The Southern African Conservation Education Trust

Dedicated to building Africa’s capacity to manage its rich biodiversity

Threats

- Isolation
- Pressurized landscapes
- Benefits to community in doubt
- Declining finances

Response 1

- Broader range of disciplines required
- Management complexity
- New sustainable financing tools

Training needs

- Business management
- Landscape management
- Tourist facilities
- Education
- Staff management
- Negotiation
Response 2

- Southern African Wildlife College
- South African companies, trusts, individuals, bi- and multi-lateral aid agencies
- Practical, broad-based training

Source of students

Total (1999 - 2002) = 237

Covering costs

- Government subsidy? - No
- Fees? - Yes, limited
- Income generating activities? - Yes, limited
- Endowment fund? - Yes, in progress

SACET

- Launched fundraising campaign in 1999
- Trust deed registered in 2000
- Capital target R60m (USD 8m) within 5 years to cover 50% of operational costs
To secure funding on a long-term basis for training in conservation management at the Southern African Wildlife College.

**The mission**

**Strengths**
- Compelling case
- Experience based on Table Mountain Fund model
- Funding ratio 1:5 local: international (GEF)

**Risks and issues**
- Donor base – fatigue, competition
- Reach into SADC
- Government buy-in
- Curriculum content
- Disbursement policy

**Income targets**

**Phase 1**
- R10m (USD 1.5m) – R8.2m (USD 1m) committed to date from own donor base
- New sectors: game lodges, hunting, new SA business

**Phase 2**
- R50m (USD 7m) – now seeking the lead contributions from key aid agency or International trust(s)

**Fundraising**

**Strengths**
- Good governance – Systems in place
- Good return on investment – Fund managers
- Ongoing reporting to stakeholders – Newsletter, annual report, alumni association
- Tax advantages – Donations and estate duty
- Ease of donation – Debit orders, pledges
- Acknowledgement – By level of donation
- Support and endorsement – IUCN ROSA, WWF SARPO, SANParks, PPF

**A sound investment**
The Big Question

How do we get new information into the field?

• capacity building in the new conservation context
• support for innovation in protected area management (TFCAs, NEPAD)
• complementing other sustainable finance mechanisms

SACET
an obvious vehicle for -

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