve in partnership with the Grootbos Foundation, in the categories of Engage Africa and Experience Africa.

The single biggest challenge that faces our work and the ability to consistently deliver high quality programmes to the most marginalised members of our communities is that of funding. At the Grootbos Foundation we rely heavily on donor funding, and that precious resource is rare and difficult to come by.

The Foundation has recently contracted a specialist fundraiser to ensure that we can sustainably deliver on the needs of our surrounding communities into the future, as well as conserve the environment for all of our children and children’s children. There are seldom enough resources to go around, and so we thank you for your continued support and interest in our Foundation. Donors and partners such as you enable us to keep the light of opportunity shining for many, many people.

It takes many hands and our tight knit, dedicated team work tirelessly, often on weekends, to deliver on all the programmes. Our passionate team are the catalysts for what we have achieved.

In the last financial year alone, more than 3 500 children regularly took part in our sports and education activities, and a further 2 000 benefited from our high schools’ Careers & Employability Programme. More than 6 000 ha have been maintained clear of alien vegetation, and close to 500 more indigenous trees planted.

We invite you to read further and experience the highlights of the last 12 months. For in-depth insights about our work and visual validation of the successes, visit our website at www.grootbosfoundation.org.

Julie Cheetham & Leán Terblanche - Directors
The Growing the Future organic farm continues to run as a commercial enterprise, providing an important source of sustainable longer term revenue for foundation projects. The farm is producing well and provides a steady supply of organic produce to the Grootbos lodges.

2014 / 2015 - 3 tonnes of organic fruit and vegetables produced

A 300 square metre tunnel has been added to the farm. The tunnel will assist in increasing the stability and continuity of producing throughout the year and in particular in the difficult Cape winter conditions. We are hoping the tunnel will increase production by 30%, allowing us to provide a total of 50% of fresh produce to Grootbos lodges by 2017.

Micro herbs are popular with the Grootbos lodge kitchens. We have produced 3 663 trays in the year, an average of 305 trays per month.

The farm now has 300 resident chickens supplying organic eggs. We supplied 38 832 eggs in the 2014/15 financial year and are hoping to double this in the next year.

HONEY

High quality, ethically produced honey is produced on Grootbos by the Growing the Futures team. We now have 120 colonies at 8 apiary sites and have produced 1 200 kg’s of honey in 2014/15.

Many of South Africa’s bees are threatened by AFB (American Foulbrood). A number of measures and precautions, in line with the barrier method, have been put in place to ensure our sites are not infected with the contagion.

Our rare, single-blossom Erica irregularis honey has been included in the recently developed personal product range now available in the Grootbos lodges’ restrooms, suites, gift shops and spa.
WATER BOTTLING

With a vision to eliminate plastic from our Crootbos Private Nature Reserve, the water bottling set up became operational in November 2014. We have removed 30,000 single use and plastic bottles from the reserve this annum.

Water is pumped through an ancient limestone aquifer bore hole and gravity fed to the bottling plant at Steynsbos. Both sparkling and still water are bottled in glass at this source and served to lodge guests.

Water bottling not only generates income or provides funding for foundation programmes but is a key conservation initiative contributing towards the Crootbos lodges’ sustainable and eco destination credentials.

CANDLE RECYCLING

Cheap imported candles and 5 kg of residual wax waste per day were replaced in the Crootbos lodges last year by the Foundation’s candle recycling initiative. Glass containers are collected, refilled and reused by the Foundation.

Apart from the environmental benefits, this initiative has assisted in creating two permanent positions.

PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHT:
Careers, Employment and Entrepreneurship

We launched a three part Careers, Employability and Enterprise Programme addressing career guidance, career planning, enterprise and entrepreneurship skills. The programme components are as follows:

- Subject choice workshops for Grade 9’s
- Career choice for Grade 11 and 12
- Entrepreneurship for Grade 11 and 12

Subject choice and career choice workshops are run under the careful guidance of Dr Litha Beekman, a career psychologist.

