



**CONSERVATION
SOUTH AFRICA**



Member of the CI Network



RESTORING OUR LAND OF OPPORTUNITY
ANNUAL REPORT 2018

OUR APPROACH IS SIMPLE YET TRANSFORMATIVE.

Conservation South Africa supports economic development that values nature because people need nature to thrive.

OUR Vision

Conservation South Africa imagines a healthy prosperous country, where critical landscapes in South Africa's biodiversity hotspots are restored and maintained to provide water, food and climate change resilience for sustainable economic development and the long-term benefit of people and nature.

OUR Mission

To promote and support conservation, restoration, and sustainable land use in three landscapes within South Africa's biodiversity hotspots as an essential element of sustainable food production, building resilience to the impacts of climate change, and promoting regional economic development that values nature.

OUR Structure

Conservation South Africa is an independent affiliate of Conservation International, legally registered as a Section 18A Public benefit organisation in South Africa. As an affiliate, Conservation South Africa subscribes to the aspirational vision and mission, strategic framework, and operational requirements of Conservation International, but is enabled to adapt language and specific policies and goals to the unique context of South Africa.



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ENHANCED SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

IMPACT AT A GLANCE 2018

3 DEMONSTRATION LANDSCAPES
>1,500 000 HECTARES IN TOTAL



OPERATIONAL STAFF
55

692 COMMUNITY
MEMBERS TRAINED



13 TRAINING COURSES OFFERED
(E-STUDY, WORK READINESS &
BASIC COMPUTER LITERACY)



TRAINED
73 NURSES



251 501 Ha
TOTAL GRAZING AREA
UNDER MANAGEMENT



56 JOBS CREATED



3 INPUTS INTO NATIONAL POLICY
AND GUIDELINES



4828m³ TOTAL AMOUNT OF
EROSION CONTROL



390 EMPLOYED ENVIRONMENTAL
RESTORATION WORKERS



1200
SUPPORTED FARMERS
138 additional farmers supported
by Meat Naturally in Mzimvubu



3848 CHILDREN / YOUTH
REACHED THROUGH
COMPUTER CENTRES



1710 CHILDREN / YOUTH
REACHED THROUGH VALUES
BASED ENVIRON. EDUCATION
(SCOUTS)



8 CLIMATE CHANGE
PREPAREDNESS WORKSHOP
NAMAKWALAND



3314 DIRECT BENEFICIARIES
IN CI LANDSCAPE



82 COMMUNITY ENTERPRISES
SUPPORTED (SMME'S, GRAZING,
ASSOCIATIONS, MEAT NATURALLY, AND
THE BIODIVERSITY AND RED MEAT CO-OP)



2389 INDIVIDUALS THAT
DEMONSTRATE FINANCIAL
KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS



29 RAINWATER TANKS
INSTALLED NAMAKWALAND



8 NUMBER OF SPRINGS
RESTORED IN MZIMVUBU

RESTORING OUR RANGELAND



South Africa has much to celebrate. It is a land blessed with vibrant people and vast natural resources.

Rangelands are home to most of the country's communal farmers as well as three-quarters of all the poor people in South Africa.



Healthy rangelands are a source of income for livestock farming and agriculture. They prevent erosion, so that things can grow.



Did you know 80% of South Africa's lands are rangelands? Rangelands have "high biodiversity", which means they have a lot of different types of plants, flowers and animals that are under threat.

OUR RANGELANDS ARE ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT.

Rangelands are grasslands, shrublands, woodlands, wetlands and deserts where wildlife and livestock graze.



They form much of the natural countryside, or veld, in South Africa.



Conserving South Africa's rangelands is very important to the well-being of the animals that graze on them and of the vulnerable communities who depend on them to earn a living.



They provide food, shelter material, and medicine, so that people can survive. They store water, so that we can drink. They absorb harmful gases from the atmosphere, so that we can breathe clean air and have blue skies. But our rangelands are in increasing danger.



Conservation South Africa and our partners are on a mission to restore these rangelands, empower communities, and return the rangelands to being our land of opportunity.

Rangelands cover 47% of the Earth's land surface and provide livelihoods to 180 million people globally including more than 20 million pastoralists in Africa.

Conservation South Africa (CSA) is dedicated to restoring landscapes and livelihoods in South Africa's communal rangelands. CSA's work continues to deliver results that are being used to amplify successful projects within South Africa and the region. CSA continues to champion the importance of rangeland restoration through Conservation International and Regional channels.

CSA was privileged to engage directly with the newly appointed Conservation International (CI) CEO Sanjayan, who visited our programmes in August 2017. CSA continues to align and work closely with the CI Africa division to promote the importance of rangeland restoration and discuss possibilities for taking successful strategies to scale. CSA remains an active player in the regional Gaborone Declaration for Sustainable Development.

