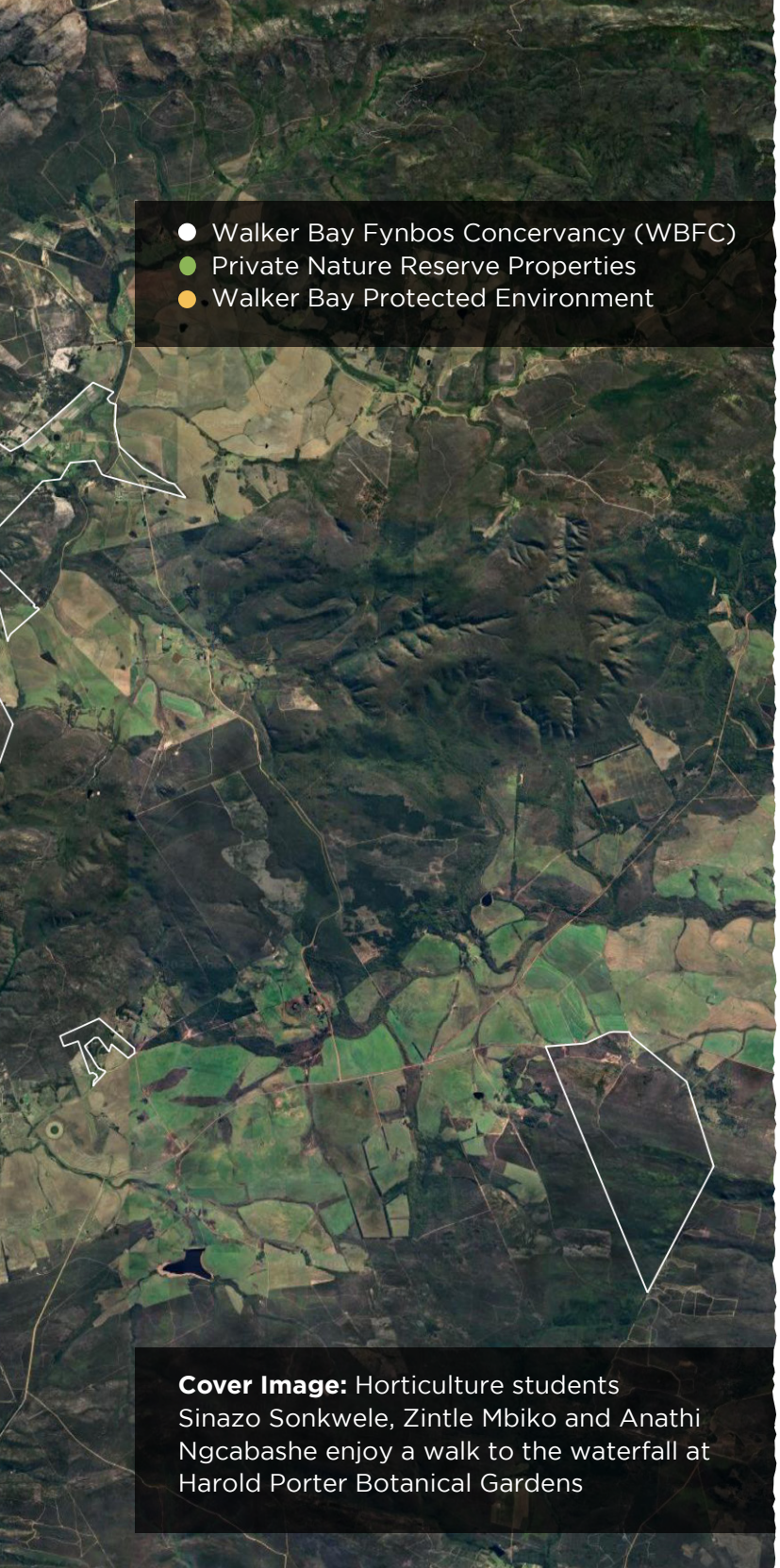


ANNUAL REPORT 2022

GROOTBOS FOUNDATION


Stanford
Walker Bay
Grootbos Foundation
Gansbaai



Cover Image: Horticulture students Sinazo Sonkwele, Zintle Mbiko and Anathi Ngcabashe enjoy a walk to the waterfall at Harold Porter Botanical Gardens

ANNUAL REPORT 2022

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VISION & MISSION

Grootbos Foundation is an independent, non-profit organisation which was established in 2003.

Our Grootbos Foundation vision is the conservation of the Cape Floral Kingdom and the upliftment of the communities therein.

It is our mission to conserve the unique Cape Floral Kingdom, the region we call home, and to develop sustainable livelihoods and active citizens through ecotourism, enterprise development, sports development and education. We create sustainable project models which are replicable and scalable in order to assist surrounding communities. Many of our projects generate their own income and/or are partially self-sustaining.



