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OUR COMMITMENT
TO CONSERVATION

25 years ago, on a piece of family-owned land in South Africa’s Sabi Sand Game Reserve, a boutique safari lodge opened on the banks of the Sand River, setting the pace for a new brand of luxury safari experiences. Singita Ebony Lodge would become the first of 12 environmentally sensitive properties dotted across Africa, forming the heartbeat of Singita’s conservation vision. The lodge created a benchmark for sustainable and eco-friendly tourism that remains to this day; a model which combines hospitality with an amazing wilderness experience to support the conservation of natural ecosystems.

This founding philosophy drives every aspect of Singita’s day-to-day operations, as well as its vision for the future, which extends to the next 100 years and beyond. A single-minded purpose to preserve and protect large areas of African wilderness for future generations is the force behind an ambitious expansion strategy that will see Singita broaden its efforts to safeguard the continent’s most vulnerable species and their natural habitats in the coming years. The profound impact of Singita’s conservation work can be seen in the transformation of the land under its care, the thriving biodiversity of each reserve and concession, and the exceptional safari experience this affords our guests.

With our lodges and camps across three countries partially funding the conservation of large areas of protected land, Singita has redefined luxury safaris as an essential tool for conservation

Sustainability – operating in an environmentally conscious way at every level of the business – is a key component of conservation success, alongside maintaining the integrity of our reserves and their ecosystems, and working with local communities to ensure that they not only benefit from the existence of the lodges, but thrive because of them. Furthermore, the health and survival of each of these three aspects is crucial to the survival of the whole.

The support of our guests and partners is essential in bringing our conservation vision to life as we move into the next chapter in our journey, the opening of our first property in Rwanda in 2019. This exciting new project is the result of a partnership with the Rwandan government to bolster their gorilla conservation efforts in the Volcanoes National Park. This important work, alongside the miraculous places of which we are custodians and the thrill of sharing them with visitors from across the world, is at the core of everything we do. Our heritage as an African company and our deep love for the continent fuels a heartfelt desire to protect its most imperiled landscapes and ensure that they remain as close as possible to their natural state for generations to come.

Mark
- Mark Witney
CEO - Conservation



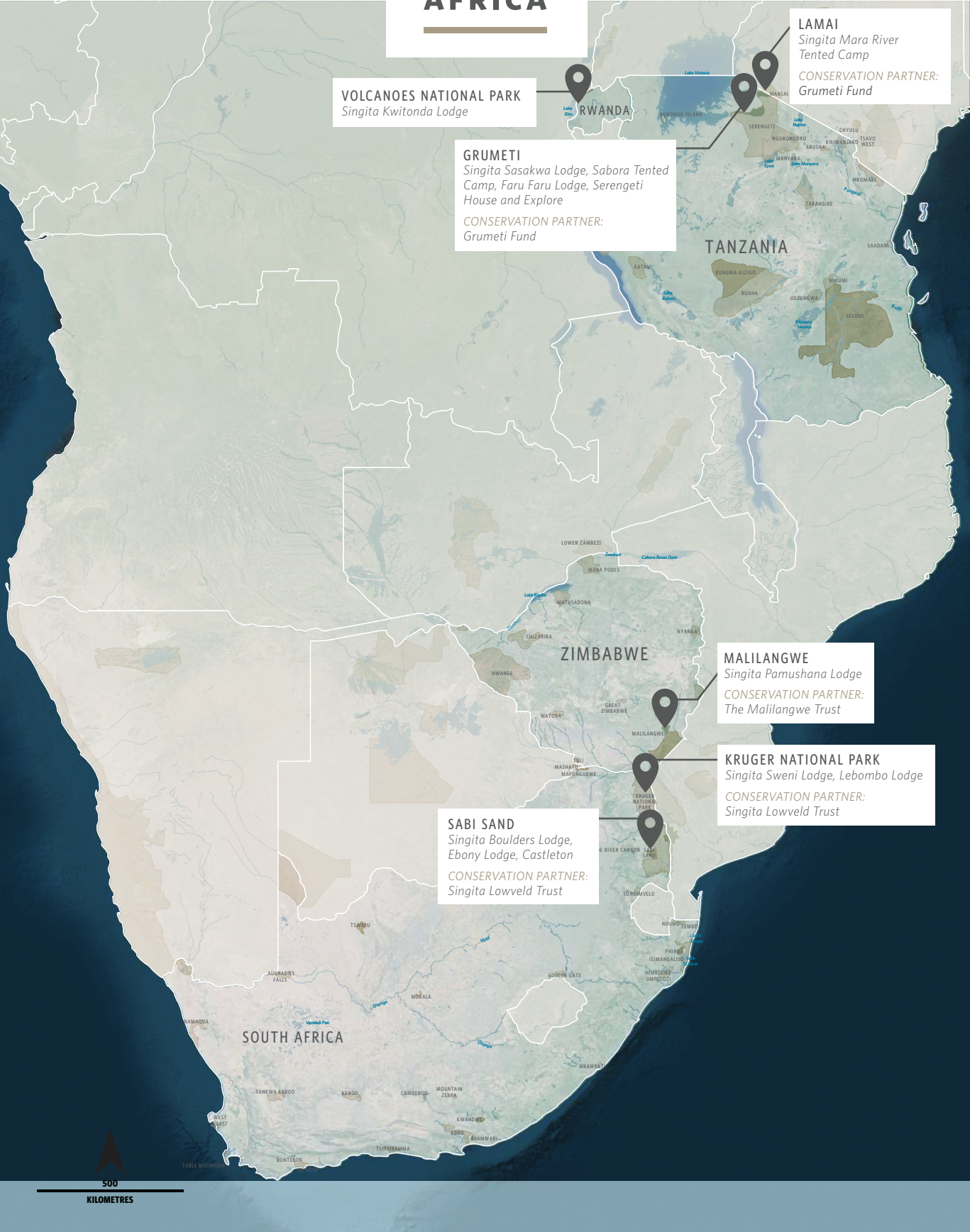
OUR STORY

A QUARTER OF A CENTURY HAS GONE BY SINCE SINGITA PUT DOWN ITS ROOTS WITH THE OPENING OF OUR FIRST LODGE IN SOUTH AFRICA’S SABI SAND GAME RESERVE. IN 25 YEARS, WE HAVE GROWN INTO ONE OF THE LEADING CONSERVATION BRANDS IN AFRICA, DEDICATED TO ENVIRONMENTALLY CONSCIOUS HOSPITALITY, SUSTAINABLE LAND AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AND THE EMPOWERMENT OF LOCAL COMMUNITIES. TODAY, MORE THAN 1,200 PEOPLE ARE EMPLOYED ACROSS SINGITA’S PROPERTIES, IMPACTING AN ESTIMATED 7,000 FAMILY MEMBERS.

In years gone by, an abundance of pristine wilderness and international demand for safari experiences drove an explosion in the establishment of lodges throughout the continent. It soon became apparent however that operations on this scale were unsustainable and doing more harm than good to the natural environments they were designed to protect. Around this time, Singita’s founder, Luke Bailes, flew over his family’s land in the northeastern corner of South Africa with a team of conservationists and worked out a plan for returning it to its original, untouched state. He knew early on that the key to preserving this land and all its inhabitants was to combine a high-end hospitality offering with an amazing wilderness experience; a philosophy which is still in place at Singita today. Singita Ebony Lodge opened shortly thereafter and the “Place of Miracles” was born.

This approach, along with an understanding that carefully considered partnerships were essential to growth, would inform every strategic decision during Singita’s evolution. In 2006, Luke Bailes met a kindred spirit in American philanthropist Paul Tudor Jones, who had acquired the Grumeti Reserves; vast concessions bordering the Serengeti National Park in Tanzania. As a fellow conservationist, Jones was keen to get involved in preserving a valuable ecosystem that was under threat but recognised that he needed a partner in order to do so effectively. He established the non-profit Grumeti Community and Wildlife Conservation Fund (now known as the Grumeti Fund) to manage and conserve the 350,000-acre property and appointed Singita to generate revenue for the Fund’s conservation efforts through tourism and hospitality.

As Singita celebrates nearly three decades of passionate commitment to conservation, it is the company’s strategic partnerships – relationships with influencers, donors and investors – that will best serve to enhance its ability to preserve Africa’s most pristine landscapes. For what the future holds, Singita’s founder and Chairman, Luke Bailes asserts, “We will only develop new properties if they are better than, or as good as, those we already have.” It’s a disciplined approach, ensuring that Singita’s reputation is continually elevated and continues to deliver the best possible guest experience, while still benefiting the land and communities in which we are privileged to operate.



AFRICA

VOLCANOES NATIONAL PARK
Singita Kwitonda Lodge

GRUMETI
Singita Sasakwa Lodge, Sabora Tented Camp, Faru Faru Lodge, Serengeti House and Explore
CONSERVATION PARTNER:
Grumeti Fund

LAMAI
Singita Mara River Tented Camp
CONSERVATION PARTNER:
Grumeti Fund

MALILANGWE
Singita Pamushana Lodge
CONSERVATION PARTNER:
The Malilangwe Trust

KRUGER NATIONAL PARK
Singita Sweni Lodge, Lebombo Lodge
CONSERVATION PARTNER:
Singita Lowveld Trust

SABI SAND
Singita Boulders Lodge, Ebony Lodge, Castleton
CONSERVATION PARTNER:
Singita Lowveld Trust

OUR LODGES



SINGITA EBONY LODGE
Sabi Sand, South Africa



SINGITA BOULDERS LODGE
Sabi Sand, South Africa



SINGITA CASTLETON
Sabi Sand, South Africa



SINGITA LEBOMBO LODGE
Kruger National Park, South Africa



SINGITA SWENI LODGE
Kruger National Park, South Africa



SINGITA PAMUSHANA LODGE
Malilangwe, Zimbabwe



SINGITA SASAKWA LODGE
Grumeti, Tanzania



SINGITA FARU FARU LODGE
Grumeti, Tanzania



SINGITA SABORA TENTED CAMP
Grumeti, Tanzania



SINGITA EXPLORE
Grumeti, Tanzania



SINGITA SERENGETI HOUSE
Grumeti, Tanzania



SINGITA MARA RIVER TENTED CAMP
Lamai, Tanzania



SINGITA KWITONDA LODGE
Volcanoes National Park, Rwanda

Travellers choose to stay at Singita lodges and camps because of the expansive space and beauty of the reserves in which they are situated, limited guest and vehicle numbers, extraordinarily consistent game viewing and the exceptional care that is taken of each guest during their stay. Guests leave a Singita safari being transformed for a lifetime and having made a contribution to the legacy of Africa.

OUR CONSERVATION MODEL

At Singita, our 100-year purpose is to preserve and protect large areas of African wilderness for future generations. It follows that conserving the continent's precious biodiversity is our primary reason for being and is an area in which we invest significant resources. However, we recognise that in our modern world, wilderness and wildlife will not persist unless the people living near them derive benefits from their existence. We therefore support the wellbeing of our neighbouring communities directly through local employment, and indirectly through our Community Partnerships Programme, whereby we invest in key enablers of local livelihoods. At the same time, whilst we use our tourism business to support our conservation mission, we strive to minimise any resultant negative impact on these landscapes, as well as the broader environment. Our conservation model therefore incorporates the three pillars of Biodiversity, Community and Sustainability.

The Sustainability pillar is built into our tourism operating model, which directly covers all associated costs thereof. However, the equally critical Biodiversity and Community elements are implemented by our non-profit partners on the ground. These include the Singita Lowveld Trust in South Africa, the Grumeti Fund in Tanzania and the Malilangwe Trust in Zimbabwe. In each region, we also collaborate closely with national wildlife authorities, as well as select non-governmental organisations.

HOW WE FUND OUR WORK

In order to generate the financial resources we need to carry out our critical conservation work in a sustainable way, we rely on three sources of funding, namely Hospitality, Private Partnerships and Donor Funding. The origin of the Singita brand, our Hospitality business comprises low impact lodges located in iconic destinations, providing world-leading safari and wildlife experiences paired with unparalleled accommodation, food, wine and service. Our Hospitality business supports our conservation purpose through engaging with guests about our conservation mission, providing employment to local people, procuring from local businesses and investing a portion of revenues into our conservation efforts. However, our hospitality business alone does not produce sufficient funding to cover the significant costs of conserving these vast landscapes. Singita Private Partnerships promotes conservation partnership opportunities which also includes the development of a collection of exclusive use villas on our properties funded by like-minded philanthropists who choose to invest in our conservation purpose. Villas are either included in the Singita rental pool, or retained for private use, and support conservation initiatives through an annual levy paid to the fund or trust managing the land in that region. Finally, we are privileged to have guests, trade partners and media associates in our world who believe strongly in our cause, and directly donate funding to support the work that we do. Our donors also include purpose-aligned external non-profit and non-governmental organisations with skillsets that complement the implementation expertise of our partner funds and trusts.







BIODIVERSITY

In days gone by, unspoiled wilderness on earth was found in abundance but today it is rare, vulnerable and fragile and there is much to be done to protect these rapidly diminishing areas. Our conservation teams strive to restore, enhance and protect the biodiversity of the ecosystems under our care to ensure they are functioning as close as possible to their natural, undisturbed state.

Our efforts are organised into three clear focus areas and supported by a comprehensive programme of research and monitoring that informs our management decisions.

