



ANNUAL REPORT

JUNE 2021 – MAY 2022



PROTECTING ICONIC TREES IN MADIKWE FROM ELEPHANTS
USING BEEHIVES



P.E.A.C.E. Foundation Trust Annual Report, 2021-22

30 May 2022

In keeping with the format of the previous year's P.E.A.C.E. Foundation's Annual Report which we found effective in terms of reflecting the activities and achievements of the year's activities and projects we will reflect the year's progression by highlighting what we considered to be the most impactful of each month's programmes, inclusive of our Director's and Chairman's Reports.

The reporting will cover both the work of the P.E.A.C.E. Foundation Trust, in its own capacity, along with the work done in collaboration and in tandem with ERP (Elephants, Rhinos and People), in terms of its role as the poverty alleviation arm, representing the P for People. The ERP mission is to "Conserve Elephants and Rhinos in the wild THROUGH the alleviation of poverty in communities living adjacent to or within proclaimed conservation areas." Groupelephant.com is the lead funder of the P.E.A.C.E. Foundation Trust's overheads and projects.

Should you require additional information regarding any of the showcased interventions, please contact me at nora@peacefoundation.org.za.

Yours faithfully,

Nora Tager
Executive Director



Trustees: Mr. LF Masibe (Chairman) Mr.P.M.Nhassengo (Secretary); Dr.J.Beare; Mr.A.Zulman; Mr.T.Mthethwa (Treasurer); Prof.H.Coovadia; Mr.P.M.Tembe; Ms L. Kunene; Mr.D.E. Malwane; Mr.F.I.Mabeba; Mr.K.P. Maleka.



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CELEBRATING 29 YEARS IN THE P.E.A.C.E. FOUNDATION

CONSERVATION THROUGH POVERTY ALLEVIATION

We believe that empowering communities in rural Africa is essential to the preservation of Elephants and Rhinos and the cultural heritage of local People.

P.E.A.C.E. MISSION STATEMENT

“In the understanding that development means the development of people, it is the P.E.A.C.E. Foundation’s objective to provide disadvantaged communities with the necessary tools, skills and information to facilitate their own development, and, in so doing, improve their educational and socio-economic standards, ultimately, alleviating poverty.”

The P.E.A.C.E. Foundation’s amalgamation with ERP (Elephants, Rhinos and People), using the P.E.A.C.E. Model, has resulted in broadening the scope of our mission: “To protect and conserve Elephants and Rhinos in the wild, THROUGH THE ALLEVIATION OF POVERTY”.

The front cover of this report reflects the essence of the ERP Mission – preventing human/elephant conflict. This initiative prevents elephant invasions as a result of their inherent fear of bees, while providing economic opportunities for bordering communities.



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Following on the devastation to the economy as a result of the Lockdown restrictions that were put in place during the height of the Covid 19 epidemic, we still endure the consequences of this period. We continue to await, expectantly, the removal of the mask wearing mandate, in keeping with most other countries, and, hopefully, a return to normal living, particularly for our children who suffer negative health and psychological effects from mask wearing in schools.

During the height of the Lockdown, last year, we assisted in feeding communities that had been devastated by job losses, illness and deaths. We are planning for a future where agriculture will address poverty in those affected communities and provide adequate income and food so that poverty will become a thing of the past in rural communities and that it will be replaced by self-sufficiency and sustainable investments. There are tried and tested solutions that will address poverty through investment into agriculture from products such as honey, chillies and high value crops such as Macadamia Nuts, to name a few examples, along with everyday staples such as sunflowers and maize. With the prediction of potential global shortages and higher food prices, the investment into agriculture will bring value to donors who will reap benefits from the production of high value crops and staple foods, that will provide an expected return on their investment.

As we enter our 29th year of operation in the P.E.A.C.E. Foundation Trust, we plan to continue to utilise the longstanding P.E.A.C.E. Model, benefitting from innovative new technologies, with a focus on Artificial Intelligence (AI) and its impact on the various sectors in which we operate. This applies particularly to the fields of Education, Conservation and Agriculture. We continue to work with our committed team of staff, and independent service providers who work collaboratively to ensure excellent standards and accountability within all sectors of the P.E.A.C.E. Model that reflect our scope of work. Este Smith, Managing Director of ERP, continues to work collaboratively with the P.E.A.C.E. Foundation, supporting our role as the Poverty Alleviation arm of ERP.

With the technical, financial and strategic support that we continue to receive from the EPI-USE group of companies, we feel confident that the future of P.E.A.C.E., within ERP and the groupelephant.com consortium, we will continue to expand the scope of our work within the geographic areas in which we currently operate, as well as further afield. We are pleased to continue to work collaboratively within the framework of the ERP mission, and to provide, where possible, solutions for the alleviation of poverty, crucial to the ERP mission to “Protect and conserve wildlife through the alleviation of poverty within communities living adjacent to, or within, conservation areas.”

We will deal with a comprehensive report, within this Annual Report, when reporting on the progress made in the ERP initiative in partnership with the Community Property Association, as represented through the Melorane Trust in Madikwe in the North West Province.

More detailed information describing much of the work that we have carried out during the course of the year will be provided in the form of extracts from our monthly newsletters, highlighting the core of our main interventions and activities.