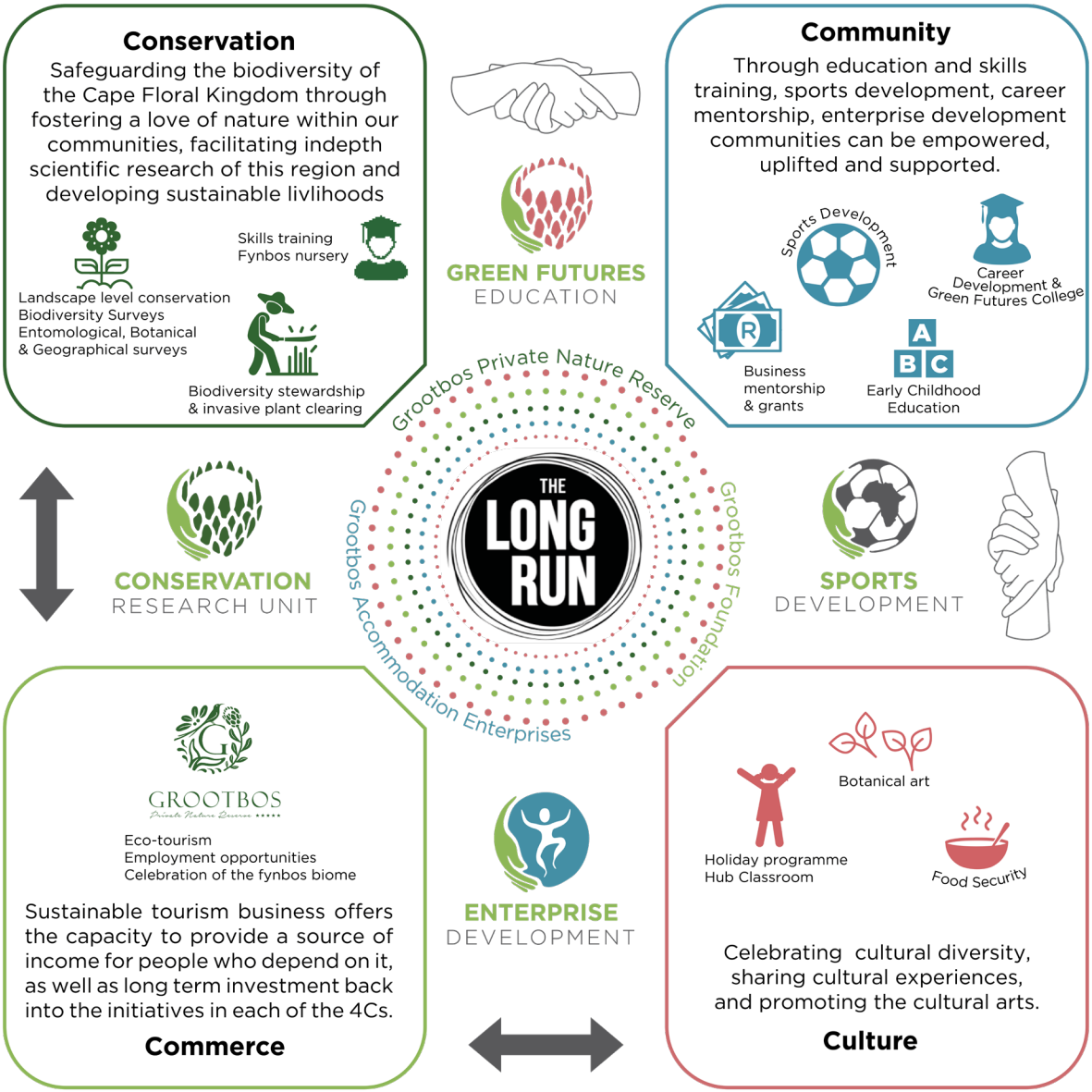
Watsonia stenosiphon

Our overarching objectives include:

- Conserving, rehabilitating and protecting the natural environment of the Cape Floral Kingdom particularly the flora and fauna of Grootbos Private Nature Reserve and in the Walker Bay region.
- The provision of education relating to indigenous horticulture, conservation, eco-tourism and life skills education.
- Training and skills development for disadvantaged persons to enable them to obtain employment or become self-employed, particularly in the green economy.
- Using sports and sports facilities as a tool for social development and integration, promoting healthy lifestyles, increasing environmental awareness, promoting life skills and providing the skills training necessary for youths to prepare for the world of work.
- Research, including ecological, educational, social and scientific research on topics related to our core programmes.

CONSERVATION, COMMUNITY, CULTURE & COMMERCE

Grootbos Private Nature Reserve is a member of *The Long Run* which is a membership community of nature-based tourism businesses committed to driving holistic sustainability within the travel industry. Community properties must adhere to the 4cs model, supporting Community, Culture and Conservation through their Commerce practices.



YEAR AT A GLANCE 2022

GROOTBOS FOUNDATION

4 169
TOTAL GROOTBOS FOUNDATION BENEFICIARIES

371
Trees planted at restoration sites

941
Total fynbos species found on Grootbos

CONSERVATION
RESEARCH UNIT

Conservation
- Conservation
- Alien Clearing
- Landscape Restoration
- Wildlife Monitoring
- Entomology
- Botanical Surveys
- Scientific Research

22 202
Hectares under conservation through the Walker Bay Fynbos Conservancy

GREEN FUTURES
EDUCATION

Vocational Training
- Eco-tourism hospitality
- Indigenous horticulture

Green Futures Nursery
- Landscaping
- Indigenous plant propagation

21
Students graduated from the Green Futures College

SPORTS
DEVELOPMENT

Sports Programmes
- Soccer
- Hockey
- Athletics
- Female Rugby
- Netball
- Canoeing
- Water safety
- Holiday Programmes
- Environmental Education
- Earth Rangers
- Female Empowerment

890
Girls participating in sports development programmes

ENTERPRISE
DEVELOPMENT

Enterprise Development
- Careers
- Entrepreneurship Employability
- ECD - Early Childhood Development
- Green Economy
- Life Skills Training

35
New businesses started

70%
Female Entrepreneurs

157
Children benefiting from the Hub Classroom

140
Children at Early Childhood Development Centres supported by Grootbos Foundation

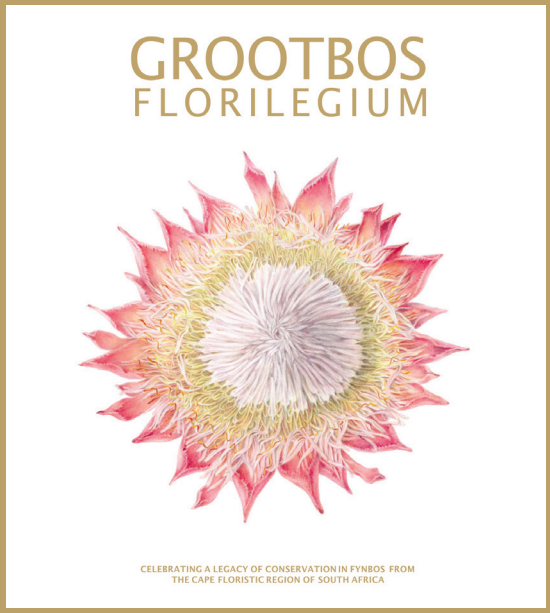
DIRECTORS' REPORT

As we look back from the vantage point of 2023 at how far the Grootbos Foundation has come since its beginning in 2003, we are humbled and awed. 2022 was a year which confirmed the value of Grootbos Foundation. We are proud of the impact achieved through our far-ranging suite of projects that both serve local communities and conserve the unique landscape surrounding Grootbos Private Nature Reserve. As we step into 2023 from 2022, we reflect on our 20 year journey and the milestones we have accomplished, and we look forward to future possibilities.

From our humble beginnings of conserving one property of 123 hectares to being the custodians of 3'500 hectares, we have not only grown our conservation footprint but have worked with our neighbours and partners in the Walker Bay Fynbos Conservancy to enact landscape-level conservation among 44 landowners who collectively conserve 22'202 hectares. We have initiated the process to enable the formation of the Walker Bay Protected Environment that will provide statutory protection to 8 properties in terms of the Protected Areas Act (Act 57 of 2003).

To restore and protect the endangered and critically endangered habitats, we have received funding to employ two teams of biodiversity stewards and to enable ongoing employment opportunities to 20 women for 18 – 24 months. We are grateful to *Flora and Fauna* and to the *Whitley Fund for Nature* for sharing our vision and for providing funding to continue this work within the green economy and fynbos landscape. With our partners, we continue to work towards creating a continuous conservation corridor between the Walker Bay Fynbos Conservancy and Agulhas National Park so that wild nature can flourish and fauna can move safely and freely within the landscape.

To celebrate floral diversity and the conservation legacy within the Cape Floral Kingdom at Grootbos Private Nature Reserve, a new and exciting botanical art project was designed to capture and record rare and endangered plants found on the reserve through impeccable illustration known as botanical art, an art form so precise that it supports the science of botanists and horticulturists. This three-year project was finally completed in 2022 and was revealed in all its glory at the opening of the Hannarie Wenhold Botanical Art Gallery, home of these 120 unique artworks. Each featured plant comprises two artworks - a principal botanical artwork and a vignette to highlight botanical details and pollinator relationships including bees, butterflies, birds, moths, flies, mice and a variety of vibrant creatures that inhabit the wild landscape. The botanical art pieces and their stories have been curated and published in the Grootbos Florilegium book to celebrate the legacy of Grootbos and 25 years of conservation. The sale of the book, art prints and guided tours generate funds for Grootbos Foundation programmes.