RESERVE INTEGRITY

In a world where humans are continuously, often destructively, modifying natural habitat to support the growing population, securing and protecting wilderness areas is critically important for biodiversity conservation.

ECOSYSTEM INTEGRITY

Managing the land so that it can support and maintain ecological processes and a diverse community of organisms in the face of changing environmental conditions is essential to biodiversity.

EXTERNAL INFLUENCERS

As a responsible conservation company we aim to use the strength of our brand and our access to globally influential people to make a positive impact on the big, complex issues that currently threaten our natural heritage.





ANTI-POACHING TECHNOLOGY



RELENTLESS AND ESCALATING DEMAND FOR HIGH-VALUE WILDLIFE PRODUCTS SUCH AS RHINO HORN, ELEPHANT IVORY, LION BONE AND PANGOLIN SCALES HAS DRIVEN THE ILLEGAL HUNTING OF THESE AND OTHER SPECIES TO LEVELS NOT SEEN IN DECADES.

Maintaining the integrity of our reserves and the fragile ecosystems that exist within them is a primary concern for Singita’s conservation teams.

At the same time, the protein required to feed Africa’s burgeoning human population is driving an ever-growing market for illegally harvested bushmeat. Together, these industries threaten the very existence of the continent’s unique protected areas and remaining wildlife.

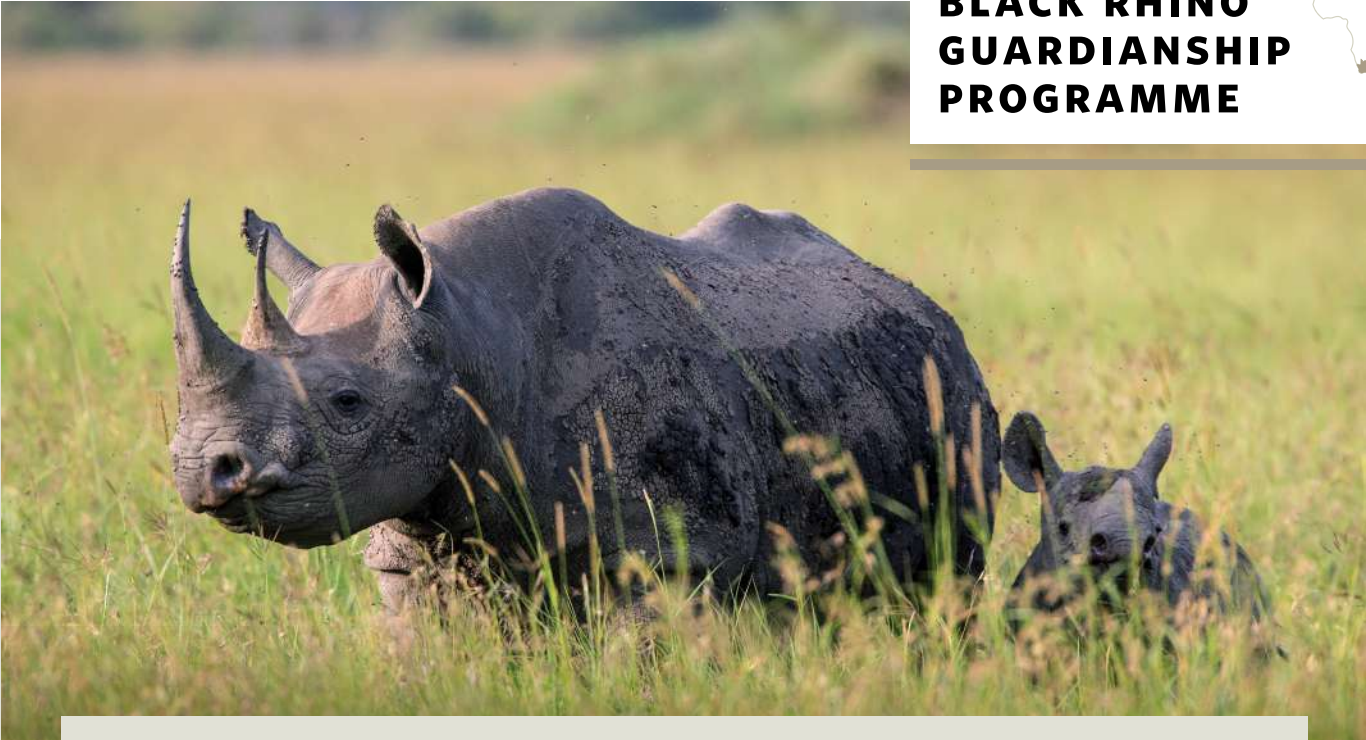
Maintaining the integrity of our reserves and the fragile ecosystems that exist within them is therefore a primary concern for Singita’s conservation teams, with anti-poaching operations forming a critical part of our effort to stem the tide of this illicit trade. In this context, there is no substitute for a team of well-trained, well-equipped and strongly motivated anti-poaching scouts. However, through innovative deployment of cutting-edge modern technology, we can significantly increase their effectiveness.

For example, we deploy detection equipment such as GSM-enabled camera traps and night vision equipment to feed information through digital communication networks to web-based monitoring systems in 24-hour control rooms. From here, dedicated operators are able to identify the closest available anti-poaching teams and remotely guide them, with the benefit of satellite imagery and GPS locations, towards the detected threat.

The added efficiency derived from these systems assists teams in increasing the rate of arrests of poachers and reducing wildlife losses whilst simultaneously deterring other would-be illegal hunters who recognise the increased risk of being apprehended.



BLACK RHINO GUARDIANSHIP PROGRAMME



THE KRUGER NATIONAL PARK IS A GLOBAL STRONGHOLD FOR THE CRITICALLY-ENDANGERED BLACK RHINO AND THE PROTECTION OF THIS POPULATION IS ESSENTIAL TO THE FUTURE SURVIVAL OF THE SPECIES. HOWEVER, FOLLOWING THE POACHING SURGE THAT BEGAN IN 2008, NUMBERS OF BLACK RHINO IN THE PARK DECLINED DRAMATICALLY. TO HALT AND REVERSE THIS TREND, GREATER UNDERSTANDING OF THE MOVEMENTS AND BEHAVIOUR OF THESE ANIMALS WITHIN KRUGER IS URGENTLY REQUIRED.

In 2017, South African National Parks (SANParks) initiated the Black Rhino Guardianship Programme in southern Kruger, where the majority of these animals are concentrated. This programme aims to safeguard black rhino through increased monitoring and understanding of their spatio-temporal relationships i.e. movements within their habitat and how that changes day to night and season to season.

To explore rhino movements and behaviour, Kruger’s scientists are using camera trap surveys to monitor the population in designated sections of the park. The data collected from these surveys can be used to follow the life histories of individual rhino, monitor movement and dispersal, and assess crucial population performance indicators such as calving rates and age and sex structures. Dispersing animals may be especially vulnerable to poaching as they are expected to move into areas where competition from adults has been reduced by poaching mortalities. The team will also use census data, animal deaths and individual observations to analyse long-term shifts in home range

use by black rhino. Finally, they will collect sightings records from rangers and guides to build a monitoring database of as many individual black rhinos as possible within the greater southern Kruger landscape.

The data generated will lead to greater understanding of black rhino movements and identification of poaching hotspots, followed by progressive veterinary interventions and targeted security initiatives, giving Kruger’s black rhino the best chance of survival in the face of unrelenting poaching pressure.

With two properties in the greater Kruger ecosystem, both with resident black rhino, Singita is proud to partner with SANParks in supporting this innovative project. Through this partnership, Singita’s guests are afforded the opportunity to fund the purchase of camera traps for black rhino monitoring, thereby making a direct contribution to the success of this crucial conservation intervention.



- The health of Kruger’s rhino population is critical to the survival of the species
- Target: 120 camera traps



CANINE ANTI-POACHING UNIT IN THE SERENGETI



The considerable funds required to obtain and train the dogs, and construct the state-of-the-art operations base for the dog unit were generously donated by a Singita guest



PROTECTING THE WESTERN CORRIDOR OF THE SERENGETI FROM THE THREAT OF ILLEGAL HUNTING IS A CRITICAL PART OF GRUMETI FUND'S ROLE AS CUSTODIAN OF THIS FRAGILE ECOSYSTEM.

Having worked to overcome the erstwhile neglect of this region and the subsequent environmental crisis, the now flourishing landscape and its abundant wildlife population remain at risk. In late 2017, the 100 hard-working anti-poaching scouts responsible for defending this habitat on a daily basis received reinforcements in the form of four enthusiastic new canine recruits.

Radar, Tony, DJ and Popo are the founding members of Grumeti Fund's new canine unit, responsible for detecting highly valued and trafficked wildlife contraband. The two chocolate Labrador mixes and two Belgian Malinois are rescue dogs from the United States who have been expertly trained by our partner, Working Dogs for Conservation (WD4C), to sniff out ivory, rhino horn, pangolin scales, ammunition, bush meat and snares, as well as to track people from the scene of a crime.

Six handlers have undergone intensive training on the ground at Singita Grumeti with the specialists from WD4C on how to care for, train and manage the dogs. The canines and their handlers have been matched based on their mutual connection. The canine unit team is now actively working in the Singita Grumeti area with the goal to expand the program to reach other areas of the Serengeti as a part of a solution for ecosystem wide protection.

It is hoped that the presence of the dogs will deter poachers from crossing into the protected area to hunt illegally, especially once it becomes clear that their risk of arrest is made much higher through the ability of the canine unit to detect their contraband back in the village or while being transported. The increased effectiveness of Grumeti Fund's law enforcement function afforded by the detection dogs will provide an extra layer of security for the wildlife in the region and have a marked benefit on the integrity of the greater Serengeti ecosystem.



SINCE EMERGING ROUGHLY A DECADE AGO, THE CURRENT RHINO POACHING CRISIS CONTINUES TO ESCALATE AND IS BECOMING ONE OF THE MOST PRESSING CONSERVATION ISSUES OF THE 21ST CENTURY.

At Singita, we believe that resolving this exigent challenge requires a tiered approach, with three different strategies running concurrently. In the long-term, reduced demand for rhino horn is essential to the ultimate survival of the species. In the medium-term, ensuring that local communities derive tangible benefits from wildlife conservation inspires them to become protective custodians of these living resources. Lastly, effective anti-poaching and law enforcement operations are critical in the short-term to buy time for the medium- and long-term objectives to be achieved.

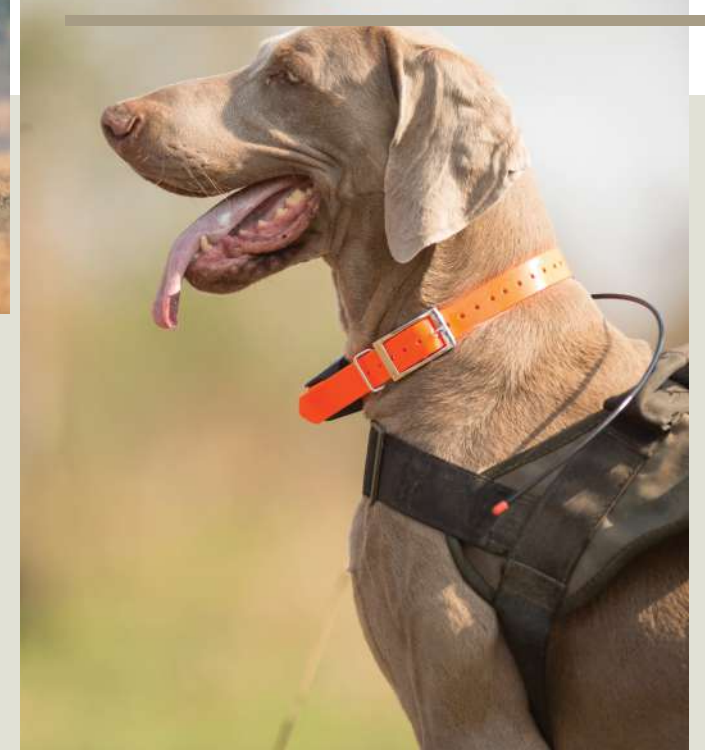
In terms of the latter, Singita's original property, located in the Sabi Sand Game Reserve is one of the most secure protected areas on the continent. Primary layers of security are implemented collectively by all the land owners of the Reserve. However, given the threat level and our commitment to protecting our rhino, we took the decision in 2012 to deploy a highly-skilled team of tracking dogs and handlers to further enhance anti-poaching efforts on 22,000 acres of land in the Sabi Sand.

Expertly trained and able to perform multiple functions, from pursuing intruders to sniffing out rhino horn and ammunition from vehicles and bags, the dogs are deeply valued, professional assets supporting an important conservation initiative. In addition, the mere presence of dog teams acts as a deterrent to potential poachers. Once tracking dogs have been deployed into an area, the news quickly spreads amongst poachers and criminal syndicates, and the level and frequency of poaching incidents have been shown to drop dramatically.

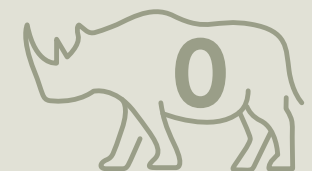
In the ongoing battle to protect rhinos and other wild animals from the ravages of the illegal wildlife trade, we need to constantly innovate and adapt our tactics to stay ahead of the poaching gangs. For the moment, our canine recruits continue to keep us at the leading edge.