1 992 learners across five different Overstrand high schools (Hawston Secondary, Albert Myburgh Secondary in Bredarsdorp, Gansbaai Academia, Hermanus High and Quayiya) participated.

Some entrepreneurship success stories:

Sandra Muchanyara
(Hermanus High Grade 12 learner) has a passion for baking. She calls her baking business, Nilla Pod Bakery ‘The True Essence of Food’. She has been on a cupcake decorating course and received financial assistance to cover the start-up costs of her business.

Lunga Ngqazo
(Albert Myburgh Secondary School, Bredarsdorp, Grade 10) is passionate about carpentry. He joined, The Joshua Tree, carpentry team and excelled in his work experience set up for him.
FOOTBALL FOUNDATION

The Foundation offers hockey, football, netball and athletics programmes to communities in 6 different sites in the Overberg area, 6 days a week through 8 different programmes.

Natasha Bredekamp, the programme manager oversees the running of all 8 programmes and manages a team of 10 coaches, recruited and developed from the local communities.

Over and above, offering children access to safe places to develop their sporting skills, the sport programmes create a platform from which to deliver other educational messages, addressing social integration and other pressing social issues and topics such as female empowerment, numeracy and literacy, stranger danger and healthy nutrition.

The programmes reach extends to 3 547 beneficiaries between the ages of 6 to 18 years of age and all in all resulted in 403 820 contact hours last year.

The local coaching skills development has been a rewarding aspect of the FF programmes. Mziyanda Matiwane and Bulelani Mtobela are now completing Phase 3 of Premier Skills, hosted by the Premier League and British Council, and together they are running Coach Education workshops passing on the new skills and information they have learnt in their studies.
“As a volunteer it was possible to combine everything that I love: working with kids, hockey and teaching. I want to say thank you to all the people who made my last months the best of my life which I will never forget”

Lara - Ruetten, Germany

The International Volunteer & Internship Programme provides much needed assistance to the sport programmes and local coaches. We have had

48 international volunteers

and interns in the last year. The Foundation provides them with a great platform to explore, engage and interact with the local communities of Masakhane, Blompark and Hermanus.

Recent visa regulation changes have made it more difficult for volunteers applying for visas but hopefully the processing will not stem the future supply of volunteers and their much needed support.

REGULAR PARTICIPATION NUMBERS:

SOCcer | 1014
Hockey | 596
Netball | 131
Athletics | 1036
Holiday Programmes | 1067
GREEN FUTURES

LANDSCAPING & NURSERY

The plant sales and landscaping service have had a great year. On average the landscaping team has completed one garden a month and continue to maintain four gardens in the Hermanus area.

Last year, the Green Futures team was awarded a contract, as a subcontractor for Haw & Ingles on the Elim Road Project. The Elim Road project is the construction of a new tarred road from Uilenkrans to Elim.

Green Futures’ role has been to landscape in the towns, through which the road runs and rehabilitate the fynbos disturbed by the construction process. The project is due to be completed at the end of September this year.

Upcoming Projects:

- The team has been awarded the landscaping Masakhane Primary School garden servicing to the value of R 800 000.
- Hermanus Cliff Path rehabilitation plant supply will provide some income for the nursery.
- Short courses in horticulture training have been tailor made for other organisations such as WWF, Working For Water & Flower Valley.

Training, Education, Certification

Due to the commitments of the Elim road project, the horticultural training was postponed for the 2015 intake.

Since 2003, 188 students have graduated through this AgriSeta accredited programme and we look forward to the new recruitment process, which will commence in October and the new intake of 10 students who will start at the beginning of 2016.

In the interim, Green Futures, in conjunction with Lobster Ink, an internationally recognised online hospitality training programme, has launched its first housekeeping course, with an intake of 10 learners.

The six-month course comprised of online training sessions in the morning and mentored practical sessions in the lodges in the afternoons. The first enrolment has been a success, with not one student dropping out, all graduating successfully.

Of the 10 graduates, five are continuing with further service training and one is going on to do bar training.