Green Futures College, the first of the Foundation's projects, remains the cornerstone of the human impact programmes. The college was launched in 2003 and has provided skills training in Indigenous Horticulture and Eco-tourism for 320 young men and women from the Gansbaai and Stanford communities, preparing them for work and success within the green economy. The Green Futures Nursery is a practical teaching and learning environment and is also open to the public so that the sale of indigenous plants at wholesale prices generates income for the training programmes.

Grootbos Environmental Centre regularly hosts international researchers as well as our own research projects which explore the intricacies of nature and the relationship between different habitats and surrounding environments. Understanding the ecology of Grootbos Private Nature Reserve was the overarching goal of eight research projects during 2022 including studying soil differences between fynbos and forests, the roles of honey bees versus native pollinators, medicinal fynbos, genetic studies of money beetles and velvet worms, and many more riveting topics that enable us to learn and understand the unique fynbos biome.

The Entrepreneurship project within our Enterprise Development programme has grown in stature and impact within the community because of the increased need for economic empowerment. The Entrepreneurship team provides training, seed funding and mentorship for brave, budding entrepreneurs. Over the past seven years, the programme has directly impacted 764 people through business skills training and provided seed funding to 176 small business owners, of which 84 received seed funding that enabled them to get their businesses up and running since the pandemic. In 2022 we introduced business expansion grants in partnership with the *Rotary Club of Hermanus* to support 9 previously funded entrepreneurs who showed promising economic growth since they first received funding. We are proud of these intrepid business owners who have taken ownership of their own financial success.



Biodiversity Stewardship teams actively restore and protect degraded habitats within the WBFC

The Sports Development programme of Grootbos Foundation has been active since 2008 and continues to be a source of fun, lifeskills and a beacon of hope for local youths. Many local youths have grown up through the sports programmes of the Foundation which originally carried the programme name *Footbal Foundation.* For improved clarity, we now refer to our exciting and diverse sports programmes and curricula as the Sports Development programme of Grootbos Foundation. Our goal has always been to use the fun of sports to deliver education, lifeskills, personal skills, team skills, conservation education and career guidance to children and young people.

We are proud that an unexpected impact of our Sports Development programme is that individual sports players have been identified and invited to join regional, provincial and national teams. These are the Rising Stars of Grootbos Foundation and they carry the hope and joy of their friends, families and communities, demonstrating that development sports can indeed change lives. Congratulations to Sibongeleni Mzimba who competed in the Olympic Hopes Canoe Sprint Championships in Slovakia where he represented South Africa in September 2022.

Each day, more than 200 children participate in various sports codes at the Spaces for Sports facility where they receive coaching, positive mentorship and a nutritious meal.

In addition to this, our coaches provide much-needed support to under-resourced schools in the Gansbaai and Stanford communities, including gross motor skills games and adapted sports in four local Early Childhood Development centres and one special needs centre.

In September 2022, a sanitary pad pilot project was launched to relieve period poverty among females from disadvantaged communities close to Grootbos. Many girls skip school during their monthly menstrual cycles which can lead to them missing as much as one week of school and after-school activities each month. Through this sanitary pad project, we aim to keep girls in school, engaged in the same programmes and opportunities as their male counterparts by providing free sanitary pads from many easy-to-access places. This pad distribution programme is coupled with an education programme aimed at girls and boys, working with staff at local schools. We are excited by the anticipated impact of this programme which will contribute to female empowerment in our region.

Our Covid Relief Programme provided food support to the local community during a very challenging and uncertain time in the world. This programme provided a total of 956'675 meals to the most vulnerable members of our community between April 2020 - December 2022. The Masakhane Hub grew and evolved from providing a Covid 19 response programme, to providing a safe homework space for children, free access to the internet for school projects, and after-school activities like Earth Rangers and a Chess Club.

In 2021, our coaches introduced a new Shewana Female Empowerment programme developed in partnership with Waves for Change and the Wave Alliance. This exciting programme gathered momentum in 2022 as it introduced its second group of young women to the joys of surfing, and concurrently taught them coping strategies for everyday stresses and challenges. Through mindfulness, life skills training and trust, these young women learnt to be proud to be female in the modern, South African context.

We are proud that the Foundation's programmes survived the extended period of uncertainty and instability during the pandemic. Our focus is on building an even greener future and on ensuring that we continue to deliver meaningful opportunities for the betterment of our precious landscape and its vibrant people.

Thank you to our wonderful friends, fervent supporters and generous funders who ensure that Grootbos Foundation is able to look back over the last 20 years with pride, that we can learn from our successes and our challenges, and that we can look forward to the next twenty years with passion and energy to make a lasting impression on this special part of the world.

Michael & Sean



Gladiolus vaginatus by Lynda de Wet

GREEN FUTURES
20 YEARS OF IMPACT


Green Futures College Horticulture class of 2022

The Green Futures College was launched as Grootbos Foundation's first programme in 2003 to provide horticultural skills training to unemployed youths. At the time, there were no opportunities for gardeners to be trained or to specialise in creating or maintaining fynbos gardens. Over the years, the college team built and expanded the programme to include life skills training, literacy, numeracy, basic computer usage, chainsaw operation, brushcutter operation and First Aid. This bouquet of certifications makes graduates of Green Futures College more employable.

Green Futures Nursery is an important part of Green Futures College, providing a practical training venue that allows students to hone their propagation, landscaping and plant identification skills which they can use in nurseries, landscaping, rehabilitation and restoration projects.

The nursery enables students to learn and master crucial propagation skills and is an important income generator for the horticulture training programme of the college.

In 2014, Green Futures College introduced a second skills training programme in eco-tourism based on the Lobster Ink model and facilitated through online training. This training gives local women the opportunity to develop skills and receive practical mentorship that will help them enter the hospitality industry with housekeeping and service skills suited to the eco-tourism sector.

In the twenty years between 2003 - 2022, Green Futures College trained 320 young men and women. We are immensely proud of each of these graduates who have completed these training programmes, the impact that they have had on their community and the success they have had in building careers.

GREEN FUTURES COLLEGE

In 2022, Green Futures College provided fully-funded training to 10 Horticulture students (8 men and 2 women) and 9 Eco-tourism students (8 women and 1 man).

Indigenous Horticulture: The Horticulture students completed the QCTO accredited occupation: Garden Worker including additional Grade 11 subjects of English and Maths Literature. Their practical learning entailed honing their skills within the Grootbos gardens, and participating in experiential training within the Harold Porter Botanical Garden situated in Betty's Bay. These practical experiences help the students to explore the world of work and give the students insights into employment possibilities beyond Grootbos

Eco-tourism Hospitality: The Eco-tourism Hospitality class completed the accredited Lobster Ink training, an online hospitality curriculum and industry standard. The students completed their Housekeeping Professional Course during the first six months of the training where after each student chose a specialisation within the hospitality sector. They completed their practical training in the Grootbos Lodge which gave each graduate the opportunity to learn from within a five star lodge.