CANINE ANTI-POACHING UNIT IN THE SABI SAND



- Patrols conducted 24/7
- Dogs trained in detection and apprehension
- Number of dogs and areas of deployment is a closely guarded secret



ANTI-POACHING SUCCESS:

No rhino poached on our property since 2015



ECOLOGICAL MANAGEMENT

SINCE THE TIME OF OUR EVOLUTIONARY ANCESTORS, HUMANS HAVE ALWAYS PLAYED A PART IN AFRICA'S ECOSYSTEMS. IN RECENT CENTURIES, AS OUR NUMBERS HAVE EXPLODED AND OUR DEMANDS ON THE LAND INCREASED EXPONENTIALLY, OUR PREVIOUSLY BENIGN INFLUENCE HAS BECOME ONE THAT THREATENS THE VERY EXISTENCE OF THE ECOLOGICAL PROCESSES UPON WHICH WE RELY TO SURVIVE.

As wilderness areas dwindle, the ability of natural systems to maintain the balance between wildlife and their habitats becomes more limited. Humans have also added a suite of external threats to their survival. Our conservation management teams therefore operate with the underlying objective of restoring and conserving the historical biodiversity of the protected areas under our care. We focus not only on the animals, but more importantly on the habitats they live in because these provide the food and shelter necessary for survival.

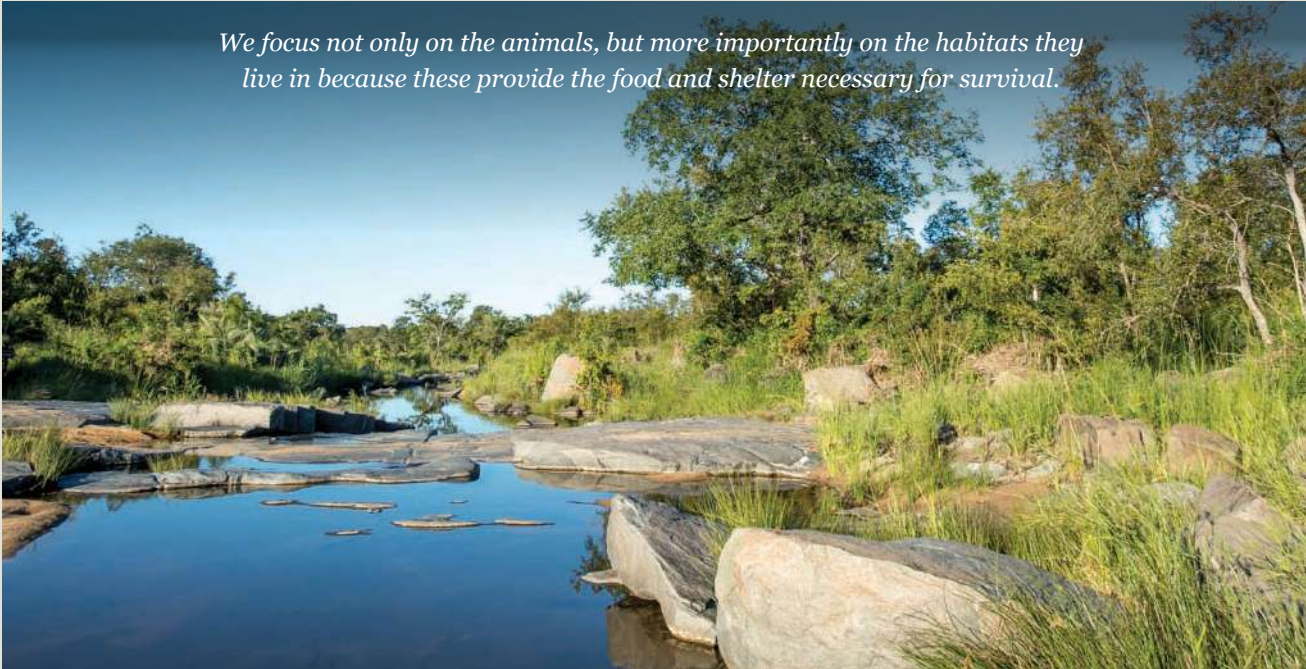
Solutions to ecological problems are complex and can be counterintuitive. For example, it is paradoxical that a destructive

force like fire is not only beneficial, but actually essential to the health of savanna ecosystems. To ensure that we make well-balanced decisions, we underpin our work with a scientific approach based on data collected through research and monitoring. Where appropriate data are not available, we adopt the Precautionary Principle as the basis of our management approach to minimise the likelihood of negative unintended consequences.

The work undertaken by our environmental teams is taxing and unglamorous; managing fire regimes, dealing with invasive alien plants, combatting erosion, monitoring rivers for pollutants and calculating grass biomass. These tasks are however just as critical to the long-term survival of our wildlife. The efforts of our ecologists not only ensure the viability of these systems, but form the foundation of the life-changing wildlife experiences that Singita is able to offer our guests.



We focus not only on the animals, but more importantly on the habitats they live in because these provide the food and shelter necessary for survival.



ELEPHANT IMPACT MONITORING



VEGETATION MAY BE THOUGHT OF AS THE CAPITAL REQUIRED TO FUND AN ECOSYSTEM, WITH ITS DEGRADATION LEADING TO ECOSYSTEM BANKRUPTCY. FOR THIS REASON, IT IS IMPORTANT TO KEEP TRACK OF CHANGES IN PLANT SPECIES COMPOSITION AND STRUCTURE BY PERIODICALLY MONITORING THE VEGETATION OF A RESERVE.

Elephants are the primary cause of vegetation change in the Malilangwe Wildlife Reserve; bulls can be very destructive, and their impact on trees is a cause for concern.

To measure their effect, studies were conducted by postgraduate university students in the most heavily impacted vegetation types in 2004 and 2014. The results showed unsustainable levels of damage to trees. If left unchecked, elephants were likely to convert Malilangwe's woodlands to shrublands. To prevent this, the elephant population was controlled by translocating fifty-three animals to another conservation area in 2008.

Due to the time-consuming nature and associated expense of collecting such detailed information on the impact of elephants on vegetation, a long interval is usually required between sampling. To provide information at more frequent intervals, a quick-look method of assessing damage to large trees was subsequently developed. Four tree species, namely Marula, False Marula, Wing Pod and Tall Firethorn Corkwood, were identified as indicators of elephant impact. These species are particularly sought after by elephants at Malilangwe, and by identifying, tagging and monitoring 50 individuals of each indicator species, the environmental team can determine the impact of the current elephant population on the Reserve's vegetation on a more regular basis.





FURS FOR LIFE



Image: Panthera

SURPRISINGLY, LEOPARDS ARE ONE OF THE MOST INTENSIVELY PERSECUTED WILD CATS IN THE WORLD. ACROSS SOUTHERN AFRICA, LARGE NUMBERS OF LEOPARDS ARE POACHED FOR THEIR SKINS, SOME OF WHICH ARE USED FOR CEREMONIAL AND RELIGIOUS DRESS BY THE RAPIDLY EXPANDING NAZARETH BAPTIST (“SHEMBE”) CHURCH.

Data collected by scientists from Panthera, the world’s leading wild cat conservation organisation, suggest that between 1,500 and 2,500 leopards are killed each year to fuel the demand for skins. To put this in perspective, South Africa’s wild leopard population is estimated at only 4,000-5,000 animals. The result is that the species is being targeted across its southern African range, with the resulting pressure on the region’s leopard population being wholly unsustainable. Unless urgent action is taken, leopards will become the next tiger; teetering on the precipice of extinction.



20,000 real leopard skins currently in use

**18K
FAUX
FURS**

18,000 Panthera faux furs have been distributed to date, saving 18,000 leopards

Data collected by scientists from Panthera, the world’s leading wild cat conservation organisation, suggest that between 1,500 and 2,500 leopards are killed each year to fuel the demand for skins.

In 2013, Panthera initiated the Furs for Life project in an effort to curb the poaching of leopards for their skins. Working with digital designers, Panthera created a high-quality, affordable faux leopard skin for use in ceremonies. Thanks to the support of Shembe leaders, the faux skins are gaining increased acceptance as viable alternatives to real leopard skins. Surveys undertaken at Shembe gatherings indicate that the provision of faux furs has already reduced demand for skins by 50%, preventing hundreds of leopard deaths each year.

Heralded by CNN, National Geographic, and other international media as an innovative conservation solution that respects local culture, the Furs for Life project aims to scale up its activities, within the Shembe Church and beyond. Singita is proud to partner with Panthera in supporting such an elegant and novel approach to solving a complex conservation challenge.

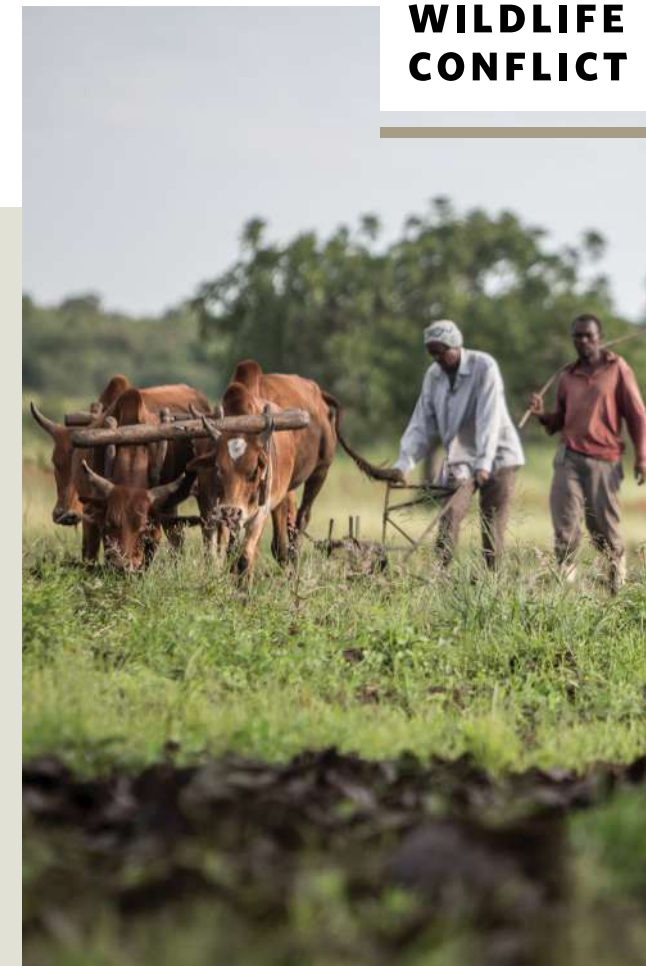
HUMAN-WILDLIFE CONFLICT IS PERVASIVE ACROSS MUCH OF AFRICA AND REMAINS THE GREATEST CHALLENGE FACED BY RURAL TANZANIAN COMMUNITIES LIVING NEAR PROTECTED AREAS LIKE THE SERENGETI ECOSYSTEM. WHILE JACKALS KILLING SHEEP ON COMMERCIAL FARMS OR BABOONS RAIDING CITY HOMES IS COSTLY AND INCONVENIENT, THE POTENTIAL LOSS OF AN ENTIRE YEAR’S INCOME IN A SINGLE ELEPHANT INCIDENT MEANS THE STAKES ARE MUCH HIGHER FOR BOTH PEOPLE AND WILDLIFE.

Although increasing human and livestock populations in the western Serengeti region – where cattle numbers alone have doubled in the last 10 years – are a major driver of escalating conflict, the recovery of wildlife numbers within Singita’s concessions has also played a significant role. With around 1,500 elephants now using the reserve – up from only 350 just 15 years ago – it’s not surprising that levels of conflict between people and wild animals in this zone have been increasing steadily. It’s a situation that led to the establishment of the specialist Human Wildlife Conflict mitigation team.

A study, commissioned by Grumeti Fund, found that from 2012-2014 the annual number of elephant-related crop damage incidents in nearby villages increased by 750%. Villages adjacent to the concessions were more likely to be affected (80-85% of incidents), but those further away were not immune. Surprisingly, elephant incidents also led to more cattle being damaged or killed than by lions, leopards and hyaenas combined. Elephant-livestock incidents were ‘the most geographically diffused, most severe by number of animals impacted, and involved more high-value livestock types than any other wildlife species.’ Although elephants were not targeting cattle or sheep, the damage occurs when frightened villagers try to chase them away from crops, and they end up running over livestock in the ensuing chaos.

With no fence or physical barrier to separate high-density human and livestock areas from the high-density wildlife on our concessions, it’s likely that despite our best efforts at mitigation, conflict between the two will continue to escalate.

HUMAN WILDLIFE CONFLICT





LEOPARD RESEARCH & CONSERVATION

LEOPARDS ARE ONE OF THE MOST ADAPTABLE AND RESILIENT OF THE WORLD'S LARGE CARNIVORES, AND AS A RESULT, IT IS OFTEN ASSUMED THAT THEIR CONSERVATION STATUS IS SECURE. HOWEVER, LIKE MANY OTHER SPECIES, ILLEGAL HUNTING, HABITAT LOSS AND THE BUSHMEAT TRADE ARE HAVING A NEGATIVE IMPACT ON LEOPARD NUMBERS. RESEARCH SUGGESTS THAT SOUTH AFRICA'S LEOPARD POPULATION IS DECLINING AT AN ALARMING RATE OF 8% PER ANNUM.