Worthy of special mention, however, is the praiseworthy success that Portia Morudi has achieved in her honey production business. We will provide a detailed report on these achievements within the body of this report which will deal specifically with the Beehive Fencing Honey production along with the agricultural opportunities that accompany this initiative. Through the provision of forage for the bees in the form of high value crops such as chillies Bee Keepers are provided with opportunities to pursue sustainable and profitable incomes through the production of forage. A recent introduction to this scenario is the production of high value and highly nutritious Chia seed blossoms for forage. This initiative has the potential to produce a high value additional nutritional brand to the current range of honey available.

We continue to pursue the possibility of procuring ERP land deal partnerships, as has been the case in Madikwe, while looking at some potential options that have presented themselves in KwaZulu/Natal. We trust that we will eventually succeed in entering into an ERP proposition with at least one of these opportunities.

The ongoing efforts of our lawyer, Karl Wiggishoff and Mthandi Malwane, our community representative and facilitator in KwaZulu/Natal, along with recently retired Mandla Tembe (a longstanding Trustee and Board Member of the P.E.A.C.E. Foundation Trust) will continue and we hope will lead to fruitful opportunities in the Northern reaches of KwaZulu/Natal.

I want to express my heartfelt thanks to the generosity of our donors, and the support of our longstanding Board of Trustees, and staff, and service providers, without whom none of our efforts would have been possible.



Director – P.E.A.C.E. Foundation Trust




CHAIRMAN’S REPORT

Underdevelopment, poverty and ill health continue to define the daily experiences and hardships of the majority of South Africans. The COVID-19 pandemic aggravated matters by landing a devastating blow to the already weak structures of our ailing economy. Unfortunately, the hardest hit are communities at the periphery. The P.E.A.C.E. Foundation has attempted to alleviate some of the suffering in rural communities adversely affected by the pandemic and its associated lockdown restrictions through the introduction of targeted feeding schemes. This is why even after nearly three decades of existence and provision of a helping hand to the poor, the P.E.A.C.E. Foundation Trust is still trusted by the majority of its beneficiaries.

As illustrated in this year’s report, the P.E.A.C.E. Foundation Trust scaled up not only in terms of strengthening its in-house capacity and competencies directed towards delivering programmes for the needy, but we have also expanded our reach to impact more people positively and leave admirable legacies. Our programmes know no gender and age. At youth level we pride ourselves in creating learning platforms through our various IT centres within communities we work with, and we have witnessed school performance by our beneficiary learners rise significantly.

The food parcels we have delivered in Madikwe, Limpopo and KwaZulu Natal have had a tremendous positive impact on the recipients. We continue to be touched by the number of orphans and vulnerable children in remote areas, particularly those living in child-headed households, and we hope to do a great deal of work with them going forward in order to improve their living conditions. With ERP at our side, providing much appreciated administrative and financial support, and our continued attitude of embracing flexibility in everything we do, we are confident we will grow from strength to strength.



Lesiba Masibe
Chairman P.E.A.C.E. Foundation Board of Trustees



THE P.E.A.C.E. MODEL:

The core vehicle for the delivery of P.E.A.C.E. initiatives is a cooperative, addressing all sectors of the economy, in keeping with the centralized, holistic components, essential to replicable and sustainable practices. The services and support mechanisms for second tier cooperatives are delivered through the facilities and support systems provided in a Community P.E.A.C.E. HUB. These structures deliver centralized financial management services along with bulk-buying and bulk-distribution of local products through centralized collective branding and marketing opportunities.

The picture above shows the original prototype of the Ndumo Hall (HUB), built in 2004, incorporating TeleCentre (the first of its kind in a deep rural community) thanks to Nedbank sponsorship and the connection to Maite Letsoalo, a colleague from Limpopo who was at the time working for the Universal Service and Access Agency of South Africa.

We are pleased to report that Maite is still a loyal and committed partner in the work that we do in the educational arena of P.E.A.C.E. The building incorporated a pre-school; bakery; office space for community meetings; showering and ablution facilities for participants in nearby sporting activities; a kitchen with catering facilities for meetings and community gatherings taking place inside the Hall; as well as a permaculture vegetable garden and a small waste collection initiative in and around Ndumo, serviced in the Hall grounds. For a number of reasons, we have to sadly report that the building is no longer functional as it deteriorated, structurally, to a degree that it can no longer be safely used and would not be practical to try and salvage. A consolation lies in the fact that the government recently provided the community with a number of facilities, which, although not community owned, and remain the property of government, nevertheless provide a number of the essential services which were previously provided at the Hall. This applies particularly to an IT facility and library which service the community generally.

It is our intention to impact positively on the livelihoods and quality of life of our beneficiary communities, through the strategic implementation of the P.E.A.C.E. Model, scaling all offerings to size, resources and needs of our beneficiary communities. The core vehicle for the delivery of P.E.A.C.E. initiatives is a cooperative model, addressing all sectors of the economy, in keeping with the centralized, holistic components, essential to replicable and sustainable practices. The services and support mechanisms for second tier cooperatives are delivered through the facilities and support systems provided in a Community P.E.A.C.E. HUB.



ANTI - POACHING - THE USE OF DRONES

The development and use of drone technology to prevent poaching is led by David Allen at EPI-USE providing yet another example of the advantage gained by our partnership with EPI-USE. This technology that was used, previously, and successfully, to protect the Rhinos at Rietvlei Reserve, near Pretoria, is being used currently at the Madikwe Reserve, where the Rietvlei Reserve Rhinos were, recently, successfully, transported to the Rhino Sanctuary, which was recently established in Madikwe. In this sanctuary the Rhinos will also be protected by a group of six specially imported from Belgium Malinois dogs who will be specifically trained to protect the rhino in collaboration with on foot Rangers and high tech drones.