Experiential Learning and Field Trips: An integral part of the students' educational experience is excursions including field trips to cultural heritage sites or tourism sites to expand perceptions of the world. This experiential learning included a walk along the Hermanus Cliff Path using the educational signage and art to enhance the experience, as well as special behind-the-scenes trip to the Arabella Hotel outside Kleinmond.

Field trips to Cape Agulhas and the Mother City, Cape Town enable our students to experience our region as tourists do. Through these excursions, students are exposed to new experiences which broaden their horizons, expand their understanding of the value of tourism in the region, and introduce them to new possibilities for future jobs.



Zubenathi Nyakaza presented a DHET project

GREEN FUTURES
NURSERY



Green Futures Nursery

The Green Futures Nursery had a bumper year, with a second nursery site opening at Build-It Gansbaai. This new retail outlet means that indigenous plants are more accessible to the local community, increasing profits and encouraging indigenous gardens which celebrate the Cape Floristic Kingdom.

In our efforts to share our knowledge of fynbos and its conservation, the nursery hosted a group from Nature Connect, who work within nature reserves in Cape Town and the West Coast. Our team shared their knowledge of indigenous propagation and Nature Connect will be able to use this knowledge in their reserves for rehabilitation purposes.

The nursery works closely with the Conservation Research unit to collect, smoke and propagate rare and endangered species to reintroduce keystone species to rehabilitate and restore degraded vegetation. Erica irregularis was successfully propagated after almost 20 years. It is notoriously difficult to propagate and is an iconic species for Grootbos Private nature reserve, with nearly 80% of its population found on the reserve.

CONSERVATION
RESEARCH UNIT

Grootbos has been a driver for conservation within the Walker Bay Region and Agulhas Plains for the past 25 years as one of the founding members of the Walker Bay Fynbos Conservancy in 1999. We have intrepidly explored every corner of the Grootbos Private Nature Reserve to unlock the secrets of the fynbos landscape.

Conservation initiatives have been led by Conservation Director, Sean Privett, who joined the Grootbos family and has helped to develop the conservation vision since 1999. Through Sean's leadership, the footprint of the Walker Bay Fynbos Conservancy has expanded from 11 members who, between them, conserved 13'000 hectares of landscape, to the current 44 members who account for the conservation of 22'202 hectares.

Significant progress to formalise the Walker Bay Protected Environment of eight core properties has been made in 2022 and Conservation Outcomes has assisted in the process of securing the conservation status of private nature reserves in the region, contributing 12'000 hectares to the statutorily protected conservation areas within the Walker Bay Region. This work secures a 25 year legacy of conservation efforts in the region. To see how our vision has grown, please refer to the map on **page 2**.

We have resumed discussions to implement a conservation corridor that will connect the Walker Bay Fynbos Conservancy to the Agulhas National Park. We have been in discussion with stakeholders and look forward to an update on this exciting venture in 2023!

In 2022, we launched the Hannarie Wenhold Botanical Art Gallery, to exhibit a collection of 120 contemporary botanical art pieces created by local and international botanical artists.

The Grootbos Florilegium captures the most iconic plants on Grootbos, showcasing a diversity of plant species, including the pollinators associated with each plant. Through the gallery and the launch of the Grootbos Florilegium, we celebrate the legacy of Grootbos's biodiversity and conservation impact through art and botanical science.



Gansbaai heath, *Erica irregularus*, an endemic species to Grootbos

The Grootbos Foundation employs a dedicated team of six resident conservationists and ecologists as well as visiting interns and researchers who explore the biodiversity of Grootbos Private Nature Reserve and the surrounding Walker Bay Region. Conservation initiatives involve the ongoing documentation and research of the unique flora, the incredible entomological diversity and the elusive wildlife of the region. Other programmes include providing training, implementation and removal of alien invasive plant species, and focused restoration projects in critical habitats. .

Walker Bay Protected Environment: Eight landowners within the Walker Bay Fynbos Conservancy have committed their land into a statutorily recognised conservation area to ensure the landscape is secured in perpetuity. This protected environment, together with the private nature reserves and Cape Nature Reserves, will create a nationally recognised conservation area of more than 12 000 hectares in the Walker Bay region. Over the next few years our focus will be to develop a conservation corridor to link the Walker Bay Region and the Agulhas National Park, allowing for the succession of biodiversity along the Agulhas Plains.

Botanical work on Grootbos: Despite more than two decades of dedicated botanical research at Grootbos Private Nature Reserve, the Cape Floral Kingdom continues to reveal botanical gems.

An additional 73 plant species were documented on the reserve in 2022, bringing the total plant species count to 941 at Grootbos Private Nature Reserve, of which six are new to science.

Entomological research: Insect research is ongoing with 32'4900 pinned specimens in our collection from which 220 insect families have been recorded in the Walker Bay Fynbos Conservancy. Two species of conservation concern have been identified through this year's research, namely the restio grasshopper (Betiscoides) which is classified as Endangered, due to their habitat preference for restoid fynbos and the Cape thorntail dragonfly (Ceratogomphus triceraticus) classified as Near Threatened and restricted to the Western Cape. Entomologists continue to delve deeper into the magnificent diversity and important ecological roles of the insects at Grootbos.

Wildlife research: Grootbos Foundation collaborated with Cape Leopard Trust and the Endangered Wildlife Trust on a project to survey two very different leopards within the region - the endangered Western Leopard Toad and the elusive leopards of the Cape. The project was called, quirkily, A Tale of Two Leopards. Twenty four paired camera trap stations were managed by the Grootbos Foundation within the Walker Bay region. Both of these species are flagship species for conservation, providing valuable data on ecological corridors within the landscape.



African wildcat, *Felis lybica*, photographed by a motion sensor camera

Supporting landscape level conservation initiatives: Grootbos Foundation actively supports landscape conservation initiatives through providing administration, staff and logistics to the Walker Bay Fynbos Conservancy. The conservancy was established in 1999, and currently encompasses 44 landowners and more than 22 202 hectares of fynbos and forest habitat within the area. A tangible product of conservancy membership includes a bioblitz rapid survey and detailed written report on each member's property. These rapid assessments are incredibly valuable in exciting landowners about the biodiversity on their land, and creating awareness around the biodiversity complexities of the Cape Floral Kingdom. Each report includes biodiversity species lists including flowers, wildlife, insects, reptiles, frogs and birds, as well as fine-scale vegetation and invasive plant species maps, and management recommendations. To date, 32 surveys have been completed across the conservancy. Data gathered from these surveys is vital for the compilation of a management plan for the greater conservancy.

