



Singita 
**LOWVELD
TRUST**

Impact Dashboard

2024

INTRODUCTION TO THE SINGITA LOWVELD TRUST (SLT)

The Singita Lowveld Trust (SLT), Singita's non-profit partner in South Africa, is committed to conserving Africa's wilderness while fostering meaningful partnerships with neighbouring communities. Guided by Singita's 100-year purpose, SLT supports innovative conservation strategies to maintain healthy ecosystems, sustaining a landscape where wildlife and neighbouring communities flourish together in the Greater Kruger region.

With nearly two decades of conservation work, SLT has become a leader in purpose-driven initiatives that champion biodiversity, sustainability, and community partnerships.

Moving beyond traditional conservation approaches, SLT drives transformative and collaborative projects, inspiring positive social and environmental change. We invite you to join us in being part of a lasting impact on South Africa's natural and cultural heritage.



Singita Community Culinary School

The Singita Community Culinary School (SCCS) offers young people from neighbouring local villages the opportunity to become professional chefs with a full scholarship. This includes an intensive year-long culinary course, followed by a six-month work internship. Singita proudly partners with the globally renowned Prue Leith Culinary Institute, a leading academic quality assurance and accreditation provider. Graduates of the SCCS earn a highly acclaimed, internationally recognised City & Guilds Level 2 Diploma in Professional Cookery, complemented by WSET Level 1 Wine certification and essential Fire Safety and First Aid qualifications.

GRADUATES


114
 students
 GRADUATED SINCE 2007

5 successfully graduating, and currently completing their work internships by the end of December 2024.

2025 will see the Singita Kruger National Park campus expand from 6 to 8 students annually, with a strong focus on gender equity.



The 2025 cohort comprises 6 women and 2 men.

GRADUATE SUCCESS (FROM THE LATEST SURVEY)

2 sous chefs

MARSHA AND DZUNI, ARE PROUD SCCS GRADUATES IN OUR SINGITA KITCHENS.



DZUNI

91% of SCCS graduates are employed fulltime.

92% of employed graduates work as professional chefs.

22% of graduates are employed at Singita, while 92% are working within the Greater Kruger region.

41% of graduates have advanced to the Junior Sous Chef level or beyond.

These accomplishments are a testament to the transformative impact of the SCCS, which empowers youth and sustainable careers within the hospitality industry. The success of the programme is only possible thanks to the generous support of guests and donors.

Each year, over 100 guests join our cooking classes, not only for the experience but to make a difference. Their participation directly funds scholarships, with enough raised annually to fully sponsor one deserving student.

GRADUATE IMPACT STORY



A special impact story from one of our proud SCCS Alumni students, Mavis Ngobeni.

In 2007, she embarked on an incredible journey as one of six students selected for the first SCCS intake at Singita Kruger National Park. Mavis notes how she learnt essential skills like teamwork, resilience, and time management. Now Head Chef at Lion Sands Tinga Lodge, leading a team of 22, she credits her training at SCCS for equipping her to overcome challenges, support her family, and build a brighter future.

"I never imagined cooking could be a career. Growing up, I loved my mother's meals and wanted to cook like her, but my dream was to become a doctor. When my parents could not afford university, I thought my future was uncertain. Then came the life-changing opportunity to train at the Singita Community Culinary School." Her advice to aspiring chefs is simple but powerful: "Set goals for yourself, stay focused, and never stop learning. Picture your success and remind yourself of your dreams every day. Nothing is too hard for a determined person."

Thanks to the generosity of Singita guests and donors, the SCCS has achieved tremendous success since opening its doors in 2007.



THE SINGITA PODCAST

Students gain valuable hands-on, practical experience in top-class Singita lodge kitchens, mentored by seasoned chefs and supported by the Chef Skills Developer.



The first five years of a child's life are critical for shaping their future success, with 85% of brain development occurring during this period, alongside physical growth and emotional development milestones.



Early Childhood Development (ECD)

The Singita Lowveld Trust (SLT) currently supports 17 Early Childhood Development (ECD) centres across nine villages bordering Singita Sabi Sand and Kruger Park. The SLT ECD Programme supports our ECD partners in providing a safe and stimulating environment for learning and play.

2024 HIGHLIGHTS

2,096

CHILDREN (AGED 0 - 5 YEARS) benefitted from access to quality care and education in 67 fully equipped classrooms. 703 students have graduated in 2024 and will be moving into Grade R in 2025.