HUMAN/ELEPHANT CONFLICT - BEEHIVE FENCING



Beehive fencing is the quintessential example of the web and interdependence established through ERP between the wellbeing of animals in the wild, and the economic opportunities associated with this, which improve the lives of local people. As a solution to the incursion of elephants into community property, this initiative simultaneously provides local bordering communities with protection against invasion by elephants, and an assured income for the beneficiaries from the production of honey.

The honey production is supported by agricultural initiatives which add to the livelihood of the community while providing additional forage for the bees, thereby increasing honey production. The Sekelekani Honey Bee Co-operative are members of the Gazini community in Northern Umhlabuyalingana on the Mozambique Border with KwaZulu/Natal. As subsistence farmers, they were affected by elephants crossing over from Mozambique in search of water and food, while walking their historical route in high drought season.

This natural, seasonal migration resulted in the destruction of subsistence crops on their route and instilled fear in the local community. ERP intervened with the proposed solution of Beehive fencing, previously well researched in Kenya, along with a strategically placed borehole for the elephants to use on the Mozambique side of the border.

It is gratifying to report that this intervention has not only successfully prevented the incursion of elephants from Mozambique into subsistence farms in KwaZulu/Natal, but has markedly improved the livelihoods and quality of life of these subsistence farmers.

The success of this project has largely been a result of the tireless efforts and skills of Portia Morudi who has continuously supported the cooperative in the training, production and marketing of the honey, along with the unflinching management and agricultural training that Edward Malu has brought to this cooperative.

His management skills along with his vast experience in the field of agriculture as well as the sun drying techniques in which he is highly experienced, have brought admirable success to this hardworking and deeply committed group of ten women, working cooperatively, as cooperative members and led by a deeply committed and hardworking woman who is the Chairperson of the group.

A second Beehive fencing project was established on the border of the Dinokeng Game Reserve and more recently, Portia has brought her beehive fencing and honey production to the people in Madikwe with whom we are now in partnership with a long lease, enabling us to assist in the development of economic opportunities while simultaneously promoting the protection of wildlife within the Reserve areas.

Portia has deservedly received a number of awards and accolades for her outstanding and innovative work in alleviating poverty through the production of honey. Her most recent outstanding achievement was winning the first place in the Food Lovers Market competition, comprising over 800 entrants, to select the best product that would be distributed throughout the country at all their 120 branches.

Portia is currently exploring new high end versions of the honey, based on a variety of forage, over and above the chilli which has produced a highly successful product. She is now experimenting with the potential use of Chia flowers as forage for bees which we expect will yield high value and highly nutritious honey. We are very excited about this as an opportunity going forward.

We provide more detail on this very gratifying and exciting initiative, within the highlights to follow in the next section.



ORPHANS AND VULNERABLE CHILDREN

e’Pap at Ndumo

At Ndumo, over 400 orphans do not have access to welfare grants and are totally dependent on donations for access to food. The Ndumo Orphans committee, headed by Mr. Don Mthembu (retired school Principal), and Mr. Bheki Mthembu (school principal) manage and support these children with the assistance of field workers and caregivers. Thanks to funding from EPI-USE America, these children have been provided with an ongoing supply of e’Pap (food and nutritional supplement) as well as funding for the support from the caregivers who provide the care that they so desperately need. We look to further funding to meet the needs of these vulnerable children.



Some of the orphans at Ndumo



CELEBRATING YOUTH MONTH JUNE 2021

WE HELD YOUTH DAY CELEBRATIONS AT THE VAALWATER CENTRE, WHICH SAW YOUTH ATTENDING AND ACTIVELY PARTICIPATING IN THE DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.



VAALWATER CENTRE COMMEMORATES YOUTH DAY

The ERP funded and supported Vaalwater Centre hosted a youth day celebration on June 16th. This was organised by the centre's beneficiaries, mostly youth, who planned to commemorate this day differently. Part of their activities for the day included designing and showcasing posters raising awareness on the rights and obligations of the youth. Additionally, they invited motivational speakers from within the community who engaged the youth through public speaking and focused discussions.



WATERBERG WAVE FM

Leading up to the June 16 celebrations at the Vaalwater Centre, the ERP funded Waterberg Waves FM had a series of youth month interventions, aimed at engaging the youth through dialogue sessions and radio shows that addressed pertinent societal issues such as Gender Based Violence, femicide and unemployment among the youth. Additionally, the station ran a series of interviews with beneficiaries of the ERP supported Waterberg Welfare Society, giving the participants an opportunity to reflect on how the centre and its various programmes had impacted on them to date. This was over and above the daily Hlago Ya Africa programme hosted by Letticia Mahlatji, aimed at promoting the ERP mission of conserving wildlife whilst alleviation poverty.



We believe that today's youth are tomorrow's leaders. This is why we continue to offer youth focused programmes at the Vaalwater Centre, aimed at moulding the youth and giving them a voice.



CELEBRATING A MANDELA MONTH JULY 2021

“LIKE SLAVERY AND APARTHEID, POVERTY IS NOT NATURAL. IT IS MAN-MADE AND IT CAN BE OVERCOME AND ERADICATED BY THE ACTION OF HUMAN BEINGS.” IN LIGHT OF NELSON MANDELA’S LEGACY AND BELIEFS, WE CONTINUE TO FEED AND SUPPORT ORPHANS AND THE VULNERABLE AT NDUMO AND MADIKWE.