Biodiversity stewardship programme: The Biodiversity Stewardship programme aims to connect marginalised communities with nature and support long term conservation within our region, building a vibrant green economy that empowers our local communities, predominantly women, through work. These women are provided with skills training and knowledge to work as conservation rangers within the landscape, with their scope of skills extending beyond invasive plant clearing contracts. Training to expand skill sets will increase the available opportunities for further employment contracts to include fire management, habitat restoration, reforestation, hiking and MTB trail development and erosion control. The programme was launched in January 2022 with two teams of stewards who focus on habitat restoration and rehabilitation within the Walker Bay Fynbos Conservancy.



Male Cape sugarbird, *Promerops cafer,* on Common Pagoda, *Mimetes cucullatus*

GROOTBOS
ENVIRONMENTAL CENTRE (GEC)

Grootbos Environmental Centre is an off-grid research facility deep in a fynbos valley on Grootbos Private Nature Reserve. The purpose of this facility is to promote and share knowledge of the Cape Floristic Region generated through research. In service of this mission, we have formed important relationships with the conservation departments of University of Cape Town and Stellenbosch University and we welcome researchers from other institutions. We are incredibly proud of the diversity of exciting research projects that we are able to host and the exchange of knowledge that is facilitated through this space.



Stellenbosch University undergraduate sampled for dragonfly lavae at GEC dam

Grootbos Environmental Centre hosted six student groups in 2022 including undergraduates and postgraduates from Stellenbosch University, University of Cape Town and the Organization for Tropical Studies. Given the wide variety of habitats at Grootbos Private Nature Reserve from Afromontane and Milkwood forests to several fynbos vegetation types, mountaintops and valleys, students can compare and contrast plants and animals, and biological patterns and processes to research what drives these various ecosystems making the GEC a perfect training environment for ecologists.

The GEC hosted two workshops this year: a bryophyte workshop for UCT Honours students, where students surveyed milkwood and afromontane bryophyte communities, most notably mosses and liverworts, and a floral asymmetry workshop focussed on flower morphology that promotes outcrossing. Liverwort expert, Dr Claudine Ah-Peng from the University of Reunion Island, visited Grootbos for the first time and started the first liverwort list for Grootbos, currently consisting of ten species, while plant morphologists collected morphological data from *Wachendorfia paniculata* (butterfly lily), which is presumably pollinated by large carpenter beetles (*Xylocopa caffra*).

Ross Turner, a botanist with more than two decades of experience in fynbos, re-surveyed the Grootbos vegetation plots first started by Sean Privett in 1997. This is a long term monitoring project to see how fynbos assemblages change over time. Modelling these effects will hopefully provide us with a scope on potential changes (however small) of our fynbos and forest communities.

Bianke Fouche recently finished her master's thesis on the soil differences between forest, fynbos and these biome ecotones. She analysed historic aerial photographs to determine the past and present extent of the forests. Her study will link with the palaeo-ecology project, where we are collaborating with the Plant Conservation Unit at UCT, to identify past and present pollen records of soil cores in several forests and wetland habitats at Grootbos. These projects aim to understand how and if forest extent has changed over time and how we can use this information to manage and secure the conservation of our small and unique forest habitats.

Janca Nortje, an MSc student from Stellenbosch University, submitted her thesis investigating honey bee abundance and other native pollinators with distance from apiary sites in Overberg Dune Strandveld. This small scale study at Grootbos shows an increased density of honey bees closer to hives relative to native pollinators. These findings will serve as ground work for PhD candidate, Maisie Brett from Bristol University, who will look at nectar landscapes in fynbos to determine how and where these resources are available to both honey bees and other native pollinators.

Prof Savel Daniels from Stellenbosch University is investigating the genetic variation of velvet worms (*Peripatopsis*). The conservation team has provided him with several specimens from the Walker Bay Fynbos Conservancy to use as part of his large-scale study to identify gene flow between presumably isolated populations that occur in the fragmented forest pockets of the Western Cape Province.

Dr. Jonathan Colville, an entomologist and monkey beetle expert from the University of Cape Town, has recently identified 13 different monkey beetle species collected by the conservation team over the past four years. Dr Colville suggested two of these 13 species could potentially be new species to science. Our conservation team is currently collecting more specimens from these two species to use for taxonomic revision.

Drs Raeesa Hussan and Kudzanai Tapfuma of the Vuyo Lab at Stellenbosch Tygerberg medical campus, have recently submitted their doctoral theses, examining various fynbos species for their medicinal properties as treatment for tuberculosis and breast cancer. Several species have been identified with anti breast cancer properties; surprisingly *Erica glabella* showed great promise! Drs Mavumengwana, Hussan and Tapfuma will return this year to further these findings and investigate synthetic manufacturing of these precious fynbos compounds.



Raeesa Hussan from Vuyo Lab in the field

SPORTS DEVELOPMENT

The Sports Development programme of Grootbos Foundation began in 2008 in response to requests from the community and increased interest in South Africa from the international football community ahead of the 2010 Football World Cup. In the past 15 years of youth development through sport at Grootbos Foundation, many children participated in a variety of programmes developed by Grootbos Foundation for positive engagement.



Ayabulela Nkumanda at soccer training

More recently, a growing number of our children have been qualified for regional and provincial sports teams. These young Rising Stars represent Grootbos Foundation and we are proud of the individual achievements of these dedicated athletes. Working with marginalised children, our coaches act as stand-in parents and adult mentors who coach, motivate, mentor and accompany these young players as they pursue their sports opportunities. In addition to coaching different sports codes (football, hockey, female rugby, athletics, cross country, canoeing, water safety and surfing), the Sports Development programme is used as a vehicle to deliver education and life skills, conservation and female empowerment within the community. Our Sports Development coaches have made a tremendous difference in the lives of children by being positive role models on the field, in the classroom and within their communities.

Over the last 15 years, the Sports Development Programme has used sport as a tool to break barriers and build communities. The Sports Development programme is back in full force after the interruptions of the pandemic. Youths have been overjoyed to be back on the sports field, to train and compete together, to have fun and to be in the care of trained coaches who are their mentors.

The sports fields and spaces have been full of new and old participants who are eager to play and socialise in the safe spaces that our sports programme provides. Schools reopened and our coaches have been invited to deliver life orientation and physical education lessons within the school timetables. Our coaches assist with gross motor skills and adapted games for Early Childhood Development and for Special Needs youths.

Football: The Sport Development programme had an exceptionally good year with 99 female players registered for Female Football. Two age groups entered the Regional Women's League hosted by SAFA Overberg. The league allows the girls to play regular matches during the season and to compete against Overberg teams. Matches provide motivation for the girls to train hard and to attend regular training sessions. The teams finished 2nd in the Women's Open and Under 13 Girls divisions.
522 male soccer players were registered with the 6 - 14 year age group being the most popular. Our senior boys were registered into the school league and were able to participate in the Kay Motsepe League, finishing in 2nd place in the Overberg.
Three senior girls and one senior boy soccer player were selected for the Western Cape Team to participate in the SA Schools Winter Games in Johannesburg. The girls' team finished the tournament in 2nd place.

Hockey: With the appointment of a new hockey coach and a junior coach, the hockey programme has seen renewed vigour and competitive spirit in 2022! Our team added some strength and conditioning training into weekly coaching sessions, determined to become faster and stronger for the Boland Trials. Nine players were selected to represent Boland - a record number!