In recent years Panthera, the world's leading wild cat conservation organisation, has run a number of camera trap surveys to determine leopard density across the species' range in South Africa and some neighbouring countries. Many of these surveys have, however, been outside formally protected areas or in small reserves where proximity to human threats can negatively impact leopard density.

The Sabi Sand Game Reserve, home of Singita's founding lodge, has one of the world's best-protected leopard populations. For a number of years, Singita's guides have been providing data to Panthera on the spatial ecology and natural history of the reserve's individually-known leopards.

In 2017, Singita partnered with Panthera to run a camera trap survey on our land in the Sabi Sand with the intention of benchmarking what is ecologically possible in terms of density of leopards in a stable, well-protected population.

The results of the survey were enlightening. 22 individuals were photographed, at a density of 12.2 leopards per 100km² – the highest density yet recorded by a Panthera survey.

This, along with the population structure – 40% adult females, 30% adult males, 30% sub-adults – is likely representative of the species at ecological carrying capacity. These results are key data for Panthera's scientists as they advise on regional leopard conservation policy.

Following the success of this partnership, and concerns raised about potential poaching threats to Kruger National Park's leopards, Singita and Panthera committed to a further four surveys in the Kruger, including Singita's concession, as well as one on Karingani Game Reserve in neighbouring Mozambique.

By sponsoring a two-month camera trap survey, our guests have the opportunity to contribute to the long-term conservation management of this iconic species.



RHINO REINTRODUCTION

Poaching is a constant threat, and the success of the reintroduction can be largely attributed to the efforts of a dedicated anti-poaching team.

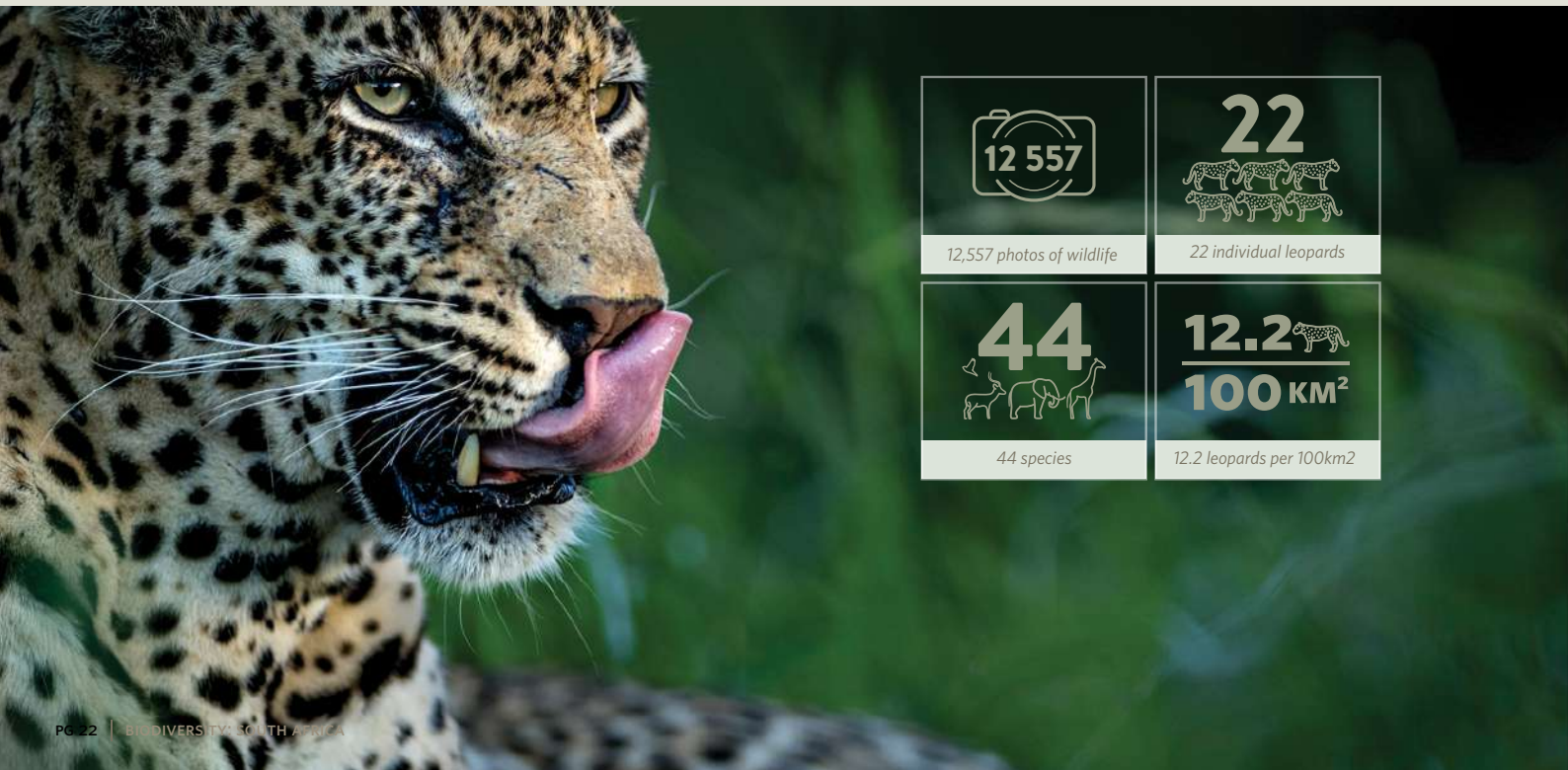
Scouts at Malilangwe undergo a grueling six-month selection process that is designed to push potential recruits both physically and mentally beyond what they believe they are capable of withstanding. Only a small fraction of the original candidates pass selection. The result is an elite group of loyal, tightly-bonded and highly motivated scouts. This, in combination with strong leadership and a well-developed intelligence network, has resulted in only two rhinos being poached in twenty years, with none being illegally killed since 2007.

Populations of both rhino species have increased substantially, to the extent that 35 white and eight black rhinos have been relocated off the reserve to restock other conservation areas

SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE 20TH CENTURY, POACHING AND HABITAT LOSS HAVE CAUSED A 95% DECLINE IN GLOBAL RHINO POPULATIONS. OF THE AFRICAN SPECIES, BLACK RHINO ARE CURRENTLY LISTED AS CRITICALLY ENDANGERED AND WHITE RHINO AS NEAR THREATENED.

A primary conservation objective at the Malilangwe Wildlife Reserve has been to restore and maintain viable, free-ranging populations of the reserve's historic fauna. When the Malilangwe Trust took over management of the reserve in 1994, there were a handful of white rhinos and no black rhinos which prompted the initiation of a project to reintroduce both species four years later.

Twenty-eight black and fifteen white rhinos were purchased from Kwa-Zulu Natal in South Africa and released into the north of the reserve, where they were intensively monitored by Malilangwe's scouts. Over the past 20 years, the growth of the populations has been closely tracked by analysing sightings of individual animals, each of which can be identified by a unique pattern of ear notches. Scouts record details of rhino sightings which are captured into a custom-built database, and data accumulated over the years facilitates the construction of detailed life histories of individuals and monitoring of the demographics of the populations as a whole. Both populations have increased substantially, to the extent that 35 white and eight black rhinos have been relocated off the reserve to restock other conservation areas.





RESEARCH ON THE ECOLOGY OF SEASONAL PANS



SEASONAL PANS (PONDS) ARE FOUND ACROSS THE MALILANGWE WILDLIFE RESERVE, BUT THEY ARE MOST COMMON ON ALLUVIAL AND BASALT GEOLOGY. THE PANS ARE INHABITED BY LARGE BRANCHIOPOD CRUSTACEANS, COMMONLY KNOWN AS FAIRY SHRIMPS. APPROXIMATELY 66 SPECIES HAVE BEEN RECORDED IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, BUT DIVERSITY MAY BE HIGHER BECAUSE LARGE AREAS, INCLUDING PARTS OF ZIMBABWE, REMAIN UNSTUDIED.

Little is known about the influence of local geology and geomorphology on the diversity and distribution of branchiopods, so an investigative study was carried out at Malilangwe between 2009 and 2010. The diversity of shrimps was sampled in 160 pans of variable size that were distributed across four geological types. Seven species of fairy shrimp and one tadpole shrimp were found.

An earlier study at Malilangwe had shown that the eggs of the shrimps are transported across the landscape by mud wallowing animals such as elephants, buffalos and rhinos. The eggs are carried in mud on the backs of these animals until it is rubbed off on trees and bushes. The mud is then washed off with the next rain and, with luck, the eggs are transported by surface flow into a nearby pan where they can start their life cycle once more. Elephants, rhinos and buffalos are capable of moving long distances, so considerable mixing of species across the landscape is possible.

Studies such as these highlight the importance of biodiversity for the functioning of ecosystems and pose some fascinating questions about the relationships between flora and fauna.



WILDLIFE REINTRODUCTION



WILDLIFE POPULATIONS IN GENERAL, AND CERTAIN SPECIES IN PARTICULAR, HAVE AT TIMES BEEN WELL BELOW ECOLOGICAL CARRYING CAPACITY IN SOME OF OUR RESERVES. FOR EXAMPLE, IN 1992 THE MALILANGWE WILDLIFE RESERVE IN ZIMBABWE SUFFERED HUGE WILDLIFE LOSSES AS A RESULT OF AN UNPRECEDENTED DROUGHT.

In Tanzania, prior to the establishment of Grumeti Fund in 2003, our concessions had been subjected to heavy poaching and poor environmental management, resulting in severely depleted mammalian biomass.

As Malilangwe is surrounded by a game fence, most of the larger mammal species would not have been able to repopulate the reserve naturally. In response, the Malilangwe Trust reintroduced 1,600 individuals of various plains game over a period of three years, with most of these species subsequently thriving. By contrast, the unfenced border that Singita Grumeti shares with the Serengeti National Park enabled natural recolonisation of the majority of species once adequate protection and management strategies had been implemented. However, some species such as greater kudu are at such low numbers that reintroduction has been necessary to boost population recovery here as well.

In addition to general game, we have also used introductions to re-establish species of high conservation value that were previously extirpated from our reserves.

This includes endangered southern white rhino and critically endangered south central black rhino released on Malilangwe between 1996 and 1998. At Grumeti, we have a long-running programme which aims to re-establish a viable population of eastern black rhino in the Serengeti.

Capturing and relocating wildlife is a costly and time-consuming process fraught with challenges, particularly when it involves moving threatened species across international borders. Nonetheless, if we are to conserve genetically viable wildlife populations in the face of Africa's shrinking wilderness and the threat of climate change, these interventions are critical.





COMMUNITY

The impact of Singita’s community work is integral to the achievement of our 100-year conservation vision to preserve and protect large areas of African wilderness for future generations. It isn’t enough to support the people who live in and around our lodges with token contributions to small business or education. As Luke Bailes, Singita’s founder, puts it: “[community partnership] only works if our commitment to the local communities is so deep that they trust that what we’re doing, preserving this land, is in their interest.”

Our long-term community development goal is to assist the people living in and around our reserves and concessions to thrive, both economically and socially, in harmony with the natural environment. Projects have three main objectives: access to quality education and skills development programmes, the development of small enterprises and an improved awareness of conservation and sustainable daily living practices.

EDUCATION

Singita supports access to quality education and skills development programmes across a variety of stages in an individual’s life. This includes holistic early childhood education, digital learning to bolster literacy and numeracy in school children, scholarships for high school and college-aged young people and bridging programmes and professional certification programmes to prepare young adults to enter the workplace.

ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT

In order to reduce the dependency on the land that we are protecting, it is essential that communities have an alternative source of income and food. Apart from improving the career prospects of individuals in the community, our small business development projects help to create sustainable, environmentally-friendly businesses that benefit the local economy.

ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS

Building awareness and understanding within the community of the importance of protecting the environment is essential to the success of our conservation efforts. Environmental education focuses on the critical role each individual plays in minimising their impact on the Earth’s limited resources and how doing so can improve the quality of life for the broader community.





CONSERVATION EDUCATION



MANY COMMUNITIES LIVING ADJACENT TO GAME RESERVES AND NATIONAL PARKS IN AFRICA HAVE LITTLE TO NO UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT GOES ON DAY-TO-DAY INSIDE THESE PROTECTED AREAS.

Often living in poverty, they have not been afforded the opportunity of learning the value of conserving wildlife and wilderness, and the benefits that arise from dedicated care of these assets. They are also in the unfortunate position of not understanding the ecological processes that they rely on for their subsistence, such as those affecting soil, fire and grazing, and the detrimental effect that unsustainable agricultural practices can have on their livelihoods.

In an effort to address this situation, the Malilangwe Trust runs a Conservation Education Programme, targeting Grade 6 pupils from 11 schools bordering the Reserve. What began as a life skills course in 2005 was reconstituted to focus on environmental education in 2012.

Created to align with the local school curriculum, the programme focuses on two main areas; sustainability and cohabitation of humans within the natural environment. Topics covered include the water cycle, pollution, population size and resource use and climate change.

Key to the success of the programme are the game drives and field experiences in the Malilangwe Wildlife Reserve, where, for most of the children, they have their first ever exposure to large wild animals.

In addition to environmental lessons, learners are exposed to team building exercises, counselling on prevalent social issues in their communities and a cultural experience at the Kambako Living Museum.

The results have been extremely encouraging, with a greater awareness amongst our neighbours of the need to care for their environment being one major outcome. The other has been an increased level of local support for the conservation work done at Malilangwe as a result of an improved understanding of its purpose and objectives.