FEEDING OF ORPHANS AND VULNERABLE CHILDREN

The plight of orphans and vulnerable children (OVCs) in remote villages throughout South Africa is appalling. Child headed households are surviving without adequate shelter and without adequate food. In keeping with the spirit of Mandela month, ERP continues to feed orphans and vulnerable children in Madikwe and Ndumo on a monthly basis. At present, we reach out to over 500 orphans in these 2 provinces.

Without our intervention, most of them would be left out without food and no means to survive. Provision of food for these vulnerable groups is but part of a broader approach, as our sustainable interventions provide the necessary socio-economic tools and opportunities that facilitate poverty alleviation in an integrated and holistic manner.



ERP CONCLUDES MADIKWE COMMUNITY SURVEYS



We are pleased to report that our team has concluded the community surveys conducted together with the Barokologadi Community Property Association. Using the tenets of Participative Rural Appraisal (PRA), our surveys focused on the youth, current socio-economic activities and potential opportunities among other aspects. The results from the survey exercise will guide our next steps as we implement various strategies aimed at addressing the status quo, which will see us providing this community with much needed tools and resources to improve their current socio-economic and environmental conditions.



VAALWATER CENTRE

The ERP funded and supported centre, through its outreach programmes, managed to distribute 60 food parcels to the most vulnerable within the Vaalwater Community. This was part of their Mandela Month interventions within the community. This further demonstrated that the centre as a community HUB not only provides essential educational and communication services, but also has a focus on the basic well-being of some of the most vulnerable and disadvantaged within Vaalwater.



“Overcoming poverty is not a gesture of charity. It is an act of justice. It is the protection of a fundamental human right, the right to dignity and a decent life. While poverty persists, there is no true freedom”- Nelson Mandela.



CELEBRATING WOMEN’S MONTH

“WOMEN’S RIGHTS ARE AN ESSENTIAL PART OF THE OVERALL HUMAN RIGHTS AGENDA, TRAINED ON THE EQUAL DIGNITY AND ABILITY TO LIVE IN FREEDOM ALL PEOPLE SHOULD ENJOY”
- RUTH BADER GINSBURG.



WATERBERG WAVE FM

With August being Women’s Month, the Radio Station’s focus was on women in the environmental and conservation sectors. To this end, a number of women were interviewed and profiled during the daily Hlago Ya Africa show hosted by Leticia. As part of their outreach programmes, the Radio Station also visited the Masebe Poultry Project, which we have profiled in the past as having received support from the ERP funded Waterberg Welfare Society. In addition, other lined up radio programmes focused on issues to do with patriarchy within various animals and species that included elephants, rhinos and bees.

Happy Women's Month
"There is no great force for change, for peace, for justice and democracy, for inclusive economic growth than a world of empowered women." — Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka
"Waterberg FM United For Women"

**WATERBERG BRUNCH WITH
LESEGO WA GA PHIRI**

Friday, 13 August 2021
Time: 11:30 AM

0796781051

Download Our App

LETICIA MAHLATJI
FEATURE: WOMEN IN ENVIRONMENT



CSI FUNDING FROM BARLOWORLD

We extend our gratitude to Barloworld, who have once again provided CSI funding this year. The funding will benefit Sekelekeni Cooperative, a cooperative led and largely consisting of women, covering their operational and capital expenditure for honey production over the next 12 months. This comes as a much valued boost for the Cooperative, who continue with their agricultural and apiculture initiatives.

ERP LAUNCHES MATHU PROGRAMME IN MADIKWE



Thanks to CSI funding from Maxtec, ERP launched and implemented the MathU programme at Olefile Secondary School located at Pitsedisulejang Village in Madikwe. 25 android phones loaded with the MathU programme were distributed, with students 23 Grade 11 and 12 learners each receiving the phones. In addition, 2 Maths and Science teachers received these android phones to allow for familiarization with the programme, as they will be monitoring the student recipients outcomes while becoming accustomed to using the programme. ERP will receive a full statistical report after the end of the year, with in-depth data on each learner’s progress.

The year’s third quarter was an exciting month for us, as portrayed in these highlights. Celebrating women’s month with our various projects goes on to showcase how much women play a vital role in all of our projects in various provinces.



CELEBRATING HERITAGE MONTH SEPTEMBER 2021

INTERNATIONAL RHINO DAY PUBLIC SPEECH ANNUAL COMPETITION HELD AT LAPALALA WILDERNESS SCHOOL ON HERITAGE DAY. WE APPRECIATE THAT OUR WILDLIFE CONSTITUTES PART OF OUR HERITAGE, AND AS SUCH, WE OUGHT TO CELEBRATE AND PRESERVE IT FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS.



RHINO AND HERITAGE DAY CELEBRATIONS IN VAALWATER

Despite the national Covid-19 lockdown, Letticia and the Waterberg Waves FM were able to attend the sixth anti-poaching annual public speaking competition held at Lapalala wilderness school. 33 learners from 18 schools in the Waterberg region participated in public speaking debating on the social, political and economic impacts on rhino poaching in South Africa. This is an annual event funded and supported by My Planet Rhino Fund, Lapalala Wilderness staff, Waterberg Biosphere Reserve, The Waterberg Living Museum, Endangered Wildlife Trust, Tintswalo Lodge in Lapalala and many more. This year, the event coincided with National Heritage Day, another important day on the national calendar.