Another highlight of 2014/15 were the students (Zokhanya Bikani, Thilivhali Muvhali, Snow Godlo, Ntembeka Magdwada) who went to the Eden Project in Cornwall in the UK for a three week exchange and experiential training in March and April 2015.
CONSERVATION HIGHLIGHTS

Conservation remains a key focus area. The Foundation continues to offer operational, administrative and office support to the Walker Bay Fynbos Conservancy (WBFC), thereby supporting the ethos of conservation beyond Grootbos Private Nature Reserve. The WBFC now includes 25 members and extends to 15,000 ha.

A new botanical survey is underway, remapping and documenting the changes to the original plant plots, which were last surveyed in 1997, 18 years ago. The findings will allow us to start determining how climate change has affected the fynbos and how fire and succession have played a role in changes to species biodiversity.

Invasive alien plants are one of the most concerning threats to the fynbos biome. Clearing alien plants is integral to fynbos landscape management. In the last financial year, 6,019 hectares have been cleared and maintained in the Walker Bay conservancy. This includes clearing alien vegetation on the 2,500 hectares of the Grootbos Private Nature Reserve.

Some of the alien clearing teams have evolved into entrepreneurial micro-businesses, where enterprising individuals run clearing teams and employ between 32 - 40 people between them.

Grootbos has set up 8 camera traps, 4 on the Grootbos Private Nature Reserve and 4 additional across the WBFC. The Foundation manages the camera trap findings and have been very excited about what they have come across, as part of a broader ecological research programme.

FUTURE TREES

The rehabilitation of Milkwood forest burnt in the 2006 fire is ongoing.

Grootbos lodges offer the purchase and planting of an indigenous tree as a eco guest activity and this has proven a useful additional income generator for the Foundation. In the last financial year, 461 trees were planted.

Alien Clearing Entrepreneurs

- July Dingani
- David Booyzen
- Princess Kutuka
- Joyce Mtsha
LOOKING AHEAD

JEWELLERY

We are exploring possibilities of developing jewellery skills alongside a simple but high end Grootbos Foundation range, to be sold in Grootbos Lodge galleries.

We have identified a partnership opportunity with Ralph and Heidi Walton jewellers, who have on- site training capacity and facilities at their retail space in Hermanus.

There is potential to have a short turnaround time to start generating a revenue stream, which in turn can fund the project and ensure the project sustainability.

WATER SAFETY

Drowning is a leading cause of unnatural deaths of children in South Africa. It is ironic that while Gansbaai communities are so dependent on the sea, learning to swim is a luxury that few in the Masakhane and Blompark communities can afford.

As there are currently no swimming pool facilities available, we would have to source funding for a swimming pool facility, ideally on the existing sports grounds in Gansbaai.

The idea is to provide basic water safety training to children at Grade R level.

THE GREEN CORRIDOR VISION

One of the green corridors prioritised by the WWF sees the linking up of the Walker Bay Conservancy to the Agulhas National Park in a green corridor covering 43 000 hectares.

It is a challenging, ambitious dream but the Grootbos Foundation team has been laying the ground work to plan out how this could be implemented and how to best raise the funds that would be required.

COMRADES

We hope to support three learners (Themba, Thembasile & Marco), who are showing great potential to run the Comrades Marathon in 2016.

At the recent Knysna Half Marathon, Themba came 9th, Thembasile came in 14th place and Marco came 20th. Themba was selected for the Bolland team and will participate in the Springbok Athletics team trials.
FINANCIALS

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<tr>
<td>Revenue</td>
<td>7 875 965</td>
<td>3 416 812</td>
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<tr>
<td>Operating expenses</td>
<td>6 604 823</td>
<td>3 344 557</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gross profit</td>
<td>1 271 142</td>
<td>72 255</td>
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<td>Net finance income</td>
<td>51 347</td>
<td>39 733</td>
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<td>Net surplus for the year</td>
<td>1 322 489</td>
<td>111 988</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total comprehensive income for the year</td>
<td>1 322 489</td>
<td>111 988</td>
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INCOME vs EXPENDITURE

[Insert pie charts showing income and expenses distribution]
All our work and successes are only possible thanks to the support we receive from partners and donors.