30

OF SINGITA'S GUESTS have joined community visits, gaining a deeper understanding of SLT's work. Funds raised from these visits contribute directly to the programmes growth and impact.

IMPACT OF TRAINING

87

centre managers and practitioners were trained by the ECD specialist trainer, Mr Frank Mkwakwa.

15

youth have been appointed as classroom assistants, receiving training to support the practitioners to amplify the impact and enable SLT to reach more ECDs in the Greater Kruger region.

173

hours of practitioner training were delivered by Frank, in collaboration with the Department of Basic Education (DBE). This training focused on the National Curriculum Framework (NCF), empowering practitioners with vital skills to enhance early childhood education.

990

people were directly impacted by these efforts, showcasing the scalability and far-reaching effects of SLT's initiatives within the Greater Kruger region.

ECD SPECIALIST TRAINER



MEET FRANK MAKWAKWA, ECD SPECIALIST TRAINER

FEEDBACK FROM THE TRAINING:

Practitioners expressed their gratitude for the opportunity, highlighting how the training improved their understanding of the daily programme, lesson plans, and the practical application of the Early Learning Development Areas (ELDAs). They requested further training sessions for other staff members to continue building on their knowledge.

"The training really helped us understand the ELDAs better and how we apply them in everything we do with the children. We did not know that one activity could cover multiple ELDAs at once. Mr. Mkwakwa made NCF feel easy to implement, and we're excited to start using what we've learned."

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Collaborated with partners such as Wild Impact and UNICEF to strengthen caregiver and parent training, ensuring a holistic support network for children.

JOB JOURNEY WORKSHOP

Contributions enabled us to deliver critical training such as the Job Journey workshop for 17 Centre Managers and representatives, and Personal Finance workshops.

GUEST EXPERIENCE

Guests are welcome to experience our Early Childhood Development (ECD) programme when visiting Singita Sabi Sand Lodges in South Africa. For a donation of USD 200 per guest, you can gain a deeper understanding of the programme's impact and the key roles it plays in the community. This donation directly supports the continued development of the programme.



INFRASTRUCTURE

With the support of a loyal Singita guest donor and in partnership with the NGO Wild Impact, the Singita Lowveld Trust (SLT) funded the construction of a double classroom at the Ganyani ECD Centre. This project expands capacity for more children to access educational development through play.

KEY STAKEHOLDERS:

Ganyani Classroom Build: Funded and built in collaboration with Wild Impact.

Infrastructure Support: Partnered with the Department of Basic Education (DBE) to support on infrastructure guidance.

Parent & Caregiver Training: Delivered by UNICEF to strengthen community support systems.

RESOURCING



67

CLASSROOMS FULLY EQUIPPED WITH AGE-APPROPRIATE RESOURCES

including reading corners, playground equipment, and durable furniture. R4 million spent to date in resourcing these classrooms.



APPROXIMATELY

500

DURABLE, AGE-APPROPRIATE RESOURCES DELIVERED TO EACH CENTRE

Thanks to generous guest donations, the ECD programme was able to support critical initiatives, including resourcing the ECD centres and training the trainers. These contributions allowed us to equip classrooms with essential materials such as books, puzzles, blocks, mats, desks, and chairs, significantly enhancing the learning environment for the children.

CLASSROOM INVESTMENT:

On average, it costs about USD 3,500 per classroom to ensure that each space is fully equipped with age-appropriate resources. This includes desks, bookshelves, chairs, and educational tools that allow teachers to provide an engaging learning environment for the children.

STORM RELIEF EFFORTS IN MPUMALANGA AND LIMPOPO

IMPACT OF THE STORM:

In October 2024, a severe storm struck Mpumalanga and Limpopo, with Bushbuckridge in Mpumalanga being the worst affected. 41 schools were heavily damaged, leaving classrooms unusable and creating urgent rebuilding challenges.

REPAIR COSTS:

Repairs are estimated to cost USD 10,500, highlighting the urgent need for intervention.

COLLABORATIVE RESPONSE:

In response, SLT joined forces with Sabi Sands Pfunanani Trust, Yellowwoods, Sutton Place, The Church of Transfiguration, and Wild Impact to launch the Storm Damage Response Project, aimed at supporting affected families and schools.