MADIKWE IT LEARNERSHIP PROGRAMME

We commenced with the Madikwe IT Learnership Programme as part of our long-term partnership with the BCPA. The programme will see 30 candidates from four BCPA villages being trained in various IT related subjects over a 12-month period. The programme aims to provide these candidates, all from remote villages, with an opportunity to gain IT skills, allowing them to also be part of the Fourth Industrial Revolution. This programme is one of the various poverty alleviation interventions being implemented by ERP to benefit the community and address rampant unemployment. ERP have started working on conservation programmes that will protect the community's wildlife, including the proposed establishment of a rhino sanctuary.



MADIKWE APICULTURE PROJECT

Training of the prospective Beekeepers, by Portia Morudi, commenced at the beginning of September. A total of 180 hives were delivered onsite, with the last 20 to be constructed at the next training session. We are pleased to report that bees have already started populating the hives even before she started with her training. At this stage the hives will remain in a shed to allow for the fence to be erected prior to the establishment of the bee sanctuary. We expect the populated hives to be moved to the identified sanctuary site in the next few weeks, when Portia will return to review the site.

Here are Portia Morudi's words regarding this project: "A heartfelt thank you to everyone for making this possible and reviving their hope as some of them had expressed that they had given up on any prospects of getting employed, let alone owning a business, so they are truly grateful and so am I."



"Our rich and varied cultural heritage has a profound power to help build our nation" – Nelson Mandela



IN LOVING MEMORY OF GERT VERMEULEN

WE DEDICATE OUR OCTOBER NEWSLETTER TO GERT VERMEULEN, THE CO-FOUNDER OF #BIKES4ERP, WHO TRAGICALLY DIED ON OCTOBER 16TH. MAY HIS DEAR SOUL REST IN PEACE.



402 BIKES IN HONOUR OF GERT

In remembrance of Gert Vermeulen, who tragically lost his life on 16 October 2021, our next bicycle delivery will be in January 2022.

Gert was a founding member of #Bikes4ERP, and his passion and enthusiasm will be sorely missed. Messages of condolences from colleagues, friends, ERP partners, groupelephant.com clients and the beneficiary communities where Gert’s efforts to improve the quality of life of many rural children have poured in over the past few days. We, too, in an expression of our appreciate of Gert’s heartfelt efforts would like to honour his memory by raising a record-breaking number of 402 bicycles to be delivered in January 2022. This target reflects the total number of bicycles deployed to date through #BIKES4ERP.



We are very proud to share the news of Portia Morudi’s success in the honey production business. Portia recently partnered with ERP to produce honey using ERP branded bottles. The branded labels indicate the relevance of Beehive Fencing in reducing human/elephant conflict. Since elephants are afraid of bees (a bee sting in an elephant’s trunk can be fatal), elephants avoid going anywhere near a beehive, thus preventing their entering into agricultural land or property, where hives are strategically placed. ERP have invested and partnered with Portia and she has set up a bottling facility that employs three permanent staff. Portia’s ERP branded honey will be available in a number of the Gauteng branches of the well-known South African supermarket chain, Food Lovers Market, shortly. The honey is harvested from our beehive fences in KwaZulu/Natal province, and, shortly, from the Madikwe community, where Portia recently procured, Beehives, funded by ERP, which will expand her ability to deliver to wider markets which we believe will be opened for her, shortly.)



Our fundraising for 402 bikes for Gert is still on-going, as we strive to keep his memory alive. He senselessly lost his life to criminal activity, whilst doing what he loved to do most- riding his bike. May his soul continue to rest in eternal peace.



NOVEMBER – DECEMBER 2021

WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK OUR DONORS, BENEFICIARIES AND SERVICE PROVIDERS FOR A PRODUCTIVE 2021, AND WE WISH YOU ALL HAPPY HOLIDAYS AND A PROSPEROUS 2022 AHEAD.



MADIKWE APICULTURE PROJECT

Portia has commenced setting up the beehives at various identified locations in Madikwe. These will protect valued trees from destruction by elephants. This is a slight variation from the beehive fencing concept that we utilize among subsistence farmers in Gazini to prevent human/ elephant conflict.



SEKELEKANI COOPERATIVE UPDATE

We are pleased to report that the Sekelekani Cooperative managed to plant all their chilli crop seedlings in time for the rainy season. In order to ensure the successful growth of their crop, the Cooperative has started weeding some sections where weeds had started growing. It is expected that harvesting of the crop will begin in early January 2022. We commend this group for their tenacity and dedication which they have shown throughout the year.

The plot is surrounded by beehive fencing to prevent invasion from elephants coming across the border from Mozambique. Portia will, in due course, be collecting the next batch of honey from these farmers for marketing through her contract with Food Lovers Market.

As yet another drew to an end, we managed to reflect on the milestones covered during 2021, whilst also looking forward to more positive outcomes in the year ahead.