Sarah Frazee our founder, CEO and tireless rangeland restoration champion will be leaving the organisation at the end of the next fiscal year and we have begun a process of selecting a new CEO. On behalf of the board and the organisation I would like to thank Sarah for her vision, passion and dedication which are reflected in the key achievements of CSA over the years. She will continue to be a dynamic player in the conservation sector in a more dedicated role with Meat Naturally Pty.

Sincere thanks also to our dedicated and dependable Board of Directors, donors and partners as well as the CSA staff who together, continue to realise our hope to restore our rangeland of opportunity.

Simon Susman



MESSAGE FROM **THE CHAIRMAN**

CSA's "rangeland restoration model" is based on scientifically informed restoration best practice and the development of innovative market access strategies developed over a number of years across three demonstration landscapes; Mzimvubu, Namakwa and Kruger to Canyons in two major biodiversity hotspots over the last 17 years.

The model demonstrates how investment in rangeland restoration pays dividends for eco-system health and human wellbeing.

Our vision remains intact to restore African rangelands for the long term benefit of people and nature. Revived rangelands protect South Africa's biodiversity, absorb more carbon; improve livelihoods and build resilience to a changing climate.

To this end, 2018 has been an incredible year where CSA landscape teams not only sustained gains on 207 000 ha, but further increased restoration and improved grazing practices on an additional 44 501 ha and are busy with negotiations with communities to add > 60 000 ha in the coming year.

Like many NGOs, we are facing a number of challenges including the harsh global economy which is impacting on the available funding pool. In South Africa we have seen reduced government funding and delays in government contracting for restoration work that have strained both our staff and the communities we work in. Our teams working in remote areas have had to manage their work under incredibly difficult times of power outages, water service failures, and intimidating service delivery protests. It is an incredible testimony of their commitment to our vision that we were still able to meet all of our programme goals.

In this year's annual report we take a closer look at our 2020 goals, achievements from the last financial year and what still needs to be done. We also share lessons learned and how we have begun to replicate our rangeland restoration approach in other parts of the country and the region. We highlight a number of ways we intend to amplify successful projects throughout the report.

I hope you will enjoy reading the report.



MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

Sarah Frazee

HOW FAR HAVE WE COME?



In 2015 Conservation South Africa (CSA) embarked on an ambitious five-year strategy based on three long-term goals derived from the 20-year strategy that was developed in 2000. These goals promote and demonstrate how healthy ecosystems directly support economic development.

OUR 2020 GOALS:

Sustainable farming practices that contribute to food security and support successful land reform are adopted by government and agricultural industry bodies, with farmers implementing good practice on 20% of the land within the SA Hotspots.

Government and donors have integrated ecological approaches into their strategies for responding to climate change, and CSA has supported the maintenance and restoration of ecosystem services, particularly water catchments, through the empowerment of private and communal land stewards in three landscapes (>300 000 ha each).

The South African government and private sector are pursuing economic development that values and maintains natural capital and that CSA-supported initiatives in the SA Hotspots are creating important demonstrations and learnings for greening economic development at a range of scales.

2018 overall impact from the CEO Sarah Frazee:

Our team has negotiated and supported implementation of conservation agreements with 1,383 farmers for improved rangeland management and restoration on 338,233 hectares of high bio-diversity communal lands (38% over target).

Progress towards Conservation South Africa (CSA) 2020 Goals: Sustainable Agriculture



2020 Goal: Sustainable farming practices that contribute to food security and support successful land reform are adopted by government and agricultural industry bodies, with farmers implementing good practice on 20% of the land within the SA Hotspots.

- We employed >450 people from the communities we work with to support the restoration of their Rangelands.
- As an additional innovation, CSA launched a volunteer alien clearing community model in 8 villages across our focal areas, empowering land users to be stewards of their own resources
- On December 17, 2017 in the Mzimvubu, community livestock sale incentives for rotational resting via Meat Naturally Pty totaled R7.58 Million to >300 households as opposed to R1.63 million in 2016, a 466% increase in one year!
- CSA supported governance development of 12 farmers associations across the three landscapes to move our conservation agreements into a supply chain agreement with Meat Naturally, thereby ensuring continued commitment to conservation gains.



“There was no opportunity to learn about nature that was before Khuselindalo came to our village.

We are now experts in land management”

– volunteer farmer.

- CSA delivered training on the Conservation Agreement model to more than 100 implementers representing at least 20 organisations in five different countries, who are now using conservation agreements in their own work to secure high biodiversity landscapes for the benefit of the people who live in them. Ten ecorangers who emerged from CSA's initial Expanded Public Works Programme were sponsored to participate in the first formal accredited programme for herding in the country through the Herding Academy.
- Meat Naturally Initiative: Embedding sustainability in South Africa's emerging red meat sector. Switch Africa Green is a large European Union investment promoting sustainable production and consumption in Africa, and supports activities aimed at supporting transformation towards an inclusive green economy – in CSA's case through investing in rural livestock farmers. CSA was recognised by United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and European Union (EU) Switch Africa Green as being “one of the most successful projects of Switch Africa Green” for the three-year investment.