Canoeing: 25 youths of mixed age groups and backgrounds paddled on the Klein River in Stanford three times a week throughout the year. Canoeing is a programme that perfectly demonstrates the benefits of sports development. Beginning with water safety, building individual skill and stamina, progressing from sprints to marathons, learning to appreciate water wetlands and river conservation, and travelling to regattas has built this team into a closely knit team of youths who revel in their sport. Sibongeleni Mzimba participated at the Olympic Hopefuls Regatta where he represented South Africa in Slovakia and had the most amazing experience competing at international level and learning from his peers. He has become an inspiration and sports ambassador in our region.

Athletics: The Cross Country athletes excelled during the athletic season. Five athletes were selected for the Overberg Cross Country team and one athlete advanced to the Western Cape team, participating in the South African School Athletics meeting. We entered several of the athletics students into the Gun Run 10km Race and are proud to announce that Zimvo Tawuse, Jack Armando and Rodonal Lottering placed first, second and third respectively in the men's race, and Nikilaah Booi placed first in the women's race.



The girls' athletics team competed in the Gun Run



Zovuyo Mtuta at ladies rugby training

Female Rugby: Our Female Rugby programme has shown tremendous growth with 101 registered players involved in daily training and matches. 15 young women qualified for the regional Boland Rugby team and two players were chosen to participate in the International Rugby Tens Championship.

SPORT DEVELOPMENT CURRICULA

Shewana Female Empowerment: 30 teenage girls completed the Shewana Surf Therapy programme in 2022. This programme focuses on mental wellness and female empowerment. Shewana provides a safe, supportive and fun programme which teaches transferable skills to cope with stress, regulate behaviour, build healthy relationships and make positive life choices, all while learning to be water safe in the ocean and finally, to surf! What an exhilarating way to master mental health coping skills.

Earth Rangers: Three groups of children participated in the Earth Rangers in 2022: 56 children participated in the programme, and of whom over 60% were girls. Each group learnt about the fynbos and marine ecosystems and sustainability. 42 children attended a combined camp at Grootbos Environmental Centre in December.

Train the Trainer: Our Sports Development coaches partnered with an NPO called *Be Your Own Hero* to upskill the coaches and teams based in Underberg in KwaZulu Natal. Our team shared skills and curricula with community coaches for the benefit of youth development.

SPORTS DEVELOPMENT SUCCESS STORY
GIRLS FOOTBALL

Since its inception in 2007, the Sports Development programme has used football to create a safe space for children to develop by teaching and encouraging all of the associated skills which can be learnt through sport. The Sports Development programme has always encouraged gender equality within sports with the aim of levelling the playing field, in sport and in life.

Our football programme initially struggled to gain popularity among girls due to the cultural norms which limit the time that girls have available after school; girls are often expected to help with chores at home and are often unable to spend afternoons at the sports field as their male counterparts do.

Despite the initial low number of girls who attended football practises, Grootbos Foundation always encouraged girls to participate. Rotating volunteers and limited numbers of coaches meant practices were divided by age rather than gender, thereby giving equal opportunity to girls within practices. While this mixed training was permitted at the Foundation, games and tournaments in the region were predominantly for boys teams.

In 2018, the Overberg Football Association launched an initiative to include girls in the league and established the Regional Women's League. This allowed girls to participate in their own league and develop their football skills without the pressure of having to compete against boys or sitting on the reserve bench.

The league started off with four registered Overberg teams and has grown to include eight registered teams from the Overberg for senior Under 23 teams and junior Under 13 teams participating. The growth in female football in the Overberg has given young women more opportunities, and in return, participation numbers have increased. Female players have something to work towards and competition is fair.

Initially, a core group of five female players would attend practises regularly and 15 others would train sporadically. Since the league opened in 2018, 60 girls are registered to play and attend practice religiously, even from as young as 9 years of age.

The football girls have trained and played hard. Members of our team have represented the Western Cape at South African Winter Schools Tournaments. The girls teams are growing and showing great potential. Continuing on this trajectory they may soon be the best team in the Overberg.



2022 girls football team

MASAKHANE HUB
HOMEWORK CLASSROOM

The Masakhane Hub was developed as the home of our Covid19 response to operate a soup kitchen to support community food security which was impacted by job losses and lockdown restrictions that limited tourism, a core industry in Gansbaai. In 2022, we scaled down the adult soup kitchen and focussed our energies on meals for children from 0 - 19 years of age who attend our sports programmes, after school activities and the ECD centres that are supported by the Grootbos Foundation. Between 2020 and 2022, the soup kitchen served 956'675 meals to feed those in greatest need while they could not work to generate their own income.

The need for a community classroom became evident during this time where school learners could access computers and a printer in order to complete their school assignments and keep up with their education while schools were closed during lockdown. During 2022, the Masakhane Hub classroom became a homework centre which offers children a safe space to complete their homework assignments and receive a meal every afternoon. The Masakhane Hub is used to host after-school activities including the chess club, Earth Rangers and art activities .

The Grootbos Foundation has provided support to four Early Childhood Development centres since 2018. The initial aim was to upgrade the centres, and assist with registration through the Department of Social Development, with the goal of creating sustainability within the Early Childhood Development sector. Covid19 restrictions caused a delay in these registration processes.

Grootbos Foundation continued to assist the four ECDs by paying staff stipends, providing meals for the children in their most significant stage of growth and development, and by providing mentorship to the teachers to ensure that they become able to manage their centre operations, independently and sustainably.

35 children graduated from these centres into Grade R, the reception year for the journey of basic education. Grootbos Foundation provided backpacks and stationery to assist these children in this exciting new phase of their learning, confident that they have received the best groundwork for development.



Finger painting at Early Childhood Development Centres

ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT

The Enterprise Development Programme was launched in 2014 to support career development among high school learners through providing assistance in making subject choices, and education options for further education and career development after school.

This programme has evolved to become one of the most impactful initiatives to help buffer communities against the job losses brought about by the Covid19 pandemic, lockdowns and restrictions.

The Entrepreneurship programme has had far reaching effects enabling beneficiaries the opportunity to create their own employment as the country struggles with unemployment and loadshedding. Over the past three years, 305 entrepreneurs have attended business skills training and workshops, and 84 businesses have received micro-grants and mentorship to start, grow or expand their businesses.

In 2022, the Enterprise Development programme gave a hand-up to 1'400 go-getters on their journey to financial or career success. This programme offered opportunities and mentorship to high school learners and school leavers.

Career Development: The Career programme supported 1 171 Grade 12 and Grade 9 learners by providing personality tests and career choice toolkits. The Career Fair in Hermanus provided an opportunity for Grade 12 learners to meet with universities, technikons and colleges so that they could realise the vast number of opportunities available to them



Learners from Gansbaai Academie in a Careers Programme workshop

Employability Programme: The Employability Programme provides another opportunity to access the world of work for those not inclined to be entrepreneurial. Of the 330 youth applications for this programme in 2022, 72.6% were unemployed. 98 unemployed youths attended the workshops and developed the knowledge and skills to begin volunteering, studying, searching for a job or starting their own businesses. The workplace experience programme arranges 2-week workplace experiences at local businesses to help youth build their resumes and confidence. From the 98 unemployed youths who completed the programme, 26 have since found full-time employment, 11 have found part-time employment, and 1 has become self-employed!