Key Repairs Include:

- Roofing for classrooms and buildings
- Plumbing and toilet repairs
- Fencing and security upgrades
- Garden and outdoor area repairs
- General renovations and maintenance

COMMITMENT TO REBUILDING:

This collaborative effort demonstrates the organisations' commitment to restoring safe learning environments and supporting community recovery.

TSHOKWANE RANGERS SCHOOL

Supported the resourcing of the SANParks Tshokwane Rangers Children's Holiday School, funding the purchase of educational and art materials for a range of environmental education activities.

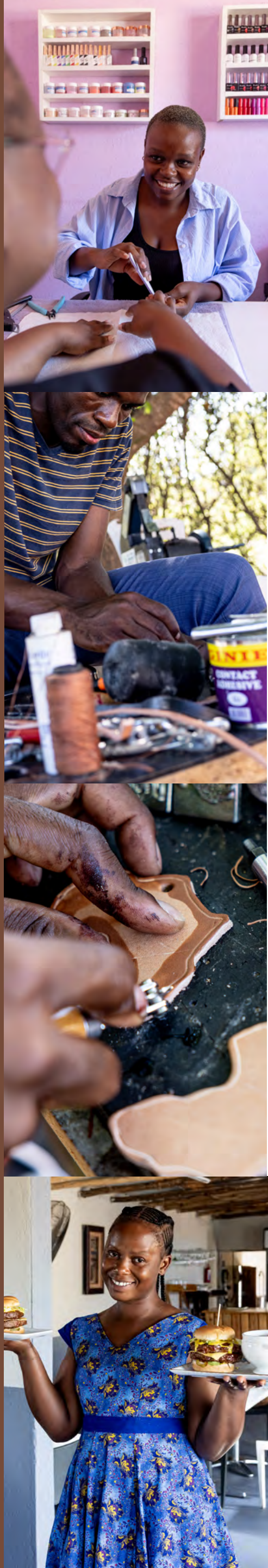
EARLY CHILDHOOD
DEVELOPMENT PODCAST



THE SINGITA PODCAST



By equipping emerging entrepreneurs with vital skills and financial resources, the Hustle Economy Programme nurtures resilience within the informal economy, aligning with SLT's mission to promote sustainable, self-reliant communities.



Hustle Economy Programme

The Hustle Economy Programme empowers local entrepreneurs to establish and scale sustainable businesses, fostering a thriving local economy and reinforcing community resilience.

2024 ACHIEVEMENTS

ENTREPRENEURS SUPPORTED:

758

HUSTLE-PRENEURS

have been empowered across six cohorts since inception in 2021.

ECONOMIC IMPACT:

THE PROGRAMME HAS CONTRIBUTED A CUMULATIVE

USD 2 million

PER ANNUM TO LOCAL ECONOMIES

Participants generate an average additional annual profit of R85,391, with reinvestments strengthening their local communities.

GUEST ENGAGEMENT:

CONTRIBUTIONS OF OVER

USD 400

PER GUEST THROUGH HUSTLE ECONOMY

TOURS FUND MICRO-GRANTS, enabling further growth for small businesses.

SLT IS AN ANCHOR FUNDER OF THE HUSTLE-ECONOMY INITIATIVE

In partnership with Wild Impact, SLT ensures The Hustle Economy programme's sustainability and growth through financial support that enables tailored mentorship, investment grants and business training for local entrepreneurs. This investment reflects SLT's commitment to collaborations that benefit neighbouring communities by fostering economic independence. Along with annual funding for the Hustle Economy Programme, SLT recently launched a guest experience that has funded 30 grants for Hustlepreneurs.

Justicia Digital Learning Campus

The SLT is a proud core funder, contributing annually to the operational costs of the Good Work Foundation's Justicia Digital Learning Campus. This vital partnership delivers transformative education to neighbouring communities, equipping young people with essential computer literacy and life skills .

PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS:

808 Learners

are currently enrolled in the Open Learning Academy (OLA), which focuses on foundational literacy, numeracy, and digital skills for school-age children.

58 students

are participating in the Bridging Year Academy (BYA), an intensive post-school programme designed to build technology proficiency, English fluency, and career readiness.

Through this collaboration, the Justicia Campus promotes digital literacy and creates meaningful pathways to employment opportunities, particularly for youth in rural areas.

By championing innovative educational models, the SLT and the Good Work Foundation empower learners from neighbouring communities with the tools and confidence to thrive in an ever-evolving digital landscape.