CELEBRATING THE LEGACY OF
DR MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.
THROUGH OUR VARIOUS POVER-
TY ALLEVIATION PROGRAMMES

“BE A BUSH IF YOU CAN’T BE A TREE. IF YOU CAN’T BE
A HIGHWAY, JUST BE A TRAIL. IF YOU CAN’T BE A SUN,
BE A STAR. FOR IT ISN’T BY SIZE THAT YOU WIN OR
FAIL. BE THE BEST OF WHATEVER YOU ARE.”
– DR MARTIN LUTHER KING



MADIKWE FEEDING SCHEME

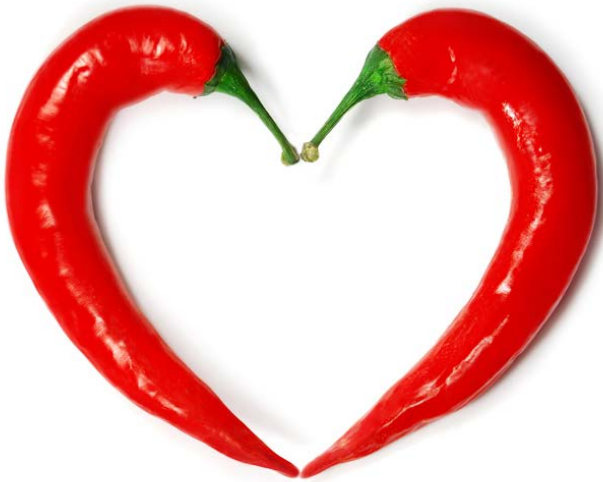
ERP once again delivered food parcels to around 500 beneficiaries living in the four beneficiary villages that are members of the Barokologadi Community Property Association (BCPA). This was to ensure that they would be provided with adequate food over two months prior to and during the Festive Season. Delivery was in light of our long term partnership between ERP and the BCPA, which is ensuring that benefits accrue to the community in tandem with the work which is carried out in terms of conservation and community development. Plans are in place to raise funds for the provision of water and the establishment of food gardens, managed by local community members in all four beneficiary villages, to ensure that they will not, in the future, be deprived of basic and essential food to sustain them. Through the P.E.A.C.E. Foundation, ERP also donated 10 bags of e’Pap to feed the orphans and vulnerable elderly people within the BCPA communities. This donation was received by the David Katnagel Clinic, who then distributed the supplement to the elderly as well as to primary school students at Maretswana School, one of the schools that has benefited from the #Bikes4ERP initiative. The remainder of the consignment will be distributed to needy clients who visit the clinic on a daily basis.



NTSHABELENG WASTE COOPERATIVE

In spite of a recent set back that the Cooperative experienced with regard to the sale of their plastic bottles (PET) to their buyer towards the end of 2021, they managed to sell over 5 tonnes of the product during January. This came about as a much appreciated financial boost for them. In addition, the Cooperative, through the committed mentorship and guidance of Lorraine Mabeba, have re started their organic waste initiative, which they will conduct using the Bokashi Composting method. The organic waste will enable them to supplement their income from the selling of dry solid waste. In addition, the group will be planting new vegetables for their food for waste programme aimed at promoting good nutrition amongst waste collectors.

We kickstarted the year on a very positive note, which was an indicator of more exciting things to come. Over and above what we have highlighted, we also managed to deliver the first set of bicycles to Madikwe under the 402 bikes for Gert, which is still on-going until we reach the set target.



CELEBRATING THE MONTH OF LOVE THROUGH OUR PROJECTS

FOR THE LOVE OF CHILLIES- REFLECTING ON HOW CHILLIES HAVE HAD AN IMPACT IN IMPROVING LIVELIHOODS IN RURAL COMMUNITIES.



UPDATE ON SEKELEKANI COOPERATIVE

The Cooperative continue to harvest their chillies, and we are pleased to report that the process is going on well in spite of slight disruptions with rain which delayed the drying process. Owing to the mammoth task at hand, the group has employed seasonal workers to assist with the harvesting process. This has created an additional five temporary jobs for local community members. To date, the Cooperative has harvested over 30 buckets, and will be commencing with the weighing prior to sending off the yield to the market. We will provide another update in our next report. Our expectations are high, taking into account the current prices for dried chillies on the market.



VAAWATER CENTRE

We appreciate the funding for IT related projects received, once again, from iLAB and G3G, both groupelephant.com companies. The funding includes various ICT related Enterprise Development and Socio-Economic Development that will be implemented at the Vaalwater Centre. This funding will enable the Centre to implement a number of ICT programmes enabling youth from some of the most remote rural areas to access technology directly in line with the Forth Industrial Revolution.



We continue to be grateful to all our various donors and partners who continue to support our projects. Receiving various support from them earlier in the year enables us to roll out our initiatives effectively through out various provinces, and continues to motivate our beneficiaries in these communities.



CELEBRATING HUMAN RIGHTS MONTH AND THE IMPORTANCE OF WATER AS A HUMAN RIGHT

“ACCESS TO SAFE WATER IS A FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN NEED AND, THEREFORE, A BASIC HUMAN RIGHT. CONTAMINATED WATER JEOPARDIZES BOTH THE PHYSICAL AND SOCIAL HEALTH OF ALL PEOPLE. IT IS AN AFFRONT TO HUMAN DIGNITY.” – KOFI ANNAN, FORMER UNITED NATIONS (UN) SECRETARY GENERAL.

SADLY, IT IS REPORTED THAT MORE THAN THREE MILLION SOUTH AFRICANS LACK “ACCESS TO A BASIC WATER SUPPLY” AND MORE THAN 14 MILLION SOUTH AFRICANS LACK “ACCESS TO SAFE SANITATION.” TO ADDRESS THESE CONCERNS, THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT IS WORKING TO CONSERVE WETLANDS AND INFORM THE PUBLIC ON THE IMPORTANCE OF WATER CONSERVATION FOR THE FUTURE. (DEPARTMENT OF WATER AND SANITATION, 2019)



UPDATE ON SEKELEKANI COOPERATIVE


The Cooperative finished harvesting their crop of red chillies, after having employed 5 part-time labourers to help in this process over a 6 day period. In total, they harvested 125 bags of the crop, estimated to be between 7,5kg to just over 8kg per bag. Weighing is still being conducted. The chillies will be sent off to the market at the end of March, and we anticipate that the Cooperative will obtain a favourable income considering the current market related chilli prices. Their apiculture project is progressing well, and ‘though we are getting into winter which is characterised by reduced productivity, we anticipate an excellent harvest of at least 438 kg of honey as we approach the 3rd quarter of the year.