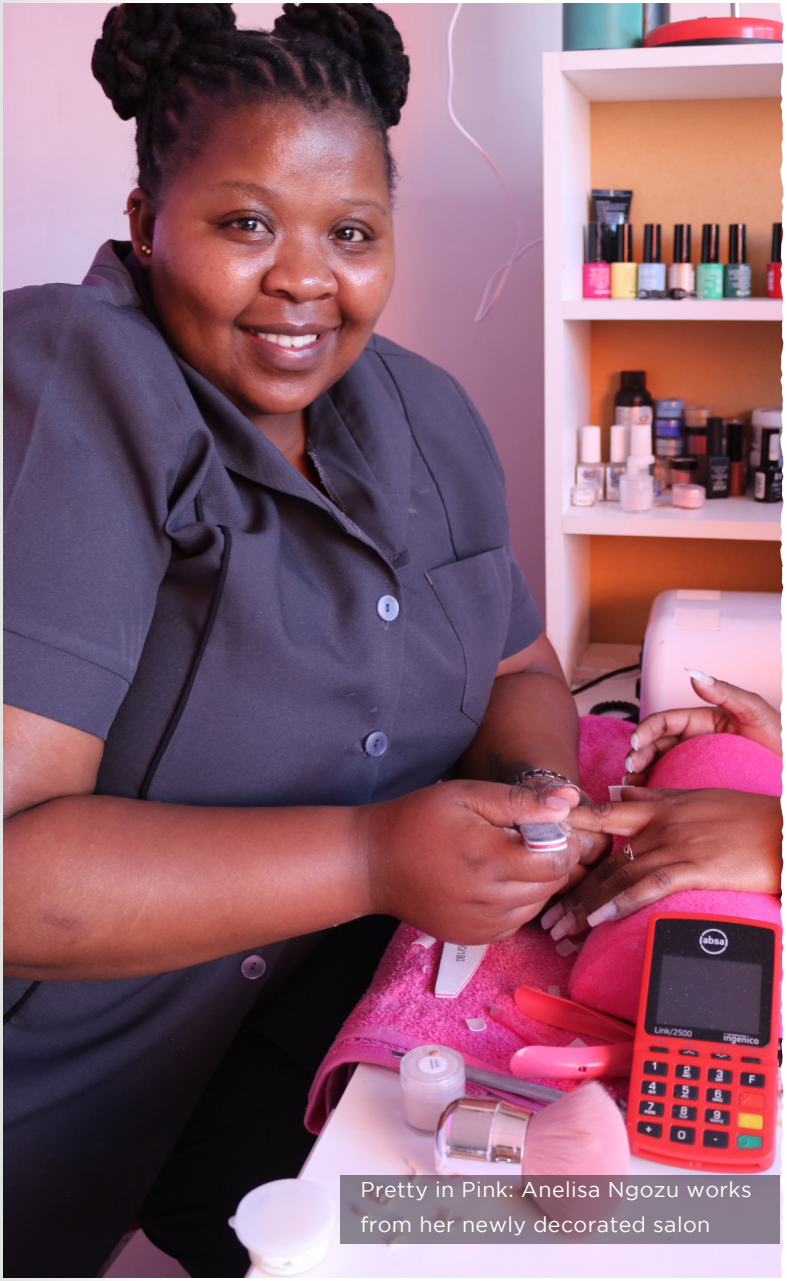
Entrepreneurship Programme: The Entrepreneurship programme reached 96 hopeful entrepreneurs through business skills workshops. This led to the development and expansion of 35 small businesses which have generated income for 35 families. The mentorship programme of 12 months provided vital support for these small business owners offering assistance in overcoming business challenges and receiving personalised business strategy advice. Personalised mentorship sets these entrepreneurs on the path to success.



Fezeka Mtengwane, owner of Libode Sewing

ENTREPRENEUR
CASE STUDY

ANELISA NGOZU



Pretty in Pink: Anelisa Ngozu works from her newly decorated salon

Anelisa Ngozu is a beauty technician who owns and runs Nelly's Beauty Bar in Zwelihle. Nelly's Beauty Bar offers beauty services including make-up, nails, hair styling and treatments such as massages and permanent makeup. Aside from these beauty treatments, she sells colognes, perfumes and herbal supplements.

Anelisa's business journey began when she discovered her passion for make-up and nails which she initially did for family members. She unofficially started her business in 2020, offering services to friends and family, developing her skills and building her customer base. She officially opened her own business in 2022.

Anelisa received a micro-grant of R10'000 from Grootbos Foundation and purchased furniture, equipment, stock, a signboard and a branded apron for her business. In the past year she has purchased a small prefabricated house from which she runs her business and offers an array of beauty services. She rents a second space to other beauticians as an additional income stream and to expand her business capacity.

Her vision is to open pop-up stores in various locations. 12 months of mentorship has helped Anelisa organise her financial records, ensuring she separates her business from her personal expenses and income. She employs a part-time cleaner at her salon, her customers have increased from 8 to 34 per month and her monthly profits increased by 60% over the course of the year.

Anelisa provides an inspirational example of how to build a small business from scratch with an idea, a skill, by identifying a market and by putting in the work to maximise a small grant and a year of business mentorship.

GOVERNANCE

Grootbos Foundation is a registered Non Profit Company, independently audited annually by Villet & De Wet.

Grootbos Foundation is a Section 21 Company (#2003/014519/08), as registered with the South African Department for Social Development 053-605-NPO.

A board of 8 Directors is in place which meets twice per annum. The Directors are registered with the Companies and Intellectual Property Commission (CIPC), and all meetings are minuted. The Foundation's leadership team meets monthly and these meetings are also minuted.



Cape Grysbok, *Raphicerus melanotis*, an endemic antelope to fynbos

THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS ARE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

- Articles of Association
- Constitution
- Public Benefit Organisation registration (PBO # 930023319)
- Independent Codes of Good Governance for Non-Profits in South Africa
- South African Revenue Services (SARS) Tax Clearance Certificate
- Grootbos Foundation is a Section 18a approved organisation and is permitted to issue Section 18a tax certificates for received donations
- Broad Based Black Economic Empowerment (BBBEE): Grootbos Foundation is a Level 1 contributor, more than 95% of our beneficiaries being previously disadvantaged. Donations made are eligible for organisations' BBBEE scorecard and specifically contribute towards the Skills Development, Enterprise Development and Socio-Economic Development BBBEE scorecard pillars

FINANCIALS

31 December 2022

Our annual financial statements have been audited by independent auditors, Villet & de Wet Inc, who were given unrestricted access to all financial reports and related data. Our financial year was realigned to a calendar year from Jan - Dec 2022. Previously, April - Dec 2021 was a 9 month financial year in the realignment process.