Progress towards Conservation South Africa (CSA) 2020 Goals: Climate Resilience



2020 Goal: Government and donors have integrated ecological approaches into their strategies for responding to climate change, and CSA has supported the maintenance and restoration of ecosystem services, particularly water catchments, through the empowerment of private and communal land stewards in three landscapes (>300 000 ha each).

- CSA was part of the project team working on the first draft of the National Adaptation Strategy, until April 2017. Since then there have been a series of stakeholder engagements to develop the draft Strategy further. The Strategy is in the stages of being finalised and opportunity for final input will be provided in 2019. Ecosystem based adaptation (EbA) is well embedded throughout the Strategy and it reflects the lessons from CSA in climate smart rangeland and watershed management.
- The Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) and the South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI) also developed an EbA strategy in 2016 which was finalized in early 2017. The first step of the Strategy was to develop EbA guidelines. CSA, as part of the EbA Strategy Steering Committee, supported the development of the guidelines as part of the reference group consulted. These guidelines were finalised in April 2018 and provide principles, criteria and key steps to developing a project, programme of work, funding or research that includes EbA.

Climate Resilience continue...

- CSA hosted a workshop in June 2017 around capacity development of EbA using tools mainly in the government or NGO sector. The workshop targeted 40-50 people, including national, provincial, local government, international institutions such as International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), private sector, parastatals, research, civil society organisations and NGOs. The workshop provided an excellent platform on which to build an EbA Community of Practice which was a key recommendation emerging from the workshop and which aligns with the EbA Strategy implementation. The workshop focused on the need for integration across sectors around adaptation, disaster management and natural resource management.
- CSA also started a research study funded by IIED in 2017 to look at the effectiveness of DEA Natural Resource Management (NRM) programmes as an EbA. The aim of the research was to help continue to build the case for further investment by National Treasury and Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) into climate resilient NRM including rangeland restoration. The preliminary results from this research were also presented by CSA at a session in the Adaptation Futures Conference in June 2018 co-facilitated with the DEA NRM, where the NRM programmes, in relation to adaptation were discussed. Recommendations from the research which ends in December 2018 will guide the design of the programme to support EbA further and allow this to be monitored over time.
- CSA has worked with district and local municipalities on the mainstreaming of climate change adaptation and EbA into integrated development planning and Green Economic Development. Inputs were made into 6 Integrated Development Plans (IDPs) in local and district municipalities across two of our landscapes, Namakwaland in the Northern Cape and Alfred Nzo in the Eastern Cape. In the Kruger to Canyon landscape in Mpumalanga, capacity building around the vulnerability assessment and EbA mapping has begun.
- CSA engaged in capacity building with district and local government officials in our three landscapes which include EbA engagements, specifically policy inputs into integrated development plans, providing training on and sharing our research on EbA. The Adaptation Fund Small Grants Facility (SGF), where CSA is the facilitating agency in Namakwaland, alone impacted 952 direct and 1298 indirect beneficiaries over this time. Benefits include, for example, communities receiving and being trained on installation of rain water tanks, compost toilets, insulated rooms, and breeding of climate resilient livestock breeds etc. Lessons from the SGF were also shared at forums such as the provincial coastal committee of which CSA is a member in Namakwaland.
- Lessons from CSA engagement in SGF in Namakwaland including EbA were shared at the United Nations Environment - Conference of Parties (COP) 23 through partners such as the South Africa National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI) and SouthSouth North NGO. CSA co-facilitated two sessions at the June 2018 Adaptation Futures conference in Cape Town where over a 100 people were included in discussions around EbA effectiveness and natural resource management, and lessons emerging from implementing an enhanced direct access for vulnerable communities under the Adaptation Fund SGF where CSA is a facilitating agency.
- A special edition newsletter on climate change, explaining in the simplest terms, the concept and giving examples of the effects of climate change on the environment was published and distributed to the landscapes.



Progress towards Conservation South Africa (CSA) 2020 Goals:

Regional Green Economic Development & Green Learning

2020 Goal: The South African government and private sector are pursuing economic development that values and maintains natural capital and that CSA-supported initiatives in the SA Hotspots are creating important demonstrations and learnings for greening economic development at a range of scales.

During the past year, we implemented the “Unlocking South Africa's Rural Green Economies” Program under the Citi Foundation's global initiative, “Pathways to Progress” in CSA's three demonstration landscapes. Implementation of the project was done through a collaborative approach, working with the Green Community College, partner organisations, private sector institutions, the local municipalities, schools and government agencies, on the ground.

