

Language of the Wilderness Foundation Trust (LOWFT)

Strategy- 2009

Concept

Standard Programme:

Haarlem Secondary, Louterwater Primary, Krakeel Primary, Joubertina Primary and McLachlan High

- Class Lectures
- Day Trips
- 7 Day Camps

Street Kids (Day Trip, Camp)
Pensioners Excursion

Advanced Programme:

Theatrical Production 'How elephant became a rain-animal'

Phase 1 - Completed

(5 Shows for community 25-29 September 2007)
(30 people - 24 Children, 6 Staff)

Implement Phase 2:

Action:

Special Show within the natural setting on Xkagodi San farm known as 'Elephant Shrine'

Interpretive and contextual journey for all invited guests prior to the show (as per day trips)

Invited Guests - Influential and Respected leaders (Political, Business, Environmental)
(Group size - 40)

Objective:

To inform and inspire guests by unlocking the truths and significance of this production within the context of sustainable development and nation building in a refreshing manner.

Persuade these leaders to invest in LOWFT ensuring continuity and growth.

Implement Phase 3:

Actions:

National Venue/s

Arts Festivals – Oudtshoorn / Grahamstown
(Standard theatre approach)

Objectives:

Further the journey for children involved.

Impact a greater National audience with the messages and symbols of this production.

International Venue/s (Presentation Format)

Netherlands – 5 shows

1 Show – Standard theatre approach

4 Shows – Presentation format

'The show is utilised as a visual tool within the context of Baviaanskloof in RSA'

Audience – Influential and Relevant Politicians/Business and Sustainable Development Oriented NGO's by invite only.

A process of scoping and introducing the concept and objectives of this presentation will need to precede the event using RSA network as well as Dutch network in the Netherlands. Due to the ease of access and short distances other European Countries will be included when determining invites and audience

The power of the show will be enforced in a formal presentation/workshop environment by LOWFT and partners allowing a deeper understanding of the opportunities, issues and symbols within Africa/SA context but more importantly the significance to the Greater Baviaanskloof as a benchmark example.

Objectives:

Maximise journey for children involved as ambassadors and custodians of the Baviaanskloof region in SA. *(A trip to the bigger cities in SA and then a trip in an aeroplane to Europe would be like travelling to another planet for these children)*

Maximise the noble platform with integrity and humility towards garnering support for LOWFT and its sustainability.

(Objectives cont)

Highlight the International importance of Baviaanskloof, a rare resource of mountain wilderness with a biodiversity stature unmatched in the world. Emphasise the wonderful blue print opportunity that exists which has great significance to the communities surrounding this region (children of the play), the provincial significance, National Significance in new SA democracy and International significance towards redressing global environment imbalances and serving as an inspiration/vessel for our spiritual well being as human beings. Use relevant examples and different voices to re-enforce possibilities for success through catalyst projects.

Maximise all support in a binding and interactive manner.

Process

Priorities:

- 1) Ensure budget for Standard Programme LOWFT
- 2) Ensure budget for Special Show (Xkagodi San)
(Sustainability of LOWFT – medium term)
- 3) Ensure budget for National/International Venue
Budget
(LOWFT security – long term)
Budgets
(NGO Partner Projects for Greater Baviaanskloof)

Note: LOWFT objectives are integrally linked to the future and promote the recognition and implementation of the blue print holistic land-use concept for the Baviaanskloof Region where the protected area as a CITES 1 serves as the magnet for a tourism driven economy.

Two Parallel Strategic Approaches –

a) Inform and request financial assistance from pool of LOWFT sponsors (past and present) for both Standard and Advanced programmes with Standard Programme as the priority. Dept Art and Culture – Eastern Cape Government, Pick n Pay, Dutch Embassy (Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality Dept and Cultural Affairs Dept), ABSA, Distell SA, Stihl SA, LOWF – Netherlands, Daimler-Chrysler SA, Coca-Cola SA.

***(Immediate Implementation)

b) Impress and inspire political support within the context of making a tangible difference to disadvantaged communities while addressing sustainable development in a significant and benchmark manner with Local, Provincial, National and International consequence that is positive and relevant.

Identified Core Group:

Gloria Barry – MP Provincial Gov for ANC (South-Western Region- Eastern Cape)

Prof. Nico Visser – Netherlands Embassy Counsellor (Agric, Nature and Food Quality)

Gill Marcus – NEC Member ANC (Chairperson ABSA)

We are confident that a process can be started towards achieving this synergy and creating a two-way flow that serves our personal agendas/aspirations, but more importantly serves nation building on many levels.

Crucially the blueprint concept, which is in line with both our constitution and policy recommendations, (biodiversity, environment and tourism) will have a considerable effect on land-use and conservation for the better.

The foundation of the concept is based on creating a CITES 1 protected area in line with International guidelines and justifiably linking the ethics and spirit to the 'first people' or San. The implementation thereof is supported by various catalyst projects, surprisingly viable and logical, will bridge change resistance by positive and successful momentum generated. Some examples of the catalysts would be - Wild Harvested Honey Bush Tea Project; Leopard Project; Skilderkrans Private Nature Reserve; Kouga Canyons Conservancy; Theatrical Production 'How elephant became a rain-animal'; LOWFT activities; Sustainable Exotic Fish Harvesting Project - Kouga Dam; Wilderness based Canoe Adventure Concessions - Kouga Dam; Hydro Electric Power - Kouga Dam etc etc.

All the role players above will understand the conceptuals above and recognise the opportunity therein. Their conclusions as to the implementability thereof within the SA dynamic in all its complexity will determine the way forward and its process.

Conclusion:

We are confident that the methodology of our two pronged approach is sound. The latter approach is risky regarding the potential inclusion/support from Ms Gill Marcus. This risk would not be due to anything other than her ability to accommodate this enthusiastic venture bearing in mind the pressures of managing the ABSA giant and her NEC obligations et al something we recognise in advance. On the positive side Ms Marcus is well versed in this broad concept and knows the region and its people well. The role players a representative and creditable, a mix of local, provincial to National and International influence. All three hold power to attract funds and to facilitate creditable networking over and above this.

Fingers crossed!