For many children, the game drives and field experiences in the Reserve constitute their first ever exposure to large wild animals.

The result has been greater environmental awareness and local support for the conservation work done in the Reserve

2400



2400 learners to date

400



400 per year



ENGLISH IMMERSION CAMPS



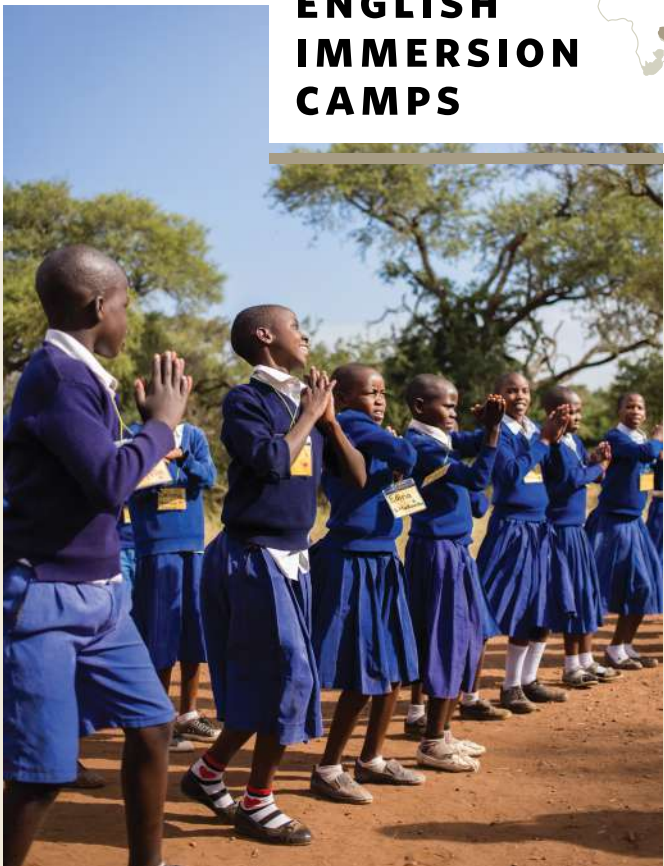
ONE OF THE MAIN OBJECTIVES OF GRUMETI FUND IS TO ASSIST OUR NEIGHBOURS IN REALISING THEIR DEVELOPMENT GOALS, OF WHICH EDUCATION IS A KEY FOCUS. THROUGH ITS COMMUNITY OUTREACH WORK, THE FUND IDENTIFIED A COMMON PROBLEM THAT AFFECTS YOUNG LEARNERS ALL OVER THE COUNTRY: PRIMARY SCHOOL IS TAUGHT IN SWAHILI BUT SECONDARY SCHOOL IS TAUGHT IN ENGLISH.

Transitioning from one language medium to another proves challenging for many students and plays a role in academic performance and school dropouts. Without a degree, formal employment opportunities for youth are immediately limited and higher-prestige jobs tend to employ English speakers due to a low supply.

A collaboration with the world-renowned Concordia Language Villages, a US-based language and cultural immersion programme, provided a wonderful opportunity to offer children from the villages neighbouring Singita Grumeti additional support in the form of extra English lessons.

They honed their grasp of the English language through fun and engaging language lessons, crafts, singing and dancing, inspiring the Dean of the programme, Patty Gulsvig, to remark: “The children are so eager and excited to learn! Each day they are in camp we see a growing confidence in speaking English as they learn new vocabulary.”

The goal of the programme is to help youth achieve higher levels of education by enhancing the skills and effectiveness of English teachers and building confidence among youth to learn English as a second language. If the quality of English language instruction in primary schools is enhanced, and students gain greater confidence and interest in speaking English, they will be better equipped to advance in their school studies, thus opening doors to continued education and rewarding careers.



The children are so eager and excited to learn! Each day they are in camp we see a growing confidence in speaking English as they learn new vocabulary.



AT THE SAME TIME THAT GRUMETI FUND'S LAW ENFORCEMENT OPERATIONS WORK TO ELIMINATE WILDLIFE POACHING, ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS FOR INCOME GENERATION NEED TO BE DEVELOPED TO HELP HOUSEHOLDS THAT CURRENTLY RELY ON POACHING TO MAKE ENDS MEET.

Considering the large safari industry in and around the Serengeti, there is significant potential to expand the local market to provide a larger range of products and services locally through small business development. Unfortunately, there is limited understanding about how to become an entrepreneur and establish, market and run a successful business.

To address this issue, Grumeti Fund has partnered with Raizcorp, a business incubator that has a proven track-record of success in business development. Raizcorp provides budding entrepreneurs with entrepreneurial learning, business guidance, personal development courses, linkages to financing and on-going mentoring, which are key ingredients for a successful business. The enterprise development program consists of two key components: Guiding and Village Learning.

Guiding is a high-touch entrepreneurial development approach providing intensive one-on-one support to entrepreneurs to help them enhance business development skills, whereas Village Learning consists of weekly training sessions for groups of 25 aspiring entrepreneurs. Participants gain the opportunity to reflect on and refine their business ideas and approaches, sharing their entrepreneurial challenges and problem solving with a trained facilitator. This program is designed to diversify the local economy, providing more sustainable livelihood solutions that reduce pressure on the protected area and the natural resources within it.

LACK OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY IS ONE OF THE MOST PRESSING CHALLENGES FACING RURAL AFRICAN COMMUNITIES, PUSHING MILLIONS OF PEOPLE INTO A CYCLE OF SUBSISTENCE AGRICULTURE AND POVERTY. IN ADDITION, THEIR LIVELIHOODS ARE SUBJECT TO THE CHALLENGES OF NATURAL SYSTEMS SUCH AS DROUGHT AND FLOODS AS WELL AS CONFLICT WITH WILD ANIMALS OVER CROPS AND OTHER RESOURCES.

One of the major benefits of Singita's conservation tourism operations is the sustainable economic injection that they bring into these areas. This manifests primarily through employment opportunities, but further through the opportunity for small businesses to develop and supply the lodge operations with fresh produce and other goods and services.

In the Malilangwe Wildlife Reserve, the Malilangwe Trust assisted in the establishment of two small enterprises in 2015; one a bee-keeping and honey production business and the other an egg-laying project. In both cases, the seed funding was provided by the Trust, but the honey and eggs are purchased by Singita at a market-related price. Lodge consumption to date has been sufficient to utilise all the honey and most of the eggs produced; the excess being sold to Singita staff or small local traders.

These projects are not, however, without their own challenges. For example, in the case of the honey, an unprecedented drought in 2016 resulted in a lack of flowers which, combined with excessively high temperatures, drove most of the swarms to leave the area. Nonetheless, the apiaries have since recovered and production levels are good.

These projects are also superbly aligned with the emerging global farm-to-table trend which is driving a greater awareness of the importance of provenance; people want to know that their food is sustainably produced and benefits local small-scale farmers and their families.



**45 entrepreneurs trained
through Village Learning in
2017, of which half were women**

**3 entrepreneurs enrolled in the
high-touch Guiding sessions in
2017**



**Bee-keeping, honey production
and egg-laying businesses
support local producers**

**Seed funding provided by the
Trust and all produce purchased
by Singita**

20 

20 community members
directly involved in
bee-keeping

240 

240 laying chickens
supplied by Trust



FEEDING PROGRAM



THE MALILANGWE WILDLIFE RESERVE IS SITUATED IN AN AREA OF ZIMBABWE THAT IS PRONE TO UNPREDICTABLE RAINFALL PATTERNS THAT INCLUDE FREQUENT PERIODS OF DROUGHT. THOUGH THE WILDLIFE HAS EVOLVED TO COPE WITH THIS SITUATION, THE FOOD SECURITY OF PEOPLE IN NEIGHBOURING COMMUNITIES, MOST OF WHOM RELY ON SUBSISTENCE AGRICULTURE TO SURVIVE, IS VULNERABLE TO THESE CLIMATIC VARIATIONS.

Particularly hard-hit by this issue are children, with high levels of hunger and malnutrition prevalent in the population, which in turn lead to high rates of school absenteeism, further perpetuating the cycle of poverty into which they were born.

Following a request from the Zimbabwean government, the Malilangwe Trust initiated a child nutrition programme 15 years ago as part of its commitment to partnering with local people in their development.

The programme feeds children between the ages of six months and five years at designated feeding points and Early Childhood Development centres at 33 primary schools in the district. At 11 of these schools, those closest to the Reserve, children of all ages are fed under the programme.

The Trust sources 270 tons of a specially formulated corn/soya blend every year, which is then tested by the appropriate government laboratories and distributed across its network of feeding points. Field officers employed by Malilangwe, supported by community volunteer monitors, pay regular visits to the distribution points to ensure that they are being correctly administered and all registered beneficiaries are receiving their allocations.

The results of the programme have been positive, as evidenced through improved Child Growth Monitoring statistics recorded at the local health centres that fall within the area of operation. In addition, school absenteeism in the 11 primary schools that are fully fed by the trust has reduced significantly since the programme was initiated.



The project is now fifteen years old



More than 15,000 children fed a meal every day



HOLISTIC ECD



EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT (ECD) REFERS TO DEVELOPMENT IN THE YEARS BEFORE A CHILD ENTERS THE FORMAL SCHOOLING SYSTEM. RESEARCH HAS FOUND THAT 85% OF BRAIN DEVELOPMENT OCCURS IN THE FIRST FIVE YEARS OF A CHILD'S LIFE. ADDITIONALLY, CHILDREN WHO ARE EXPOSED TO QUALITY ECD PROGRAMMES ATTAIN ENHANCED ACADEMIC OUTCOMES RESULTING IN THE PROSPECT OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND THE LIKELIHOOD OF BETTER EMPLOYMENT.

Singita recognises that quality early learning provides a foundation for success in later life, and has therefore been supporting ECD in the communities near Singita Sabi Sand and Singita Kruger National Park since 2009, working in partnership with ECD managers and teachers, government departments and key community stakeholders. Through the Singita Holistic Early Childhood Development Support programme, children are supported to fully develop in physical, cognitive, psychological and social domains.

Twenty ECD centres and approximately 2,500 children per year benefit from the Singita programme, through which school leadership and administration skills are imparted to centre managers, ECD teachers are trained and supported to establish a stimulating learning programme, and parents learn about the crucial role they play in their children's development during pre-school years.

THERE ARE THREE KEY PROGRAMME ELEMENTS:

1. A phased approach for ECD centres who are supported until they graduate to become good practice centres and mentor the new centres who enter the programme.
2. Facilitation of access to home visits and other community-based programmes for children who do not attend centres.
3. Ongoing engagement with stakeholders such as community leaders, government and non-profit organisations.

Singita also manages the distribution of quality educational equipment and resources for use in the centres. These resources are generously funded by Singita guests.

The Singita Holistic ECD Support programme meets a key need in these communities and can transform them by providing the next generation with good developmental foundations that will enable a successful future.





KAMBAKO LIVING MUSEUM

THE KAMBAKO LIVING MUSEUM IS SITUATED JUST OUTSIDE THE MALILANGWE WILDLIFE RESERVE'S EASTERN BOUNDARY IN THE NEIGHBOURING COMMUNAL LAND. IT WAS SET UP BY THE MALILANGWE TRUST TO PRESERVE AND SHOWCASE THE MATERIAL CULTURE THAT FOR CENTURIES HAS ENABLED THE LOCAL SHANGAAN PEOPLE TO GARNER A LIVING FROM THEIR NATURAL ENVIRONMENT.

In the recent past, the Shangaan people were hunter-gatherers, and this historic lifestyle is described through a presentation of the practical knowledge and skills that were used to make fire, gather caloric staples, weave baskets, and trap and hunt game. The necessity for an intimate knowledge of the available natural resources and an in-depth understanding of animal behaviour is emphasised. The methods used by the Shangaans are compared with other cultures and the link between primitive skills and modern technological development is discussed.