- In the Mzimvubu landscape, programme activities were delivered through the EcoFutures Programme, a year-long programme involving selected youth, aimed at exposing them to business opportunities and career opportunities offered by the green economy.
- In the Kruger to Canyons (K2C) Landscape the capacity building programme focused on community development principles, organizational regulatory compliance, governance structures and idea generation training workshops for targeted SMMEs, farmer cooperatives and youth business start-ups.
- In Namakwa, the capacity building programme focused on providing Social Enterprise Training, Leadership training and internship opportunities for selected youth.



- In all landscapes, training workshops were held on use of the environmental self-assessment tool, the financial management tool and memorandums of understanding (MoUs) were put in place with different service providers and agencies who provided training.

Through our partners, we were able to:

- Expose our target groups to other green learning opportunities such as fire management and risk and first aid as part of our Green Community College learning approach towards building resilient small-town economies.
- Our out of school youth target groups were also afforded the opportunity to complete work experience at private sector organisations. As a result, two youth have developed careers as tour guides, after placement at the Wild Coast Sun Resorts in the Eastern Cape.

Linking small businesses to markets is an ongoing, critical step in the interventions implemented:

- 12 businesses were linked to access the Hoedspruit Farmers Market every first Saturday of each month at the Bosveld Centre, these include the Art and Craft cooperatives.
- 13 youth were linked to successful local agricultural businesses for work placement.

Communication tools are important in enhancing and entrenching knowledge on green economy, climate change and conservation. The following communication tools were developed and shared:

- Three Fact Sheets showcasing stories and

experiences related to energy efficiency and waste management, eco-tourism and social enterprises.

- The E-green publication, targeted at a youth audience, was published as a resource and knowledge publication explaining various concepts on green economy and offering a rich reference to green learning opportunities that can be done through accredited/legitimate service providers or self-study. The E-green publication is seen as a critical resource, especially for youth.

Capacity building support was also provided to two existing social enterprises, Meat Naturally Pty (MNP) and Biodiversity and Red Meat Co-operative (BRC) in the form of:

- Governance training, specific training on fodder production and the hosting of livestock auctions and mobile abattoirs.
- A grant of R30 000 was advanced to the social enterprise, (MNP) which was used to enhance the social enterprise's capacity to develop up to date site grazing maps that will enable better development of grazing plans to be used by farmer organisations.
- A pre-feasibility study on the viability of a third social enterprise, Business Naturally Pty, was completed and the analysis reached the conclusion that in order for the social enterprise, to be viable, it would require continued support from donor funding. As a stand-alone, the social enterprise was not viable.

This intervention was able to surpass its targets.

Namakwaland Landscape Demonstration

Conservation South Africa continues to fight against the degradation of the Namakwaland rangelands that deepen poverty and render the land barren. Consolidated efforts over the last decade have impacted positively on the landscape ensuring that biodiversity remains intact and the land is more productive for the people who derive their livelihoods from it.

The Natural Resource Management programme has protected natural resources from being destroyed, especially through soil erosion. Training and employing local residents as restoration workers that embark on "erosion control" through sloping land, building gabions, micro catchments and grass fences that prevent soil erosion. Restoration teams received accredited training on soil erosion control methods.

During the year a total of **307, 758 ha** came under improved land management with **303 restoration workers employed** and **158 conservation agreements** signed with the community. Conservation agreements provide incentives to communities to use more sustainable or eco-friendly methods to manage the rangelands.

Communities have been trained on how to manage livestock and land more sustainably. A total of **374 community members were trained** on a range of topics including livestock selection and management training (animal husbandry), livestock health. One of the most notable innovations has been the breeding of climate resilient livestock that are better able to endure the limited water and high temperatures of the region. To date **60 livestock** have been bred to be **climate resilient** (50 meatmaster rams and 15 indigenous goats). Four mobile kraal pilots were established in Namakwaland in the reporting period.

Over the years many of the livestock farmers in the Northern Cape have formed co-operatives or participate in forums to facilitate good governance and to better engage with Government and other local stakeholders.

These co-operatives also received training on a range of issues including basic computer training, good governance, fundraising, administration and financial management basics and co-operative development. The Kamiesburg Stewardship Forum is a good example which includes land users, the Kamiesburg municipality and Department of Nature Conservation. The Steinkopf Bulletrap Co-operative successfully registered as a co-operative with a business banking account that enabled them to successfully apply for a subgrant cover the cost of laptops, printers and tablets to kickstart the business. The co-





operative has established their own brand identity with a logo and letterhead and completed a business plan.

Another successful co-operative is Vooruitkyk Co-operative who opened an office with their own logo and letterhead is able to issue micro-loans to stewards as part of the entry level farmer livestock project.