Portia recently received the industrial machinery for her working facility, which is in the process of being fitted. Once functional, the facility will, among other things be utilized to process ERP honey from our various initiatives. Pictured here are the recently formed members of the honey production cooperatives who will shortly be provided with additional new uniforms and additional beehives. Portia is also in the process of purchasing uniforms for the recently hired personnel responsible for apiculture training in our ERP communities, including in Madikwe.

VAALWATER CENTRE

Waterberg Waves FM recently interviewed the Deputy Minister in the Presidency, Ms Pinky Kekana, who had visited the Vaalwater Hub. The visit coincided with a coding programme that benefitted 50 students, and covered topics that included an introduction to coding, virtual reality, drone coding and robotics. As reported on last month, the radio station established a good working relationship with Waterberg FM. This will see Letticia and her team from Waterberg Wave FM speaking about environmental issues during a current affairs show which airs daily, with the view that Waterberg Wave FM will continue to have an interview once a month in celebration of the environmental calendar days this year. Other notable activities from the radio station during March include interviewing the Marekele National Park Environmental Education Office on issues around waste management and the importance of recycling waste. This was of course over and above the daily ERP programme presented by Letticia, which covered various topics including water pollution preventative measures, conservation and human rights and also celebrated Wildlife Day.



Though our highlighted projects do not directly reflect a water related theme, they all are aimed at the provision of various human rights. We believe that access to information and provision of socio-economic opportunities at various levels are equally as important as the provision of water as basic human rights.



CELEBRATING FREEDOM MONTH

“FOR TO BE FREE IS NOT MERELY TO CAST OFF ONE’S CHAINS, BUT TO LIVE IN A WAY THAT RESPECTS AND ENHANCES THE FREEDOM OF OTHERS.”
– NELSON MANDELA



VAALWATER CENTRE PROGRAMMES

One of key goals of the Vaalwater IT Lab is to cater for vulnerable young people, specifically focusing on introducing them to basic computer skills relevant to the forth industrial revolution. During the month of April, a total of 98 participants had the opportunity to access basic computer training courses, including participating in a coding programme. The Lab also provided students from the surrounding schools with an opportunity to conduct various school-based research programmes. Over the past 2 months, total of 175 learners had the opportunity to access the IT Lab, which is commendable. Most of the learners could not access internet at home, and noting that the local library closes early, the IT Lab became an integral part of how they conducted research or accessed information after hours. With regards to sustaining the Lab, the management, led by Zach Sekhu currently piloting various income generating services including photocopying, printing, research and sending emails. Over the past two months, the lab has observed an increase in people in need of these various services, indicating a growing market for such. It is however worth noting that school going children and youth are not charged to conduct their school-based research, as a way of encouraging them to make use of the lab.



TESTIMONIAL ON ERP'S IMPACT

A few years ago, ERP, through our support of the Vaalwater Centre, gave assistance to George Boya, who was running the IT Centre at the time. George managed to grow his own social enterprise, which has continued to grow and effectively impact the youth in Vaalwater. Here's George's own testimonial regarding how our assistance has aided in the growth of his business:

“Because of ERP’s assistance, I am now able to train 100 students over a 6 week cycle, providing the youth with opportunities in the IT space. I’m most grateful to ERP for assisting me in the early stages of my work, as this has enabled me to provide over 65 villages with access to information and IT learning, whilst also amplifying ERP’s impact in and around various Vaalwater. For this I say, thank you ERP and the P.E.A.C.E. Foundation.”

“Freedom, in any case, is only possible by constantly struggling for it”- Albert Einstein



“I AM NOT AN AFRICAN BECAUSE I WAS BORN IN AFRICA, BUT BECAUSE AFRICA WAS BORN IN ME” – KWAME NKRUMAH

CELEBRATING AFRICA MONTH

THIS MONTH WE CELEBRATE BOTH AFRICA MONTH, BASED ON AFRICA DAY WHICH WAS CELEBRATED ON THE 25TH, AND WORLD BEE DAY WHICH WAS CELEBRATED ON THE 20TH OF MAY.

WATERBERG WAVE FM (LIMPOPO PROVINCE)

The United Nations proclaimed May 22nd as a day to celebrate international biodiversity day. To celebrate the rich biodiversity in the area, Waterberg Wave FM spent the day with learners from Monale, Reabilwe, Kgobuki and Mmamgopi Primary schools who showcased their talents in what Biodiversity means to them. In addition, ERP's Letticia Mahlatji also spent time with Grade R students from the local Blessings Day Care, where she spoke to them about the importance of biodiversity. The biodiversity theme helped shape most of the radio station's programming for the month, and Letticia also managed to look at the importance of various plants and species in biodiversity protection. These included the role played by marula trees, ostriches and the vital role played by butterflies in plant pollination. Any talk around biodiversity should also touch on invasive plants, and the radio station included this aspect.

For World Bee Day, Letticia's programme focused on the African honeybee and its role in particularly addressing human-elephant conflict. All these various programmes, as always, were over and above the daily ERP programme aired on the radio station by Letitia.