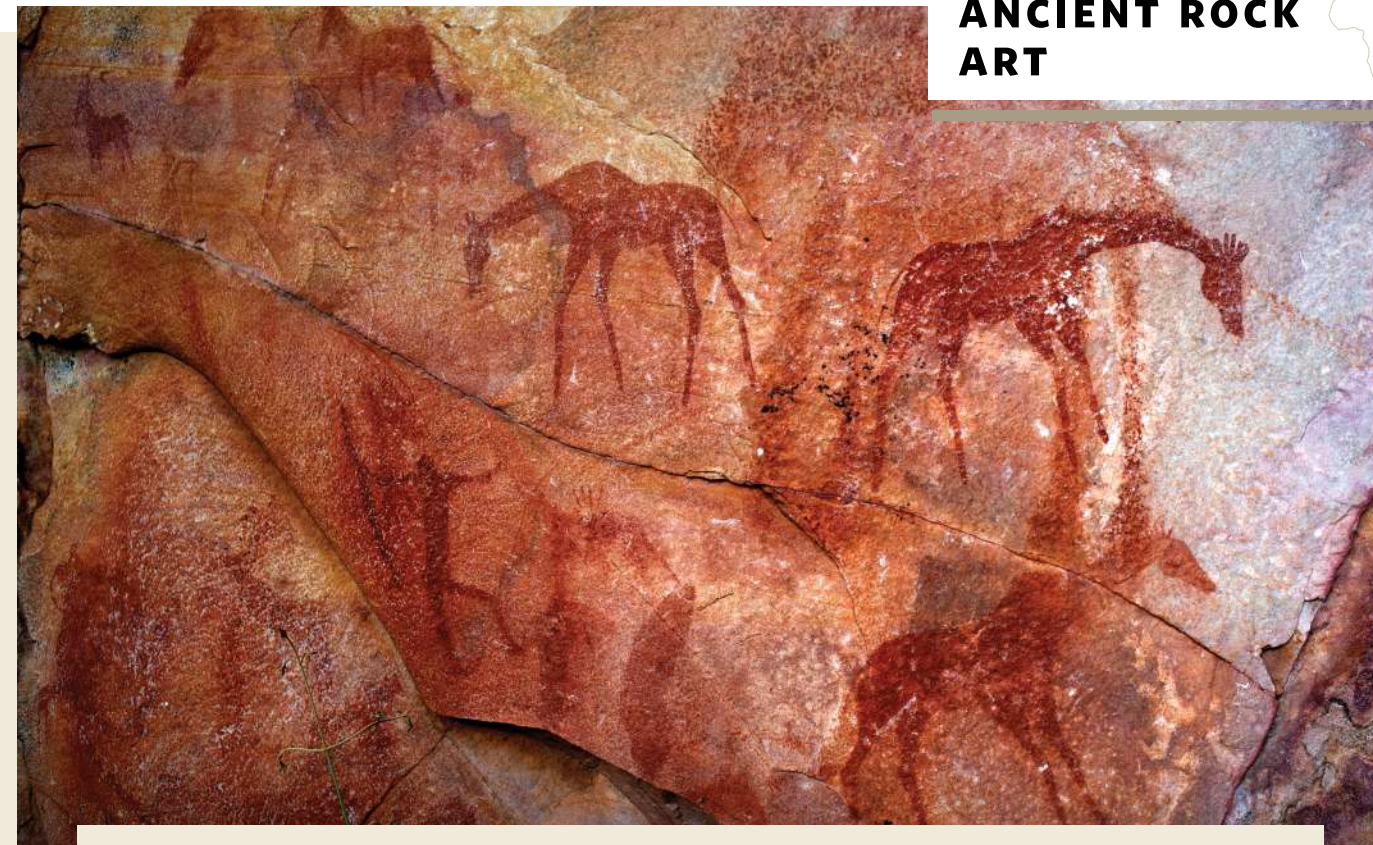
With the advent of the Iron Age, metal tools could be fashioned to hoe and till the soil and the Shangaan people made the transition to their current agro-pastoral lifestyle. This change required a new set of skills, such as the construction of a primitive forge; the manufacture of a whip for use in ploughing; pounding, winnowing and grinding seed from cereal crops; the construction of clay pottery; and the production of salt and potash for cooking. These skills are presented in turn, and the knowledge associated with each is discussed. The adaptability and ingenuity of the human spirit is portrayed throughout the tour and the pros and cons of the Shangaan way of life are discussed in relation to a modern first world existence.



A tour through the museum takes the visitor on a journey through time which highlights the adaptability and ingenuity of the human spirit.



ANCIENT ROCK ART



THE MALILANGWE WILDLIFE RESERVE HAS A LONG HISTORY OF HUMAN OCCUPATION, FROM THE EARLY HUNTER-GATHERERS TO THE MORE RECENT AGRO-PASTORALISTS. EACH OF THESE GROUPS HAS LEFT BEHIND TRACES OF THEIR PRESENCE, BUT THE ROCK ART, FOUND AT MORE THAN 80 SITES IN THE SANDSTONE HILLS OF THE MALILANGWE RANGE, IS ARGUABLY THE MOST ENIGMATIC EVIDENCE OF PAST CULTURES.

The art is approximately 2,000 years old and can be divided into three categories (traditions) namely: pictures painted by the San people – one of the Earth's oldest continuous cultures; blown or finger dots; and Iron Age or finger-painted motifs. The latter lack the finesse of the San art, but nevertheless provide a valuable window into the past. The majority of the paintings are of San origin and depict their spiritual rituals and the animals that shared their landscape.

Some of the unique rock art that can be found here includes five extremely rare bi-cephalic (double-headed) animals – one of only three known examples in Southern Africa – two examples of formlings, a term coined to describe “large forms, shaped like galls or livers, into which human figures are painted”, and various animals, including elephant, rhino, hippo, buffalo, giraffe, hartebeest, wildebeest, zebra, roan antelope,

sable, kudu, impala, wild dog, baboon, armadillo, ostrich and unidentified birds of prey. The meaning behind some elements of the paintings remains unknown.

Giraffe were frequently painted because in San culture they represent symbols of supernatural potency, possibly because of their power and grace. Giraffe are also strongly linked to the weather, being closely associated to rain in San thought.

In Zimbabwe, there are 15,000 known rock art and engraving sites, of which many are unique to the country, with little or no other examples found in the rest of Southern Africa.

- The rock art at Malilangwe is approximately 2,000 years old
- It comes from three traditions: San hunter-gatherers, Iron Age farmers and Koi Koi/Khoekhoen people
- Some are extremely rare and unique to Southern Africa



SINGITA COMMUNITY CULINARY SCHOOL

KRUGER NATIONAL PARK



THE SINGITA COMMUNITY CULINARY SCHOOL (SCCS) AT SINGITA KRUGER NATIONAL PARK OPENED ITS DOORS IN 2007 AND TODAY OFFERS A RIGOROUS, SINGITA-CRAFTED PROFESSIONAL COOKERY COURSE, PRODUCING 10 COMMIS CHEFS OF THE HIGHEST CALIBRE EACH YEAR.

The SCCS is a unique program that serves to fulfil a real need in the community, as well as for the South African hospitality industry as a whole. Graduates from local communities that surround Singita Kruger National Park emerge with highly sought-after skills and a bright future, while kitchens at Singita lodges and those further afield benefit from a pool of expertly-trained young chefs, ready to climb the ranks.

Approximately 70 chefs have found new careers since the start of the programme, of whom 95% are currently employed. The result would be impressive on its own, but in the context of a province with a youth unemployment rate in excess of 35%, it is even more significant.

Internationally acclaimed chef Liam Tomlin took on a leadership role at the SCCS in 2017; its 10th year of operation. Chef Tomlin has made his mark, combining the grounding of theory with intensive training in all five Singita lodge kitchens in South Africa, each of which has its own signature style which helps to cultivate versatility in the young chefs. This invaluable real-world training combined with their new culinary skills gives graduates the knowledge and confidence to apply for a commis chef position in any professional kitchen. The most promising students also have the opportunity to participate in exchanges with other top-tier restaurants, both locally and abroad.

With the opening of the new SCCS facility at Singita Lebombo Lodge in 2018, guests are able to see the students in action, sit down with them for a specially prepared meal, or participate alongside them in a pastry course.

11
YEARS

Now in its 11th year of operation

70

Approximately 70 chefs have found new careers since the start of the programme

10

10 commis chefs graduate per year

95%

95% of graduates are employed



SINGITA SERENGETI SCHOOL OF COOKING



FOLLOWING THE SUCCESS OF OUR FOUNDING CULINARY SCHOOL IN KRUGER NATIONAL PARK, THE SINGITA SERENGETI SCHOOL OF COOKING (SSSC) WAS ESTABLISHED TO NURTURE THE TALENT OF YOUNG ASPIRING CHEFS FROM THE COMMUNITIES NEIGHBOURING OUR TANZANIAN LODGES.

As the demand for qualified chefs in Tanzania's thriving hospitality and tourism industry grows, so the role of a facility like the SSSC has become ever more important. The school also serves to promote professional cooking as a highly skilled occupation that offers great prospects for employment, helping members of the local community to expand their horizons exponentially and provide support for their family and community as a whole.

A competitive application process ensures that we accept a class of students that not only have the potential but the character and determination to become a chef. The rigorous 18-month course combines theory components, completed in the classroom and online, with intensive practical training in the school and lodge kitchens. The class work also focuses on developing a sound understanding of the importance of professionalism, customer service and effective communication, in order to ensure that each student graduates with a well-rounded set of skills that give them every chance at success.

Upon their graduation, students are equipped with a strong foundation from which to launch their career and find a job in a professional kitchen. Along with a hard-earned professional cookery qualification, they also have the expertise and experience to apply for a commis chef position anywhere in Tanzania. In fact, many of the chefs graduating from the school are offered employment in our kitchens at Singita Grumeti where they get to practice their craft for our guests and continue refining their culinary skills.



SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM



THE COMMUNITIES SURROUNDING SINGITA GRUMETI ARE BRIMMING WITH YOUNG PEOPLE WHO HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE – NOT ONLY IN THEIR OWN FAMILY BUT ALSO THE LARGER COMMUNITY AND THE COUNTRY – IF THEY ARE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO DO SO. THIS POTENTIAL, UNFORTUNATELY, OFTEN GOES UNTAPPED AS MANY FAMILIES DO NOT HAVE THE MEANS TO FUND SECONDARY AND TERTIARY EDUCATION.

Concentrating on enhancing the quality of education provided to the youth from local communities to equip them with the knowledge and skills needed to pursue rewarding and successful careers has become a key focus area of Grumeti Fund. To this end, the Fund provides support in the form of scholarships for secondary school, vocational studies and education within the conservation and tourism sectors. The recipients are individuals who show promise and commitment in their field of study

For hands-on experience, scholarship recipients are paired with a mentor from the Fund to guide and coach them through day-to-day life decisions so that they can go on to pursue their dreams. They are also provided with internship opportunities within the organisation and offered life skills training on topics such as leadership, health, career exploration and dream mapping.

For most of the scholarship recipients, they are the first people in their families to achieve this level of education. The scholarships open doors previously closed to them and allow the learners to pursue rewarding careers. Graduates of the programme have gone on to become politicians, entrepreneurs and government representatives, who, along with their classmates, are now able to become financially independent, support their families and contribute further to the development of their community.

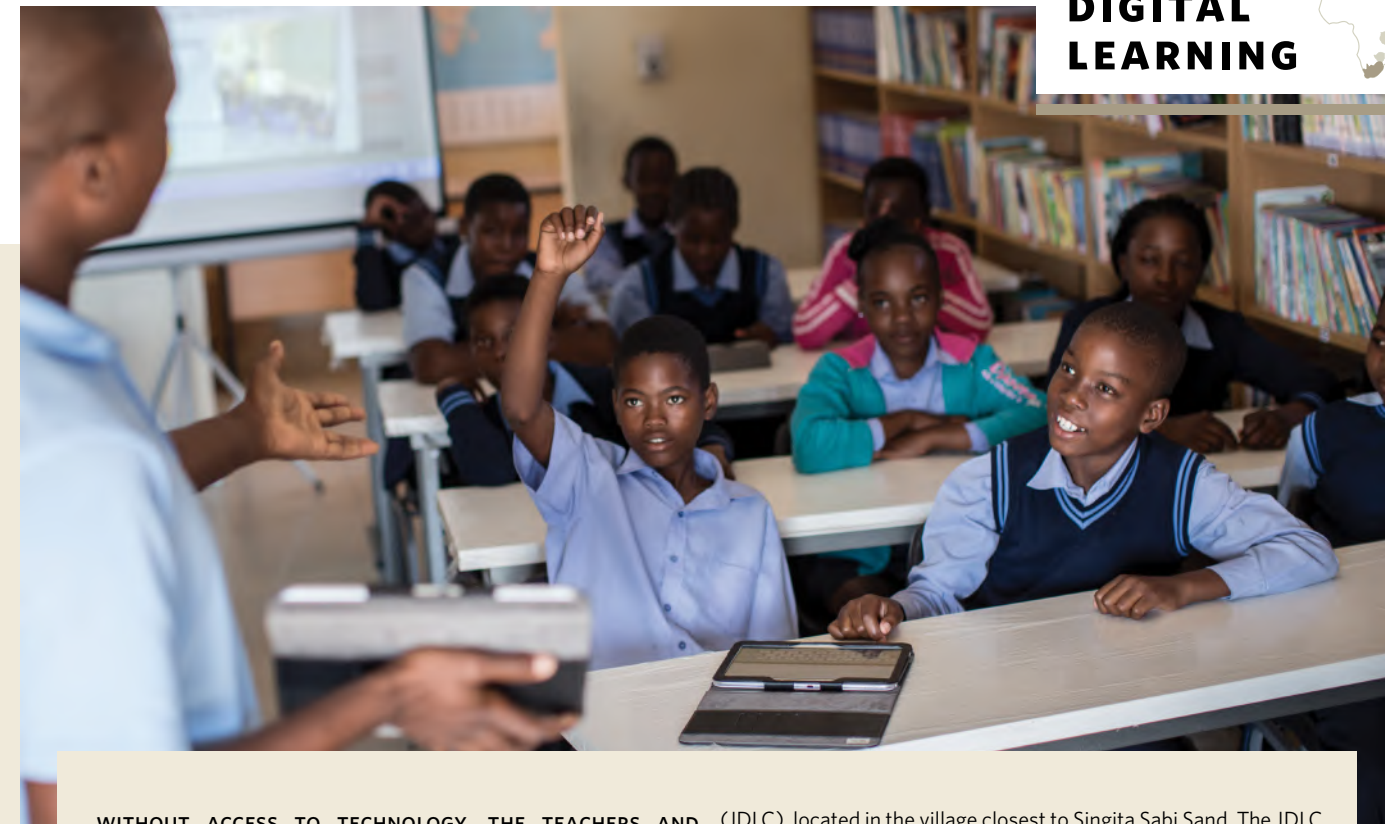
114 scholarships awarded in 2017

Scholarships are awarded for secondary school, vocational studies and education within the conservation and tourism sectors

Each student is paired with a mentor from the Fund to guide and support them through their studies

For most of the scholarship recipients, they are the first people in their families to achieve this level of education

DIGITAL LEARNING



WITHOUT ACCESS TO TECHNOLOGY, THE TEACHERS AND LEARNERS OF MANY SCHOOLS IN RURAL AREAS ARE AT A SIGNIFICANT DISADVANTAGE COMPARED TO THEIR URBAN COUNTERPARTS. IN 2015, SINGITA MADE A COMMITMENT TO BRING THE BENEFITS OF DIGITAL LEARNING TO THE COMMUNITIES NEAR SINGITA SABI SAND.