Education and training for improving the local skill set to deliver on conservation outcomes and to improve livelihoods is critical. In 2017 and 2018 CSA has expanded the training offered beyond basic restoration work to include basic computer literacy **financial literacy for 140 people** to stimulate green economic activity and provide continued support to

small green businesses. As a result of the training **12 savings groups were established with a combined total of R144 140 saved.**

In terms of climate resilience CSA has been using "Eco-system based adaptation" tools to train local communities and government officials to better plan and prepare for climate change. **Climate adaptive financial modules were developed.** Local communities have been engaged on how to conserve natural resources like water and to prepare for possible natural disasters associated with a changing climate like droughts with **8 climate change preparedness workshops** conducted in the course of the year. **Practical solutions have included installing solar panels (10), rainwater tanks (29), water wise gardens (1) and compost toilets (2).**



374 COMMUNITY MEMBERS



158 CONSERVATION AGREEMENTS IN PLACE



33 YOUTH TRAINED



236 003 Ha LAND PLANNED FOR GRAZING



EROSION CONTROL
1079.28 TOTAL CUBIC GABIONS
2.56Ha TOTAL AREA SLOPED
12261 MICRO CATCHMENTS
65m GRASS FENCE



303 EMPLOYED RESTORATION WORKERS



12 SAVINGS GROUPS ESTABLISHED IN NAMAKWALAND



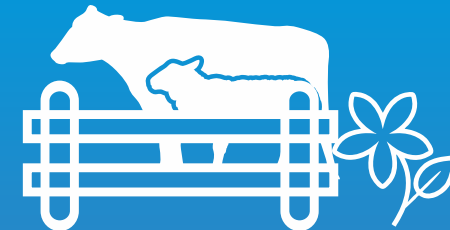
R144 140 SAVED BY SAVING GROUP MEMBERS IN NAMAKWALAND



140 TRAINING ON FINANCIAL EDUCATION RECEIVED BY THE COMMUNITY MEMBERS IN NAMAKWALAND



LIVESTOCK BRED TO BE CLIMATE RESILIENT IN NAMAKWALAND
MEATMASTER RAMS - 50
INDIGENOUS VELD GOAT - 15



4 MOBILE KRAAL PILOTS ESTABLISHED IN NAMAKWALAND



1 WATER-WISE GARDENS INSTALLED IN NAMAKWALAND



2 COMPOST TOILETS BUILT IN NAMAKWALAND



CLIMATE ADAPTIVE FINANCIAL MODULES DEVELOPED IN NAMAKWALAND



10 SOLAR PANELED TANKS INSTALLED IN NAMAKWALAND



8 HA UPSCALED IN NAMAKWALAND



8 CLIMATE CHANGE PREPAREDNESS WORKSHOPS



29 RAINWATER TANKS INSTALLED NAMAKWALAND



72 COMMUNITY MEMBERS BENEFITTED FROM SMART AGRICULTURAL METHODS IN NAMAKWALAND



10 IMPROVED ROOIBOS PRODUCTION AGRICULTURAL TRIAL SITES ESTABLISH IN NAMAKWALAND

Mzimvubu Landscape Demonstration



The Mzimvubu catchment is characterised by a river system locals depend on for freshwater supply and rolling hills for cattle grazing. Because of overgrazing and invasive alien plants, this region is under threat. CSA's work in this landscape focuses on rangeland restoration through sustainable farming practices and invasive alien plant removal.

This region is dramatically affected by poverty and our rangeland restoration model seeks to address the wellbeing of the land and the economic development of the community. Through the Natural Resource Management (NRM) programme, **CSA cleared 160 ha of alien invasive plant species** while restoring 8 springs in the landscape through our Water Access Sanitation and Hygiene Project (WASH). Both of these initiatives revealed opportunities for job creation, where **CSA employed 228 people to clear alien vegetation and 17 water monitors to restore precious water sources.**

For lasting impact CSA continues to educate communities on sustainable farming practices that yield improved environmental conditions. CSA onboarded **5** new farmer organisations and supported **647** farmers in the region to work with us to restore the rangelands. Through Conservation Agreements with grazing associations, 22 665 ha of grazing land in this

region is under improved management, with 9 765 ha of land set aside for planned grazing.

Through the Green Learning initiative, CSA facilitated access for youth to partake in the EcoFutures Course: Unlocking Local Green Economy Career Opportunities in South Africa through Citi Foundation's Pathways to Progress global initiative. Throughout the year, CSA trained 176 eco-rangers. Beyond training the community CSA supports economic development at the local level in Mzimvubu through continued support to the 22 existing SMMEs and support for a further 2 SMMES in the financial year.

Impacting policy making and integrating ecological approaches into strategies to address climate change is one of our 2020 goals. To ensure climate resilience is a reality in the catchment, CSA hosted **13 ecosystem-based adaptation training sessions** and capacity buildings including the **Climate Change and WASH summit**. Hosted together with the Alfred Nzo District Municipality, the summit presented the successes of implementing this integrated approach and prompted discussion amongst policymakers and traditional leaders. Recommendations from the summit were adopted by the Mayoral Committee and Council for their integration into policy and collaborative activities.