INCOME STATEMENT	Jan - Dec 2022 in ZAR	April - Dec 2021 in ZAR
Revenue	29,222,008	25,073,455
Operating Expenses	(18,639,987)	(17,006,629)
Gross Profit	10,582,021	8,066,826
Net finance income	672,456	231,161
Net surplus for the year	11,254,477	8,297,987
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR	**11,254,477**	**8,297,987**

BALANCE SHEET	Jan - Dec 2022 in ZAR	April - Dec 2021 in ZAR
NON CURRENT ASSETS		
Plant and Equipment	1,651,232	1,697,828
CURRENT ASSETS		
Inventories	674,960	674,047
Trade and Other Receivables	581,480	1,115,243
Cash and Cash Equivalents	14,573,035	15,917,830
Loan Receivable	16,701,866	2,802,838
TOTAL ASSETS	**34,182,573**	**22,207,786**
RESERVES & LIABILITIES		
Total Reserves Accumulated Surplus	23,691,031	12,436,554
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Income Received in Advance	10,125,680	9,586,690
Trade and Other Payables	365,861	184,542
TOTAL RESERVES AND LIABILITIES	**34,182,573**	**22,207,786**

MEET THE TEAM



BOARD OF DIRECTORS



MICHAEL LUTZEYER
(CHAIRMAN)
Michael has developed Grootbos into a premier ecotourism destination. He is a passionate advocate for responsible tourism and was the driving force in the establishment of Grootbos Foundation.



SEAN PRIVETT
(CONSERVATION DIRECTOR)
Sean Privett has been involved in Grootbos since 1997 and with Grootbos Foundation since inception in 2003. He holds a Masters Degree in Botany and has a passion for conservation and community.



VINCENT MNTAMBO
BJuris LLB (University of the North West), LLM (Yale). Vincent is the founder of Sediba Consulting and Sediba Accords. He currently is the Executive Chairman of ASG Business Solutions, the Chairman of Conciliation, Mediation and Arbitration, Eyesizwe Mining (Pty) Limited.



JULIE CHEETHAM
Julie is passionate about sustainable development, conservation and human rights and joined Grootbos Foundation as Managing Director heading up Responsible Tourism for Grootbos Private Nature Reserve (PNR) from 2013 - 2020.



LEÁN MULLER
Leán Muller has been involved in the non-profit sector since 2008 with areas of expertise in community capacity development, programme design, fundraising and public private partnerships.



GEOFF ROTHSCHILD
Past Chairman of the Johannesburg Stock Exchange, Chairman of Control Risks Southern Africa, Nepad Business Foundation, Lion Pride Agility Fund, Maharishi Financial Markets Academy and JSE Benevolent Fund.



DR GUIDO BRUNE
After being a member of the executive board of a state owned bank in Germany for many years, Guido now uses his professional skills and network as an investment banker for social and environmental benefits.



XOLANI MSWELI
Xolani is passionate about fighting poverty and uplifting local communities. He is currently furthering his studies with a further qualification in Public Accountability at the Nelson Mandela University.



THANK YOU

FROM THE GROOTBOS FOUNDATION FAMILY

GROOTBOS FOUNDATION

Sundew, *Drosera cistiflora*

GROOTBOS FOUNDATION WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL OF THE SUPPORTERS AND FRIENDS WHO HAVE ENABLED OUR WORK OVER THE LAST 20 YEARS.



A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING MAJOR FUNDERS:

ABSA Foundation
Active Communities Network
Adidas
Agulhas Biodiversity Initiative
Asics
Ben and Evelyn Lipshitz Family Trust
Be Your Own Hero
Bidvest
Bjoern Scheib
Brenda Hoskins Trust
Breede & Capelle
British Council
British High Commission
Build-it Gansbaai
Burmar Civils
Canada Fund
Cape Peninsula University of Technology
Cape Nature
Cape Leopard Trust
Cape Wine Auction Trust
Chapman Impact Trust
Chris Wolf
Close the Gap
Coaches Across Continents
Common Goal
Consol
Crayfish Lodge
Datio Foundation
De Alster Hockey Club
Delf Ness
Dell Foundation
Department of Environmental Affairs
Department of Culture, Arts and Sport
Department of Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries
DEG
Deprag Schulz GMBH - Dr Erik Hallmann
Dyer Island COnservation Trust
Eden Project
Fauna & Flora
FIFA Foundation
First Rand Foundation
Flower Valley Conservation Trust
Futouris
Futura Foundation
Fynbos Trust
Felix Unite
Gansbaai Tourism Office
German Consulate Cape Town
Drs Gerhard Buettner & Faulkner Thoms
Grootbos Foundation Board of Directors
Grootbos Foundation Foerderverein Board
Grootbos Guests
Grootbos Private Nature Reserve
Grassrootssoccer
HCI Foundation
HomeBiogas
i-Med Vision
Impact Trust
Investec
Investec-Loewenstein Charitable Trust
Israeli Embassy - Pretoria
Jeff and Julie Thompson
Jerry van Niekerk
Jim Petrie
Joan St Leger Lindbergh Charitable Trust
Kia Motors
Kai Kunze
Keith and Astrid Breede
Ker & Downey
Kew Gardens
King Baudouin Foundation
Laureus South Africa
LOMAS Conservation Trust
Lutzeyer Family Chiappini Charitable Trust
Mathias Kirschner
Murray&Roberts Letsema Award and Jack Cheetham Award
Mohamed bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund
National Commission of Lotteries South Africa
Nedgroup Trust
New Balance
Old Mutual Foundation
Overstrand Municipality
Overstrand Local Economic Development
Premier League
Prism the Gift Fund
Rand Merchant Bank
Rolf-Stephan Nussbaum Foundation
Rotary Clubs of Dattelne-Lippe, Hermanus, Munich and Stanford
Rotary International
RTL Media Germany
RTL Wir helfen Kindern e. V
Thorsten Volmer
SANBI
Semester at Sea
Sing Meinen Song Germany
South African Breweries
Stanford Canoe Club
Steppes Travel
Stern
Stiftung Life
streetfootballworld
Swiss Re Foundation
Table Mountain Fund
Taurus Cape Kelp
Thomas And Marianne Wellauer
Tshikululu Social Investments
UEFA Foundation for Children
Villet & de Wet Inc
Wereldwijd voor Kinderen
Western Cape Canoe Union
Western Cape Hockey Union
Whitley Fund for Nature
Willi & Doris Kirschner
Woolworths Finance Just Cause Team
WWF Table Mountain Fund
Volkswagen and VWSA
Yellow Foundation
Youth Zones
2010 FIFA World Cup Legacy Trust



Earth Rangers explore the milkwood forests on Grootbos

GET INVOLVED

- **FOLLOW US & SHARE OUR STORY.**
  - GrootbosFoundationNPO
  - @grootbosfoundation
  - Grootbos Green Futures Foundation
- **MAKE A TAX-DEDUCTIBLE DONATION.**

GROOTBOS FOUNDATION

Please support our vision of a brighter future for our communities across the Cape Floral Kingdom.