We first partnered with European Space Agency (ESA) and the Mpumalanga Department of Education in a Teaching and Technology project that equipped all 19 primary schools in the Ximhungwe district with satellites, connectivity and a number of laptops, tablets, and projectors. Educators completed educational technology and literacy courses via an e-learning platform and received facilitator-led Microsoft training. In line with our 100 Year Purpose, Singita developed a conservation module as part of the curriculum.

In keeping with Singita's commitment to ensuring the sustainability of the projects it supports, Teaching and Technology was fully integrated by the Department of Education in 2018. This allowed Singita to focus on learners through a partnership with internationally-recognised NGO, the Good Work Foundation (GWF). GWF's model delivers "digital-era" literacy education and career training via community-driven digital learning centres of excellence, of which there are currently four around the Sabi Sand area.

In 2018, Singita strengthened its partnership with GWF via a three-year commitment to the Justicia Digital Learning Campus

(JDLC), located in the village closest to Singita Sabi Sand. The JDLC operates an Open Learning Academy, which allows the schools to outsource their digital, English and mathematics literacy, and a Bridging Academy, which creates an access bridge between school and work or further education, preparing rural school leavers for life in modern business environments.

The Open Learning Academy supports learners from Grade 4 onwards, with Conservation, Coding and Robotics as recent enhancements to the curriculum. Youth on the Bridging Academy programme work with a student counsellor who assists them with a Career Interest Profile (CIP) and a post-programme career journey. Further training is available to graduates at GWF's Advanced Career-Training Academies at the central campus in Hazyview. Accredited courses respond to the needs of the community, and include Conservation, Hospitality and ICT.

By 2020, GWF campuses aim to provide access to digital learning to 26,500 youth and scholars who live adjacent to the greater Sabi Sand reserve and Singita is proud to be part of this impactful initiative.

■ Teaching and Technology benefited 19 schools with 300 educators and 10,000 learners.

■ The partnership with the GWF will bring capacity up to 26,000 learners by 2020





SUSTAINABILITY

At Singita, a sustainable world is one in which people enjoy happy, healthy lives within their fair share of the Earth's resources, leaving space for wildlife and wilderness.

We recognise that sustainable operations at all our lodges and urban offices play a major role in achieving our overall purpose to preserve and protect large areas of African wilderness for future generations. We achieve this through continued efforts to reduce our ecological footprint and to improve the lives of our people, and those in neighbouring communities.

Singita is part of the international network of organisations using Bioregional's One Planet Living framework, which is based on ten guiding principles of sustainability. Our teams strive to operate our lodges and urban offices in a sustainable manner, applying the two focus areas of Care for Planet and Care for People.

CARE FOR PLANET

Singita contributes to the sustainability of our natural environment through the application of principles that reduce our negative impact and improve the areas in which we operate. These include reducing our fossil fuel use for power and transport, sustainable management of water, appropriate waste management and recycling, advocating ethical food procurement, preference for sustainable materials, and awareness of how our operations affect the biodiversity integrity of our locations. These principles also inform how we design and build new lodges.


CARE FOR PEOPLE

Singita works hard to promote good health and wellbeing for guests and staff alike, creating safe, equitable working conditions, nurturing local identity and heritage, and supporting local economies.




SINGITA RECOGNISES THAT CLIMATE CHANGE IS A SIGNIFICANT GLOBAL CHALLENGE AND THAT IT IS OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO REDUCE CARBON EMISSIONS FROM OUR OPERATIONS AS FAR AS POSSIBLE. IN FACT, OUR ULTIMATE GOAL IS TO BE CARBON NEUTRAL. IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE THIS, IT IS ESSENTIAL TO PRIORITISE THE ENERGY EFFICIENCY OF OUR LODGES AND URBAN OFFICES, AS WELL AS DELIVER THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF ENERGY USING RENEWABLE TECHNOLOGIES.

Most of Singita’s carbon footprint results from a reliance on fossil fuel-derived energy to power our lodges. Burning fossil fuels contributes to the emission of more greenhouse gases than the Earth’s natural systems can process, which in turn is resulting in catastrophic environmental consequences across the globe. To address this, we are actively pursuing a shift towards renewable energy, with the installation of clean solar power technology which now powers half of our lodges. For example the solar power installation at SKNP reduced this lodge’s carbon footprint by nearly 40 % in 2017. In the design and construction of new lodges we focus on using low embodied energy materials, sourced as locally as possible. Our approach is to design a lodge to operate as energy efficiently as possible by using passive design, appropriate materials and installing energy efficient equipment. Even our hairdryers are energy efficient! We record and monitor our carbon-emitting resources monthly, and conduct periodic carbon footprint analysis.




50%

of our lodges have solar power, with over 1 megawatt peak of solar energy capacity currently installed across the Group



31%

of our hot water geysers are solar



72%

reduction in airconditioning energy demand following the installation of super-efficient HVAC systems at Singita Lebombo and Sweni lodges




Energy efficient LED bulbs are standard across all our properties

Singita depends on healthy water systems to sustain life in the wilderness areas under our custodianship, and to ensure the ongoing operations of our lodges and camps

WATER SCARCITY IS A SIGNIFICANT CHALLENGE IN MANY PARTS OF THE WORLD, INCLUDING SOME OF THE REGIONS IN WHICH WE OPERATE. SINGITA DEPENDS ON HEALTHY WATER SYSTEMS TO SUSTAIN LIFE IN THE WILDERNESS AREAS UNDER OUR CUSTODIANSHIP, AND TO ENSURE THE ONGOING OPERATIONS OF OUR LODGES AND CAMPS. THE FIRST STEP TOWARDS RESPONSIBLE WATER MANAGEMENT IS KNOWING HOW MUCH WE ARE USING, WHICH IS WHY WE ARE WORKING TO ENSURE WATER MONITORING SYSTEMS ARE IN PLACE ACROSS ALL PROPERTIES.

Consistent monitoring of the health of the boreholes and aquifers which supply our fresh water is an essential element of our approach. Using this finite natural resource efficiently in operations, limiting leakage and returning it to the natural system unpolluted, are critically important.


Water saving measures include low flow fittings, greywater recycling for vehicle washing and irrigation and water awareness drives with staff. Waste water is treated by our biolytic and natural systems, such as reed beds, to ensure the water we return to the ecosystem is safe and clean. Water quality for potable and waste water are closely monitored.




10%

water use reduction in 2017 at Singita KNP

50



water meters at Singita Sasakwa Lodge are monitored daily.



328kl

Kilolitres of rainwater harvesting capacity installed to date

The health of our aquifers is monitored across all regions.

Only environmentally-friendly cleaning products are used, ensuring better quality waste water.



ZERO WASTE

AT SINGITA, IT IS OUR GOAL FOR EVERYTHING TO CIRCULATE BACK INTO THE ECOSYSTEM, THE SAME WAY THAT IT DOES IN NATURE. WE STRIVE TO GET AS CLOSE AS POSSIBLE TO REPLICATING SUSTAINABLE NATURAL CYCLES SEEN IN A HEALTHY NATURAL ENVIRONMENT BY REDUCING WASTE, REUSING WHERE POSSIBLE, AND ULTIMATELY SENDING ZERO WASTE TO LANDFILL. RELIANCE ON LANDFILL LEADS TO NEGATIVE ECOLOGICAL CONSEQUENCES, SUCH AS THE SPREAD OF DISEASE, THE POLLUTION OF WATER COURSES, AND THE UNNECESSARY WASTE OF PRECIOUS RESOURCES.

We aim to reduce waste in two ways: firstly, by carefully considering what we procure and, secondly, by appropriate recycling. Much of our recycling, such as glass, plastic, metals, paper and organic waste, goes to community-run businesses, which in turn generate income for communities surrounding our reserves and significantly reduces waste to landfill.

A successful group-wide project practically eliminated the use of plastic bottled water from our operations, saving thousands of bottles from entering the waste stream. Guests (and staff) are provided with stainless steel or glass bottles filled from our in-house water filtering and bottling systems. We are committed to removing as many other single use plastics from the lodge operations as possible.

Singita Pamushana not only run an immaculate recycling depot, but also managed to reduce their overall waste by a third in 2017. Their secret lies in ongoing staff engagement and discipline with respect to recycling compliance. Our lodges continuously innovate the reuse of recycled materials from reusing brightly painted old tyres in children's playgrounds, and constructing security boxes from old building materials, to turning plastic into mosquito netting and excess glass into concession road aggregate.



- Plastic bottled water waste has been reduced by 90% across the Group since 2014.

- Singita Serengeti's plastic recycling is sent to a local furniture company which uses innovative designs to replace unsustainable and toxic components often found in today's furniture.

- Singita Faru Faru procures tableware from Shanga, an NGO which upcycles our glass recycling into beadwork and other beautiful objects.

- Singita Pamushana reduced waste production by just over a third in 2017.

- Deliveries to our South African lodges arrive in reusable, colour coded crates with shredded paper padding, replacing cardboard boxes and bubble wrap.

- Our focus on the elimination of single-use plastics has resulted in a replacement of all plastic straws with our very popular reusable metal ones. Sweni Lodge even has a rainbow one!



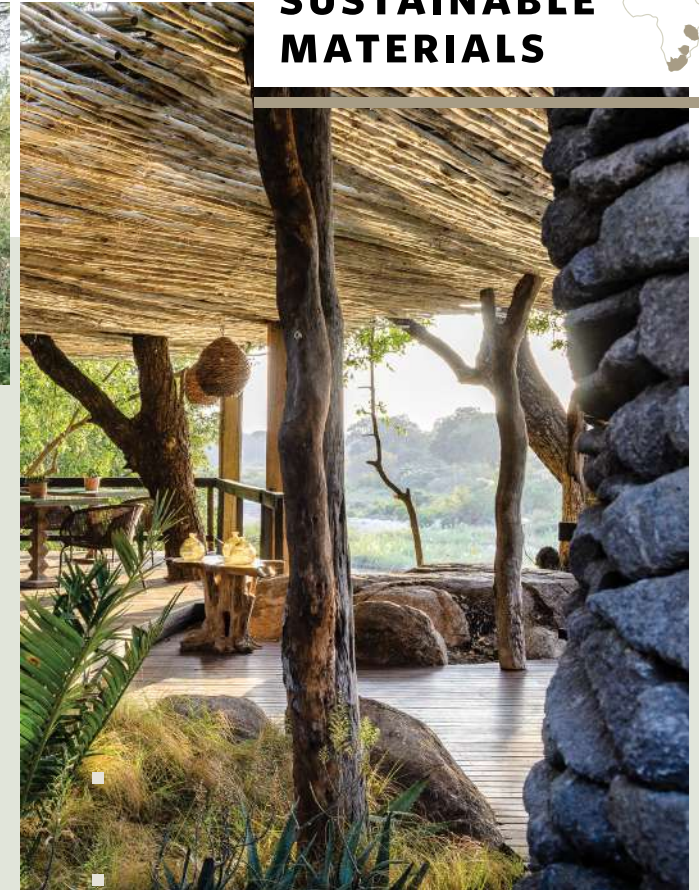
SINGITA IS CONSCIOUS OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF THE MATERIALS AND PRODUCTS USED TO CREATE OUR BEAUTIFUL LODGE ENVIRONMENTS. PROCURING SUSTAINABLE AND HEALTHY PRODUCTS, SUCH AS THOSE WITH LOW EMBODIED ENERGY, SOURCED LOCALLY, AND MADE FROM RENEWABLE OR WASTE RESOURCES IS A HIGH PRIORITY. WE ARE CONTINUOUSLY LOOKING FOR QUALITY LOCAL PRODUCTS AND MATERIALS, NOT ONLY TO REDUCE THE CARBON MILES AND ENSURE ITEMS ARE ENVIRONMENTALLY-FRIENDLY, BUT ALSO TO SUPPORT LOCAL ECONOMIES.

Commitment to using sustainable materials applies to every resource we may use in our business, from items used in daily operations to construction materials for new lodges. We strive to reuse or repurpose materials and fittings when refurbishing any of our existing lodges. Such was the case at Singita Boulders Lodge, where 100% of the stones were reused in the latest design update, and at Singita Sweni Lodge's 2017 refurbishment which focused on the use of sustainable materials, such as only FSC-certified wood, and re-utilised items wherever possible.

Our Singita Style, Design & Procurement team assists in the design and procurement of Tanzanian- produced items for Singita Serengeti's lodges, where previously the items would have been imported from South Africa. Guest toiletries are produced locally, contain African-sourced, environmentally-friendly ingredients, and even come in sustainable packaging. This range replaces the previous imported, non-organic brand, while guest suite amenities packs have been re-designed to be virtually plastic-free.