13 EBA TRAINING & CAPACITY BUILDINGS



176 ECORANGERS TRAINED



2 SMMEs DEVELOPED



160 HECTARES OF ALIEN VEGETATION CLEARED



647 SUPPORTED FARMERS



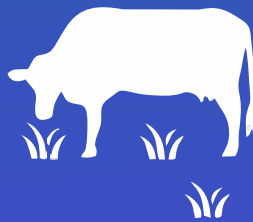
22665 LAND UNDER IMPROVED MANAGEMENT



228 EMPLOYED RESTORATION WORKERS



17 WATER MONITORS SUPPORTED



9765 Ha LAND PLANNED FOR GRAZING



8 NUMBER OF SPRINGS RESTORED IN MZIMVUBU

Kruger to Canyons Landscape (K2C)

In the Kruger to Canyons (K2C) Biosphere CSA is working to revive the rangeland to ensure that the protected areas of the national park and its adjacent buffer zones that are home to many small rural livestock farming communities are safeguarded for the long term benefit of people and nature.

A harsh climate, poor land management, overgrazing by livestock and bush encroachment degrade the K2C rangeland. CSA's rangeland restoration model adopts a community-based approach to conservation that involves community members directly in activities to restore the environment and create local green jobs. In this regard, CSA employed 49 restoration workers to thin bush on 3 485 ha of community rangeland.

Conservation Agreements with farmers in the community are essential to implement environmentally sustainable farming methods and to protect rangelands. In 2017/18, CSA supported **four** farmer associations with **179 members signing Conservation Agreements**. CSA currently has 57 Conservation Agreements in place in K2C resulting in 7 810 ha of land under improved management. In 2018 CSA hosted the Conservation Stewardship Learning Exchange in K2C where 45 participants from 22 countries gathered to share their experience and learn new skills for developing and embedding conservation agreements to help people and nature thrive.

CSA continues to focus on green learning in K2C, providing training and internet access to schools and community members at ICT labs in 3 high schools 6 primary schools. CSA is proactively using technology to expose community members to conservation and as a means to improve the quality of basic education in the landscape. CSA installed a 20mbps internet link into Hananani School and Dixie Youth Centre in partnership with Wildearth, giving children in the community daily access to live streaming interactive Safari's on the SafariLive YouTube channel.



Value based environmental education through **Scouts** continues to thrive in the landscape with a total of **1710 children and youth** being reached in 2018 up from 200.

A total of **nine youth** in the region received training – three having received informal workplace training and six youth receiving accredited formal training through the Herding for Health Academy under the South African College of Tourism (four youth from Mzimvubu also received this accredited training). The students graduated from the first nationally accredited professional herding degree that focuses on environmental management and livestock health. In K2C **73 community members** received either informal or formal accredited training throughout the year in eco-ranger first aid, low-stress herding, fodder production and good governance; improving the local skill level.

One of the most effective ways that CSA has engaged local communities in conservation in the K2C landscape is through incentivizing sustainable farming practices specifically through Herding for Health and Meat Naturally as well as continuing to support local small businesses or SMMEs with training and markets as part of the Green Economy goals.

Two Mnisi communities agreed to the sustainable utilization of their rangelands. This allows for the use of conservation tools such as planned grazing. In return CSA will provide locally produced cattle fodder during the dry season as well as market access through the Meat Naturally Pty (MNP). The MNP initiative generated **\$10 561** profit or personal income for local farmers in K2C during the course of the financial year. The mobile abattoir is an innovation designed by CSA and partners to overcome the constraints of the foot and mouth demarcated zone in K2C which severely limits the movement of cattle in the landscape and impacts negatively on the trade of red meat.

During the course of the year to reward farmers who agreed to planned grazing and rangeland rest periods. Fifteen farmers benefited from the sale process as part of creating sustainable supply changes for communal livestock farmers.

During 2018, **49 jobs** were created and CSA continued to provide support to existing SMMEs in the K2C landscape.