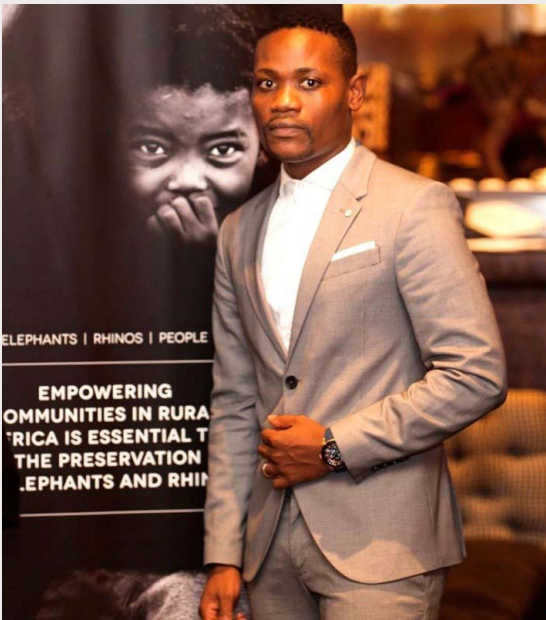
MATHU PROGRAMME – MADIKWE (NORTH-WEST PROVINCE)

We recently launched MathU the MathU Infinity Program at Olefile Secondary School located at Pitsedisulejang Village in Madikwe, North West Province. This was enabled through funding from Maxtec Peripherals, and was in partnership with Math U and the Barokologadi Community Property Association (BCPA) who have partnered with ERP to manage restituted land adjacent to Madikwe Game Reserve. This year, we distributed 25 android phones loaded with the MathU programme to 23 Grade 11 and 12 learners, each receiving the phones and customized textbooks. In addition, 2 Maths and Science teachers each received these android phones to allow for familiarization with the programme, as they are responsible for monitoring the student recipients' outcomes while becoming accustomed to using the programme.



“We cannot always build the future for our youth, but we can build our youth for the future” - Franklin D.Roosevelt.

AMBASSADOR PROGRAMME



We want to express our very sincere appreciation to Clement Maosa, well known TV star and celebrity, and his business manager, Bonga Percy Vilakazi for regularly reporting and posting on their Instagram page events and work that is done by ERP to be viewed by Clement's extraordinarily large social media following of around three million followers on Instagram. We hope that this exposure will stimulate the interest of young people regarding the importance of poverty alleviation, generally, along with its relevance in the protection of our wildlife heritage for future generations. We are most grateful to Clement for his continued wholehearted and dedicated support of ERP and we congratulate him on the birth of his first child, a boy, earlier this year.

Clement Maosa

STAFF

I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to the P.E.A.C.E. Foundation staff, based in our head office in Johannesburg, as well as those members of staff and facilitators, driving our projects in far flung places. Without their commitment, loyalty and dedication to the work that they do on a daily basis, we would never have been able to make the impact that we have in the lives of our beneficiaries in rural South Africa.

With continued commitment, I believe that our ambitions will be carried forward for the years ahead.



Edith Hlalele
Financial & Office Administrator



Thami Mupawose
Project Management



Cosy Manoko
Centre Manager (Limpopo)



Eliot Chisango
Environment & Waste Management

A special word of thanks, also, to our Chairman, Lesiba Masibe, who has not only been supportive through his position of Chairman but also for the role he plays in driving ERP programmes throughout the Limpopo Province and, in particular, in the Madikwe Reserve in the North West Province, with a particular focus on developing community participation in prospective land partnership deals. As Chairman of the Waterberg Biosphere Reserve and his with his extensive experience in both community facilitation and leadership, he has impacted meaningfully on all our potential and current partnerships with local communities in those regions.

FUNDERS AND PARTNERS



O'Keeffe & Swartz



Continued support, over a period of many years, from the Victor Daitz Foundation in funding a portion of our administrative costs is always greatly appreciated.

We are grateful to iLab, a member of the EPI-USE group of companies, which has once again, through their CSI spend, funded the establishment of additional IT training labs at the Vaalwater Centre, along with internet cafés, to provide the community with access to training and information. This has had a profoundly positive impact on the lives of young people in the vicinity.

We are most grateful to Nicolai Van Der Merwe and the late Gert Vermulen from the EPI-USE staff members whose tireless efforts have enabled us to provide bicycles to various schools in our projects throughout the year. Gert was tragically murdered while out riding his bike on October 16th. He is sorely missed and our condolences to his family are sincerely expressed.

We are also grateful to the Barokologadi Community Property Association (BCPA), who, through their long term partnership with ERP, have facilitated the implementation of various community and conservation initiatives in Madikwe. We have touched on some of these initiatives in our annual highlights section.

In addition, we express our gratitude to the Ashoka network, which continues to provide a valuable group of partners, globally.

A close-up photograph of an elephant's head, showing its eye, ear, and trunk. The elephant is in a natural, dry, grassy environment. A dark blue rectangular box is overlaid on the right side of the image, containing white text.

CONCLUSION

We conclude this report with a quote from Nelson Mandela, who said: "Overcoming poverty is not a task of charity, it is an act of justice. Like slavery and apartheid, poverty is not natural. It is man-made, and it can be overcome and eradicated by the actions of human beings. Sometimes it falls on a generation to be great. YOU can be that generation. Let your greatness blossom!" We remain committed to the pursuit of this belief.



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