Design and construction of Singita Kwitonda Lodge, due to open late 2019, was strongly founded on sustainable design principles. This included a thermal analysis of the building design to ensure we can achieve maximum energy efficiency on the property once it opens. Every element of the build has been carefully researched and considered, from the local bricks and volcanic rock used to build the walls, to the mechanical ventilation system which draws in fresh air to ventilate and cool the rooms thus eliminating the need for carbon-heavy air conditioning. Skylights, double glazed windows, and wall and roof insulation are just some of the other features that will reduce energy consumption. In addition, steel frame structures have reduced the use of environmentally detrimental concrete by up to 50%.

SUSTAINABLE MATERIALS



- 100% of stones were reused in the Singita Boulders Lodge refurbishment

- Singita Sweni Lodge's 2017 refurbishment focused on the use of sustainable materials, and the pool water was even stored and reused

- Guest toiletries are produced locally from environmentally-friendly ingredients and are packaged sustainably

- Guest suite amenities packs have been re-designed to be virtually plastic-free

- Singita Kwitonda Lodge will set a new, even higher standard for sustainable design and construction



LOCAL AND SUSTAINABLE FOOD



SINGITA BELIEVES IN SUPPORTING SUSTAINABLE AND HUMANE FARMING, PROMOTING ACCESS TO HEALTHY, LOW IMPACT, LOCAL, SEASONAL AND ORGANIC DIETS, AND REDUCING FOOD WASTE. WE STRIVE TO SOURCE AS MUCH PRODUCE AS POSSIBLE FROM THE IMMEDIATE VICINITY OF THE LODGES AND SUPPORTS THE INITIATION OF PROJECTS THAT CAN FURTHER INCREASE OUR ABILITY TO DO SO.

Given that high levels of meat consumption are detrimental to the environment and our health, our chefs have designed mouthwatering menus that showcase traditional cuisine and seasonal produce while enticing guests towards a plant-based choice that celebrates locally grown ingredients.

Apart from carefully tended kitchen gardens that burst with seasonal produce, we also purchase ingredients from local suppliers wherever possible. Singita Serengeti buys 80% of its fresh fruit and vegetables from the Grumeti Horticultural and Marketing Co-op Society (GHOMACOS); a farming co-operative comprised of 72 small, highly sustainable and environmentally-friendly businesses that ensures the financial

independence of its members. Working with GHOMACOS also reduces our reliance on the costly (both financially and environmentally) importation of fresh food. The low environmental impact of this sourcing method is just one of the benefits – the others can be tasted on the plate!

Singita's kitchens also work hard to source sustainable seafood. South African lodges follow the WWF-SASSI guidelines for sustainable seafood which seeks to regulate the number and manner in which seafood is caught and how it is traded in South Africa. Our other lodges follow similarly ethical and appropriate seafood procurement policies.

- Seafood is sourced according to sustainable seafood guidelines
- Vegetarian options are made available to staff to encourage reduction of red meat consumption





OUR CONSERVATION TEAM



MARK WITNEY
CEO, Conservation,
Singita

A passionate conservationist since childhood, Mark's dream became reality when he joined long-time friend Luke Bailes as the first manager, guide and pilot at Singita Ebony Lodge in the Sabi Sand. After five years, he moved to Singita's head office, and has been the company's Chief Operating Officer for almost 20 years. At the end of 2017, Mark relinquished his operational hospitality functions to allow him more time to focus on the group's critical conservation work in a new role as CEO, Conservation.



MARK SAUNDERS
Executive Director,
The Malilangwe Trust

Mark has been the Executive Director of the Malilangwe Trust since 2010, in a role that encompasses Conservation and Tourism functions of the Trust. He also serves as a trustee on the Gonarezhou Conservation Trust, a partnership between the Zimbabwe Government and the Frankfurt Zoological Society, and sits on the Executive Committee of the Safari Operators' Association of Zimbabwe. Mark attended Rhodes University in Grahamstown, South Africa, where he graduated with a Bachelor of Social Science degree, majoring in Economics and Industrial Psychology.



STEPHEN CUNLIFFE
Executive Director,
Grumeti Fund

Stephen has been running Grumeti Fund since September 2015, following broad experience in developing and managing conservation tourism enterprises in Africa. Stephen holds a Masters of Business Administration (MBA) from Duke University & the University of Cape Town, a Masters of Wildlife Management from the University of Pretoria and a Bachelor of Commerce (hons. Environmental Economics) from Stellenbosch University.



ALAN YEOWART
Head of Safari Operations and
Training, Singita

Alan has been involved professionally in the guiding industry since 1995. He first joined Singita in 2002 when he developed and ran our Field Guide and Tracker Training Programme and has been involved on and off ever since. In 2017, he came back into the fold and plays a key role in sharing knowledge between the conservation and guiding teams.



AMI SEKI
Relationship Manager
Grumeti Fund

Seki has been working with GF since its inception in 2003. He is responsible for maintaining, building and strengthening close relationships with all relevant government, conservation and local community stakeholders that operate within the Serengeti ecosystem. Seki has nearly 40 years of experience working in the wildlife sector in Tanzania, including 30 years with the Tanzania National Parks Authority (TANAPA). Seki holds a Bachelor of Science in Wildlife Ecology and Zoology from the University of Dar es Salaam and a Diploma in Wildlife Management from the College of African Wildlife Management – Mweka.



ANDREA FERRY, PHD
Group Sustainability Coordinator,
Singita

Andrea Ferry has been in the Singita family since 2007. For the past 5 years Andrea has been part of the team managing the Sustainability portfolio, driving the One Planet Living framework. Andrea holds a PhD in Business Administration from UCT's Graduate School of Business, with a research focus in employee behaviour change for sustainability. Before her career switch to sustainability, Andrea practiced as a Chartered Accountant.



BEVERLY BURDEN
Communications and
Sustainability Manager
Grumeti Fund

Beverly joined Grumeti Fund in 2017 as Communications and Sustainability Manager, but has been with the organisation since 2013. Having worked in the conservation sector for 10 years she aspires to use her experience and knowledge on the ground to communicate the work of Grumeti Fund and to pursue the integration of sustainability into its operations. Beverly has a BA in International Studies from the University of the South.



BRUCE CLEGG, PHD
Ecologist
The Malilangwe Trust

Bruce has been with the Malilangwe Trust since 1994, when he joined as a post-graduate student. Bruce holds a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture (Majoring in Grassland Science) and Masters of Science both from the University of Natal, South Africa. He also holds a Doctorate in elephant foraging ecology from the University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa.



DAVE WRIGHT
Environmental Manager,
Singita South Africa

Dave Wright has been responsible for the environmental management of Singita's land in the Sabi Sand since 1981, and our concession in the Kruger National Park since 2001. Dave has a Diploma in Agriculture from the Royal Agricultural College in the United Kingdom. Through his environmental consultancy business, he also provides environmental management to other land owners in the Sabi Sand.



FRIDA MOLLEL
Community Outreach
Programme Manager
Grumeti Fund

Frida Mollel has been with Singita since June 2010, in a role that includes conservation aspects and Community Outreach Programs. Frida has a Bachelor of Science in Wildlife Management and Nature

Conservation from Sokoine University of Agriculture in Morogoro Tanzania. She is also working toward a Masters in Natural Resources Assessment and Management at the Open University of Tanzania.



GRANT BURDEN
Head of Special Projects,
Grumeti Fund

Grant has been working in conservation management and law enforcement for 12 years, eight of which have been in Tanzania. Prior to heading up Special Projects, Grant worked as a Section Manager at Singita Grumeti Fund

for five years, gaining a thorough understanding of the ecosystem, law enforcement and conservation of the concession. He holds a Bachelor of Technology in Nature Conservation from Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University, and a Master of Science in Conservation Project Management from the Durrell Institute of Conservation and Ecology at the University of Kent.



NOEL MBIYE
Ecologist,
Singita Grumeti Fund

Noel joined Singita Grumeti Fund as Head Ecologist in 2015, before which he spent six years as an Ecologist in natural resource management and conservation with Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA). Noel grew up on Mount Meru, Tanzania

where the forest scenes, sounds and smells inspired his passion for conservation. Noel holds a BSc in Wildlife Management, and in 2014 earned a Master of International Environmental Policy degree from the Monterey Institute of International Studies in Monterey, California. He is currently pursuing an MBA from African Leadership University School of Business.



PETER GOODMAN, PHD
Consulting Ecologist
Singita

Peter has been providing ecological advice and planning services to the Singita group since 2000 after more than 20 years with Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife. He has a PhD in Ecology from the University of the Witwatersrand,

a Masters in Tropical Resource Ecology from the University of Rhodesia and an BSc (Hons) in Wildlife Management from the University of Pretoria. He is currently an honorary researcher at the University of the Witwatersrand.



KATHERINE CUNLIFFE
Senior Technical Advisor,
Community Outreach & Sustainability
Grumeti Fund

Katherine provides technical assistance to GF's community outreach programs to ensure maximum sustainable impact, and is also responsible for business development for the Fund's non-profit conservation and community programs. She worked on public

health promotion, program management and emergency relief assistance on four continents and has held positions with the Johns Hopkins Center for Refugee and Disaster Response, American Red Cross and Catholic Relief Services. Katherine holds a Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering from Bucknell University and a Master of Public Health from Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.



MANDLA MATHONSI
Community Partnerships Project
Manager, Singita Sabi Sand

Mandla was born in the communities around the western border of the greater Kruger National Park. He worked with various community development programmes in the region. He joined Singita in 2011 and found home for his

passion for Community Development enhanced. He is a true advocate of conservation initiatives and believes they are a catalyst in transforming the life's of people and that of the environment around them.



SUSAN HORST
General Manager, Community
Partnerships Programme,
Singita

Susan joined Singita in 2017, responsible for providing strategic direction to the organisation as it strives to achieve its long-term community partnership goals in education, enterprise development and environmental awareness. She holds a

Masters Degree in Organisational Psychology from Columbia University. Susan spent nine years in the banking sector in Europe before moving to South Africa in 2007 to lead the establishment of a private foundation focused on developing young leaders from underprivileged communities through high quality education, a position which she held until 2016.



TENDAI NHUNZWI
Neighbourhood Outreach
Programme Manager,
The Malilangwe Trust

Tendai Nhunzwi has been with The Malilangwe Trust for over 11 years overseeing the Neighbourhood Outreach Programme and Human Resources. He holds an Accounting degree with Oxford Brookes University

(UK) as well as a professional accounting qualification through the Association of Chartered Certified Accountant (ACCA). He has the passion of working with the communities making positive impact on people's lives.



MORRIS NGWENYAMA
Community Partnerships
Project Manager
Singita Kruger National Park

Morris was born and raised in the village of Welverdiend Community next to Kruger National Park. He holds a Diploma in Tourism Management from the University of Cape Town. After graduating, he

completed further conservation studies, followed by a stint as a field guide, where he specialised in birding. Morris is passionate about protecting the land and wants to assist local people living in close proximity to the Kruger, as they play a critical role in protecting this African wilderness.



NEIL MIDLANE, PHD
General Manager, Conservation,
Singita

Neil has been with Singita since January 2014, in a role that includes conservation aspects of all Singita's current and future reserves. Neil holds a PhD in Conservation Biology from the University of Cape Town and

Masters in Environmental Management and Honours in Accounting, both from Stellenbosch University. He is a member of the African Lion Working Group, the Mozambique Carnivore Working Group and the Transboundary Conservation Specialist Group.



WESLEY GOLD
Law Enforcement Manager,
Grumeti Fund

Wesley joined Singita Grumeti Fund in April 2016, following a 10-year military career in the British Army's Royal Regiment of Scotland. This included

operational tours to Bosnia, Iraq and Afghanistan, as well as two years as an instructor at the prestigious Infantry Training Center in Catterick Garrison, North Yorkshire. Following his army career, Wesley went on to work in Anti-Piracy Operations on the Indian Ocean and Gulf of Aden, as well as provide close protection and compound security to a European Union Diplomatic Mission in Kabul, Afghanistan.



Help us drive positive change for African conservation

Singita is committed to building a financially sustainable conservation model that will see the continued success of our projects for the next 100 years.

We believe that our lodges will continue to generate a substantial portion of the considerable cost of these projects but we are realistic about the challenges.

As the rhino population dwindles toward extinction and elephant come under increasing pressure, the price of rhino horn and elephant tusks are rising, making the illegal poaching of these animals ever more lucrative and therefore costlier to protect. The poaching crisis, unfortunately, has to take funding priority over normal conservation work like research, alien plant control, etc. At the same time the increasing human population in Africa means that our community efforts have to keep pace to justify the conservation of wilderness areas that would otherwise be needed for agriculture.

To achieve our purpose of protecting large areas of African wilderness we need partners – people who are concerned about the future of conservation in Africa and who would like to become partners in, or adopt, a specific project in one of our regions. We can always do with additional anti-poaching capability such as dog and handler canine teams, infrared camera traps, spotter aircraft, etc.

In our community work we could do so much more – invite additional students through our Community Culinary School or sponsor more early childhood development programs, set up more small businesses in the community and build more environmental training centers.

If you would like to become a partner in a project or take on the funding of a project entirely, please contact us for further information and a list of possible programs you could become involved in.

 conservation.singita.com

 conservation@singita.com