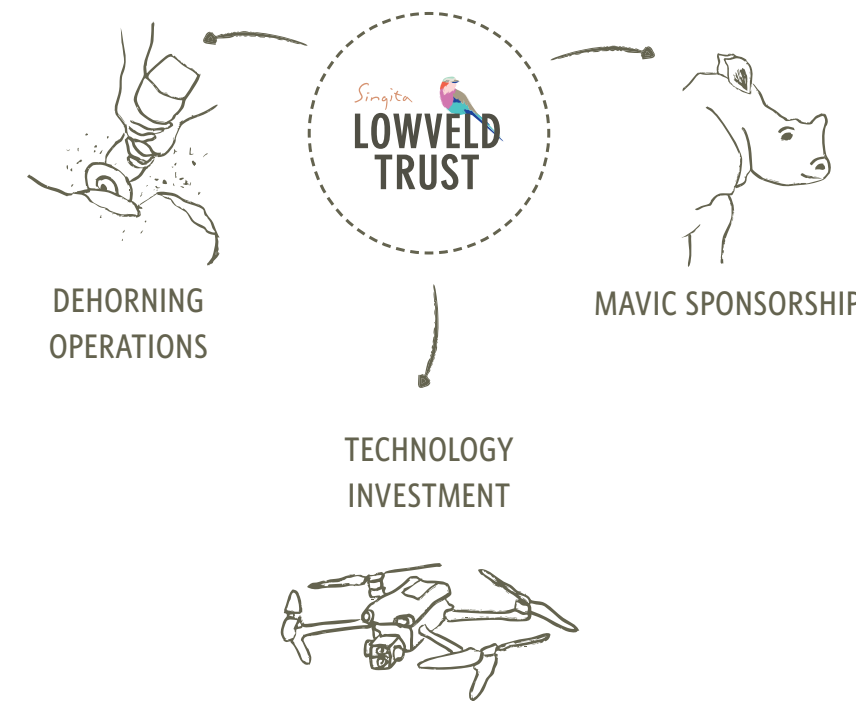
Rhino Conservation

SLT is committed to safeguarding South Africa's rhino population through innovative conservation strategies and collaborative partnerships.

SLT'S ROLE IN RHINO CONSERVATION

SLT's advocacy and funding play a pivotal role in the survival of rhinos. Through its support, the Trust ensures:

- Annual dehorning/ or maintenance horn trimming operations to deter poaching.
- Full sponsorship of Mavic's care and rehabilitation programme until rewilding.
- Investment in cutting-edge technology to support anti-poaching efforts.



This multi-faceted approach reflects SLT's commitment to creating a future where rhinos can thrive in their natural habitats, free from the threat of poaching.

DEHORNING PROGRAMME:

Generous guests and donor support has enabled SLT to support the dehorning of

95%

of the rhinos in the Kruger National Park and Sabi Sand Nature Reserve.

TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT:

SLT INVESTED

R596,427

to support night operations equipment, drones, trail cameras, and other monitoring tools, significantly strengthening anti-poaching initiatives in collaboration with SANParks and Singita Sabi Sand.

CARE FOR WILD RHINO SANCTUARY:

SLT launched the Care for Wild guest experience where the cost of the experience contributes directly to fund the care, recovery, and rewilding of rhino orphans at the sanctuary. One such orphan supported by SLT is Mavic, a now thriving 2.5-year-old orphan from SSNR, reaching his proud one tonne mark.

MAVIC UPDATE:

Thriving alongside his crash—Aquazi, Jock, and Zuri—Mavic is learning essential grazing patterns and navigating the vibrant veld. This shared journey is crucial for their rewilding, equipping them with the skills needed for a successful return to the wild.

Current Status:

Weight:

1,046 kg

Ongoing care includes essential nutrition, maintaining water troughs, and managing mud wallows to support hydration and protect rhinos from heat and pests.

Mavic's progress serves as a powerful testimony of the significant role that Care for Wild plays in their commitment to rhino conservation in the region.

IN AN ONGOING MULTI-YEAR SPONSORSHIP FOR MAVIC'S ONGOING CARE,

R193,000

WAS RAISED IN 2024.