Acorns to Oaks Comprehensive High School – K2C's education sustainability flagship project to build the future of Conservation in Mpumalanga

- A partnership with Warwick University in the United Kingdom enabled four students to be placed at Acorns to Oaks Comprehensive High School to assist with Maths, Science and English teaching and learning.
- Our ongoing partnership with the Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE) supported the programme to purchase two Mahindra vehicles to help with transport in the vast K2C area to reach more people. Locally supported schools continued to participate in the annual JSE investment challenge - a virtual online game which teaches learners about the value of investing by trading online shares. In 2018, 10 teams took part from Manyangana, 15 Mdluli and 4 from Acorns to Oaks totalling 29 teams and the mentors who support the schools spent a day at the stock exchange in Johannesburg.
- The K2C landscape and school received continued support from our partner Airlink specifically supporting the computer labs and ICT outreach. The "Link Challenge" launched provincially at Acorns to Oaks encourages learners who excel in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) subjects to pursue a career in Aviation. The competition requires that teams come up with an innovative idea to a local problem using STEM solutions. The teams with the best ideas are invited to present their solution and to participate in a number of cutting edge challenges using robotics, drones and a host of other creative platforms to identify the winners who are further mentored and compete for the top prize of a full Airlink bursary and career pathway into the Aviation industry. A total of 60 learners participated from A2O and a number of other local schools in Mpumalanga including Manyangana, Phulani, Mdluli, Dlumani and Mahlale High Schools. Fifteen learners made it through to the top and travelled to Johannesburg where they had the an amazing once in a lifetime opportunity to fly in an Airlink plane around Johannesburg with Airlink pilots and staff to inspire a future in aviation.
- A generous sponsorship from Italtile Foundation Trust resulted in the construction of a state of the art sports complex, soccer pitch and sporting facilities including two multi courts for tennis and netball, and an athletics track. CSA will work with fellow Italtile partner Dreamfields to host league soccer and netball matches using sport as a platform to involve learners in Conservation activities. In addition Italtile Foundation contributed to rehabilitation training for eco-rangers, K2C herd monitors and CSA staff. CSA partners Sabi Sand, K2C Biosphere - Biodiversity Social Projects and Global White Lion Trust were also actively involved with the rehabilitation of the area adjacent to the upgraded sports facility.
- Scouts at Acorns to Oaks and throughout the K2C biosphere, continues to play an essential role in reaching out to children and youth using fun, value based recreational activities to educate children on important health and conservation issues.

73 COMMUNITY MEMBERS TRAINED

7810 Ha LAND PLANNED FOR GRAZING

9 YOUTH TRAINED

49 JOBS CREATED

57 CONSERVATION AGREEMENTS IN PLACE

3485 Ha OF BUSH THINNING

1710 SCOUTS



AMPLIFICATION MEAT NATURALLY

Meat Naturally Pty was created in 2016 by Conservation South Africa (CSA) to provide grazing planning, herder training, livestock production and market access support. The business provides technical support and innovative market access as incentives to conservation agreements. Through facilitating and activating market demand for socially and environmentally responsible red meat, Meat Naturally is able to reward livestock management practices that generate productive, resilient rangeland ecosystems. Since 2016, Meat Naturally has helped communal farmers engaged in conservation agreements to earn \$1.7 million from livestock sales and supported conservation agreements

(see <https://securingwaterforfood.org/innovator-news/have-you-herd-meat-naturally>)

and in 2018 alone, the combined amount earned was \$1.1 million.

Meat Naturally Pty is a social enterprise, constituted under South African legislation as a commercial business held by the Meat Naturally Shareholders Trust. The Trust shareholding interests are majority (60%) owned by communal farmers who sell through it. The Trust currently represents over 1400 farmers in South Africa's communal lands, but all farmers who receive market access support are automatically included in the business share-holding via the Trust. The remaining 40% shareholding is with CSA who retain governance control for an initial five-year period while capacity of the Shareholders Trust representatives is built and conservation agreements currently with CSA are transitioned to Meat Naturally. This structure and process ensure the longevity of the conservation commitments supported by a sustainable business vehicle that also helps local farmers gain shareholding into the formal private sector.

AMPLIFICATION HERDING FOR HEALTH

The successes and impacts on rangeland restoration, biodiversity conservation and livelihood improvement across all three South African landscapes over the past twenty years have enabled Conservation South Africa (CSA) to explore options for the development of an amplification model. The Herding for Health (H4H) model provided this opportunity and consolidated all the experiences and lessons learned with new technologies and approaches as well as market access through Meat Naturally Pty to form a unique and powerful implementation framework that is geared for impact at scale.

In 2018, CSA entered into a partnership with the Peace Parks Foundation

to work together to use the H4H model to address the complex challenges at the wildlife-livestock interface in southern African Transfrontier Conservation Areas (TFCAs). The model is based on incentivising farmers to adopt herder-enabled livestock production practices that are scientifically-defined as best practice for rangeland and wildlife-livestock disease management. In 2018, the project team focused on completing an assessment of needs and opportunities for implementation of the model across the TFCAs. The assessment, across five countries led to the prioritisation of ten sites across the region in which the model will be further developed over the next five years to promote co-existence and farmer driven wildlife protection.



SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH publications

Peer-reviewed scientific publications 2017/18

Venter ZS, Cramer MD, Hawkins H-J 2018 *Drivers of woody plant encroachment over Africa. Nature Communications 9, 2272*
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1038/s41467-018-04616-8>

Du Plessis JJ, Avenant NL, Botha AJ, Mkhize NR, Müller L, Mzileni N, O'Riain MJ, Parker DM, Potgieter G, Richardson PRK, Rode S, Viljoen N, Hawkins H-J, Tafani M 2018 *Past and current management of predation on livestock. In: Livestock predation and its management in South Africa: a scientific assessment* (Eds Kerley, G.I.H., Wilson, S.L. & Balfour, D.). Centre for African Conservation Ecology, Nelson Mandela University, Port Elizabeth, ISBN 125-177. 978-0-620-78763-5(print), 978-0-620-78764-2(e-book).

Somers MJ, Davies-Mostert H, Maruping-Mzileni N, Swanepoel L, Do Linh San E, Botha A, Tjelele J, Dumalisile L, Marnewick K, Tafani M, Hunnicutt A, Tambling CJ, Minnie L, Hawkins H-J 2018 *Biology, ecology and interaction of other predators with livestock. In: Livestock predation and its management in South Africa: a scientific assessment* (Eds Kerley, G.I.H., Wilson, S.L. & Balfour, D.). Centre for African Conservation Ecology, Nelson Mandela University, Port Elizabeth, ISBN 228-254. 978-0-620-78763-5(print), 978-0-620-78764-2(e-book).

Theses and dissertations in 2017/2108

Rapiya M 2017 *Effects of different grazing system on forage production and seasonal parasite loads in beef cattle*. Master of Science, University of Fort Hare, Supervisors: Dr. C Mapiye, Prof. JF Mupangwa, Prof. V Muchenje. <http://libdspace.ufh.ac.za>



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Annual Financial Statements of Khusel'Indalo South Africa t/a Conservation South Africa (CSA) has been prepared in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standard for Small and Medium-sized Entities

Revenue

Grants and Contributions for FY18 was R43,367,508 compared to R28,266,006 for the previous financial year.

Total interest accrued for FY 18 was R129,704 compared to R167,295 for the previous financial year.

Expenses

Conservation South Africa is committed to ensuring the most effective and efficient use of all of funds received from donors. Total expenses for FY 18 reached R43,840,259 compared to the R27,915,344 recorded for FY17.

Summary

Conservation SA's net assets of R1,622,960 represents the cumulative revenue that the organisation raised in excess of expenditure since its incorporation.

Khusel'Indalo South Africa FY18 Detailed Income Statement for the Year End 30 June 2018

	2018	2017
REVENUE		
Grants and Contributions	R 42 536 537	R 27 973 417
Local	R 21 593 679	R 13 327 612
US	R 20 942 858	R 14 645 805
Other Income	R 830 971	R 292 589
Miscellaneous Income	R 701 267	R 125 294
Investment Income	R 129 704	R 167 295
TOTAL REVENUE	R 43 367 508	R 28 266 006
EXPENSES		
Employee Costs	R 23 002 286	R 14 786 254
Professional Services	R 6 191 147	R 5 028 302
Travel, Meetings and Events	R 4 923 874	R 3 413 002
Other Direct Costs	R 936 548	R 712 365
Occupancy	R 1 746 489	R 1 548 392
Grants Paid	R 5 057 284	R 1 457 664
Field Supplies	R 1 326 643	R 491 090
Depreciation	R 591 240	R 374 492
Project Furniture, Equipment and Vehicles	R 64 748	R 103 783
Loss on Sale of Assets		
TOTAL EXPENSES	R 43 840 259	R 27 915 344
Change in Net Assets before Non - Operating Activity	R -472 751	R 350 662
Finance Costs	R 6 092	R 2 548
CHANGES IN NET ASSETS	R -478 843	R 348 114

DONORS

Susman, Simon
 Hainebach, Michael
 John and Katie Hansen Family Foundation
 United Nations Environment Programme
 SouthSouth
 North Projects Africa
 World Wildlife Fund (WWF) South Africa
 National Philanthropic Trust
 Goldman Sachs Philanthropy Fund
 Mix Telematics
 The Minneapolis Foundation
 Schwab Charitable Fund
 International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED)
 Marin Community Foundation
 Peace Parks Foundation
 Elizabeth R. and William J. Patterson Foundation
 US Agency for International Development (USAID)
 Wageningen UR Centre for Development Innovation (CDI)
 United Way Worldwide
 United Nations Office for Project Services
 Starwood Foundation
 Buffelshoek Trust
 Adelphi research gemeinnützige GmbH
 Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) Natural Resource Management Programmes
 (NRM) of the South African National Government.
 Hans Hoheisen Charitable Trust
 Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany - Pretoria
 South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI)
 Discovery Fund
 United Way Worldwide
 Nelson Mandela University (NMU)
 Johannesburg Stock Exchange
 Starwood Foundation
 Africa Biodiversity Collaborative Group (ABCG)
 Dawn Arnell
 Toyota Motor Corporation