SLT HAS COMMITTED TO COVERING THE FULL SPONSORSHIP COST OF

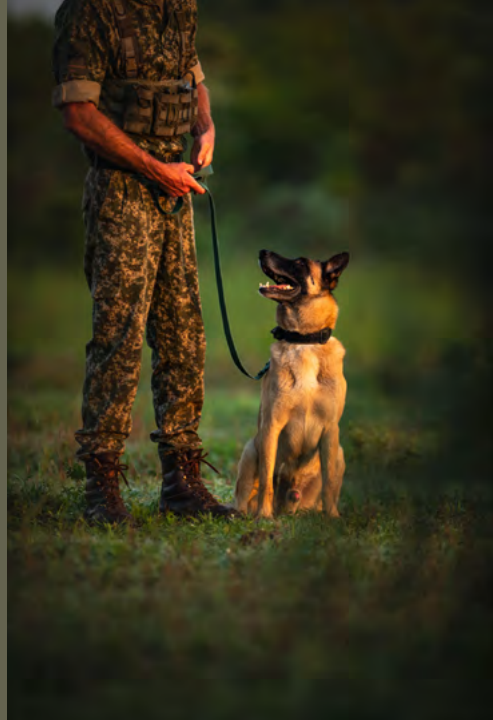
R533,000

FOR MAVIC'S 4-5-YEAR REHABILITATION JOURNEY.



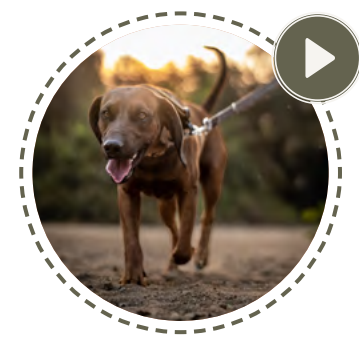
MAVIC UPDATE:

Summer rains have transformed Mavic's surroundings into lush, green landscapes, reducing the need for supplementary feeding.



K9 Anti-Poaching Unit

The **K9 Anti-Poaching Unit (APU)** continues to play an invaluable role in protecting endangered species and conserving biodiversity. Through tireless, dedicated efforts and cutting-edge technology, supported by generous guest contributions, the Singita Sabi Sand APU has made remarkable strides in safeguarding wildlife and their habitats.



highly skilled canines

are actively deployed, performing diverse duties including patrols, scenting, tracking, suspect apprehension, and detecting firearms and ammunition.

R552,275

RAISED IN WILDLIFE PROTECTION DONATIONS. THESE FUNDS DIRECTLY SUPPORT APU AND K9 UNIT OPERATIONS WITH:

TECHNOLOGY ADVANCEMENTS

NEW EQUIPMENT DONATIONS

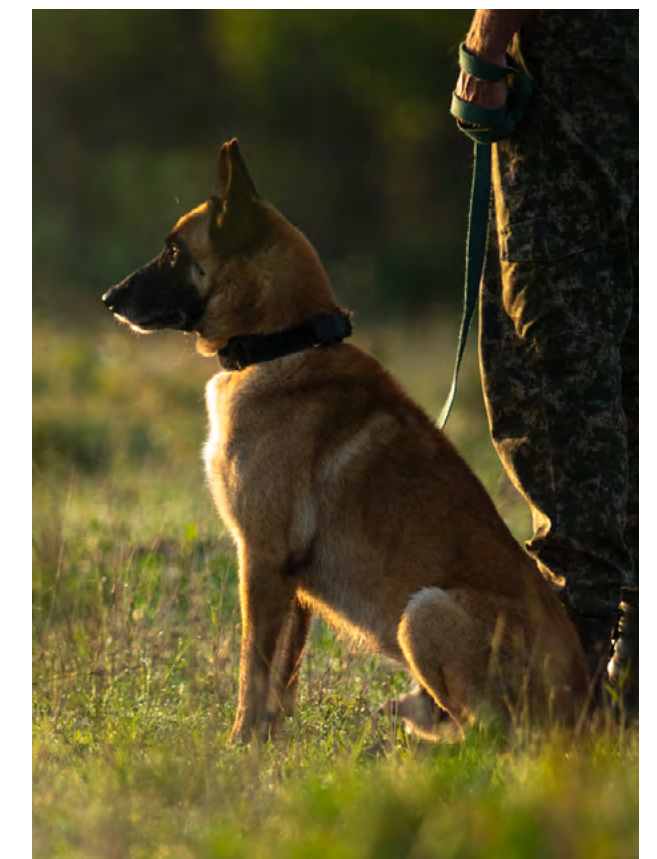
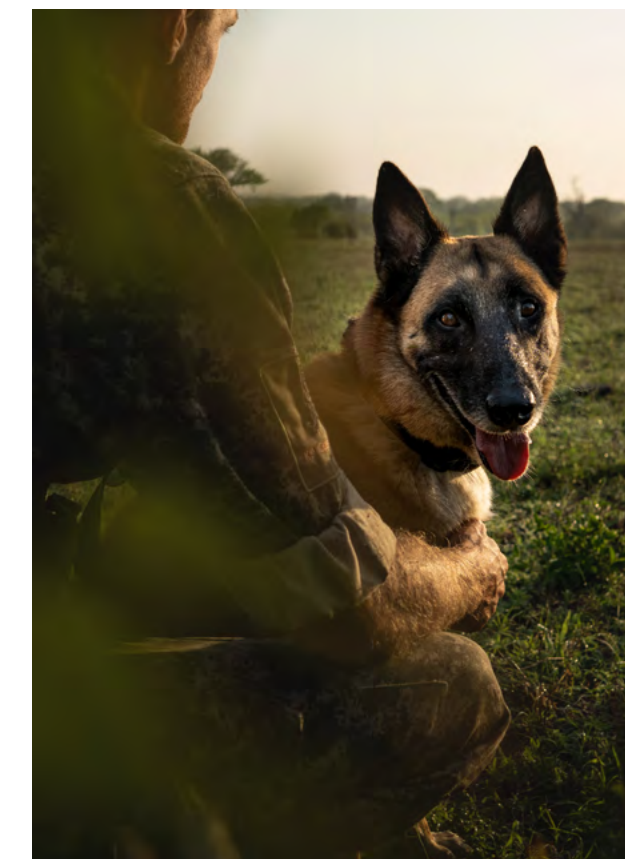
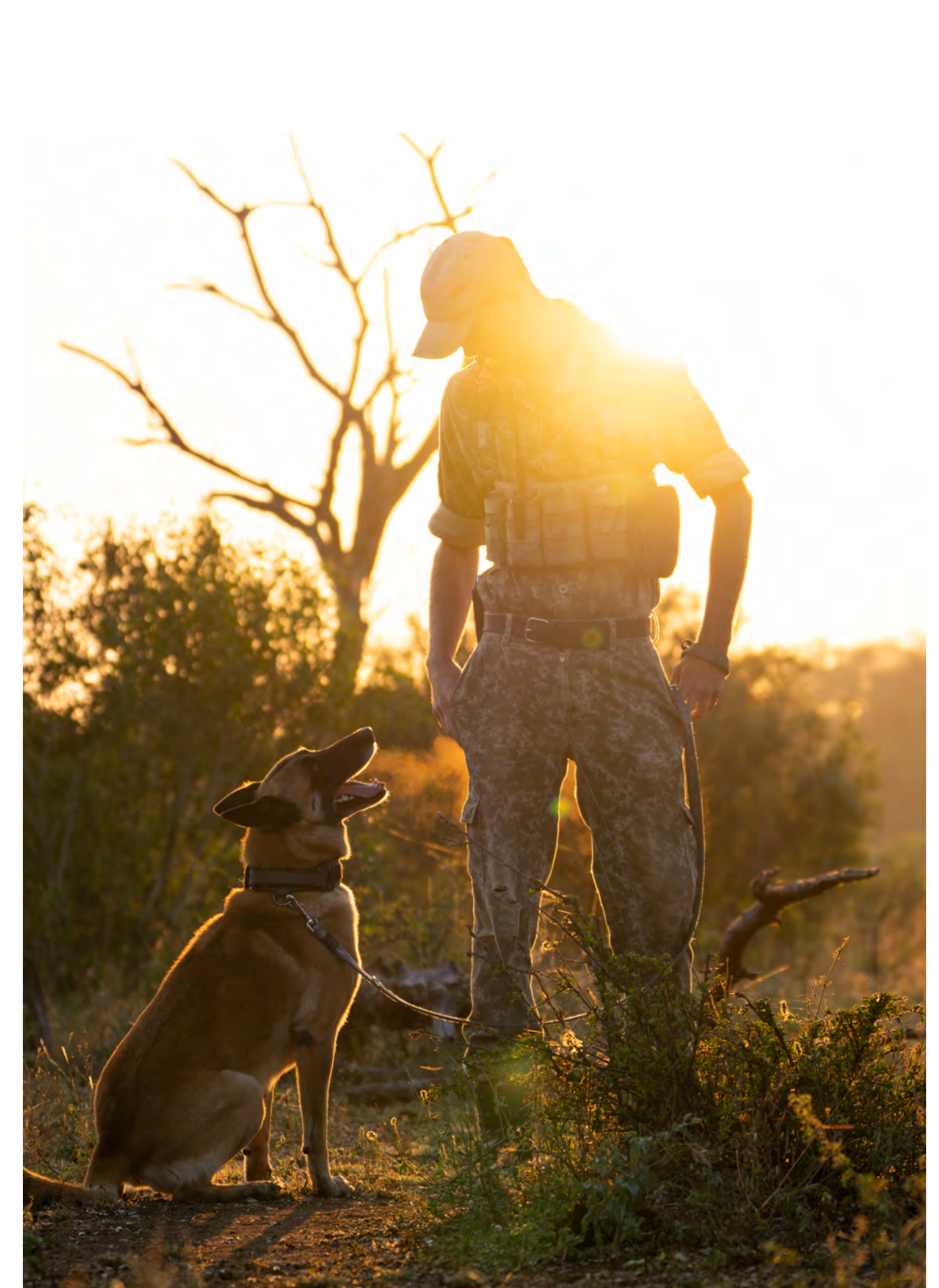
- SLR Camera and GoPro gear for enhanced rhino monitoring and K9 unit training.
- A new drone funded for improved environmental and wildlife management, alongside drone training and licensing for key personnel.

EXPANDED SURVEILLANCE CAPABILITIES

- 10 additional trail cameras installed, increasing the total number of cameras.
- Camera downtime reduced from 10% in 2022, to just 3%, ensuring near-continuous monitoring and rapid response.

WHY THIS MATTERS

These advancements not only bolster the operational efficiency of the Anti-Poaching Unit but also ensure better wildlife protection outcomes. The synergy between guest donations, innovative technology, and dedicated field teams demonstrates the tangible impact of conservation efforts.



Over 100 guests have taken part in the K9 Unit Guest Experience Visits at Singita Sabi Sands annually, contributing to significant funding which supports the K9 Unit.

R293,754

raised through the K9 Guest Experience Visits.



Endangered Wildlife Trust

VULTURE PROTECTION

Supporting the establishment of Vulture Safe Zones, use of satellite technology, and training to rapidly identify and provide treatment response for poisoning events.



SAVING SPECIES: ENDANGERED WILDLIFE TRUST | VULTURE PODCAST

Dr. Gareth Tate, the Birds of Prey Programme Manager for the Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT), chats with Ben Nichol (Conservation Impact Lead for SLT) about vulture conservation.

ENDANGERED WILDLIFE TRUST: PROGRESS AND IMPACT

In collaboration with SLT, the Endangered Wildlife Trust has made tremendous strides in safeguarding Africa's wildlife, particularly vultures and other endangered species.

These efforts are crucial for maintaining ecological balance and combatting threats to biodiversity.

THE SUPPORT FROM SLT HAS ALLOWED THE ENDANGERED WILDLIFE TRUST TO **STAY ACTIVE ON THE GROUND, WHERE THEY:**

MITIGATED

36
WILDLIFE POISONING INCIDENTS, directly saving endangered vultures and other species.

REMOVED OVER

3,000
SNARES FROM RESERVES, preventing harm to countless animals and reducing poaching activity.

These initiatives showcase the importance of proactive training, monitoring, and rapid response in preserving vulnerable ecosystems and species.

Panthera

SLT supports innovative genetic research, coordinated monitoring and data collation to inform management intervention efforts to protect a range of endangered species in the Greater Kruger region.

2024 ACHIEVEMENTS

NEW EQUIPMENT DONATIONS:

- Ongoing studies in the Sabi Sand Nature Reserve contribute to global insights into leopard behaviour, genetics, and anti-poaching strategies.
- New tools are under development to trace the origins of poached leopard skins.

SAVING SPECIES: PANGOLIN PODCAST



THE SINGITA PODCAST

This dashboard showcases the transformative impact of SLT's initiatives in 2024, made possible through the dedication of our teams, partners, and the generosity of our guests. Together, we continue to protect South Africa's biodiversity and uplift its neighbouring communities, ensuring a sustainable future for all.