

Spirit Of The Wild Trust

Policy Plan 2019-2020

1 General

Spirit Of The Wild Trust with registration number IT000060/2016 (E) ("the Trust") is a Trust created under the laws of South Africa. The Trust was established by notarial deed in 2016, in order to create a platform to support the Spirit of the Wild Programme, established at Bergplaas Nature Reserve. The legal shell of a trust has been chosen for purposes of maintaining optimal legal certainty, good and transparent operational management and to safe guard an independent and non-profit character, whereby the support of projects within the aim of the Trust is secured. A copy of the trust deeds is included in attachment 1.

2 Objectives of the Trust

The objective of the Trust is (as a public benefit organisation)

to raise, manage and transfer funds in favour of the Spirit of the Wild Programme, established at Bergplaas Nature Reserve in South Africa, according to the main objects and activities as mentioned in the Trust deeds, amongst others:

- a. to present courses to students of South African universities to enhance their training in nature reserve management as field guides and trackers and more particularly to equip them as so called Intuitive Guides in the program known as "Spirit of the Wild" endorsed by the Field Guides Association of South Africa (FGASA); and
 - b. to provide training in the SA College for Tourism Tracker Academy for young people from the disadvantaged communities of the Republic of South Africa aimed at providing the students with formal qualifications as tracker and thereby empowering them and enhancing their employability;
- II. to maintain the Bergplaas nature reserve, located in the Republic of South Africa, and to encourage nature conservation and ecological development in this reserve, also by acquiring land as extension of the Bergplaas nature reserve, for the purpose of land conservation;
 - III. to encourage nature conservation and ecological development in general, and to do all that is connected therewith, all to be interpreted in the broadest sense.

The trust may not make any distributions to its founder or to those participating in its constituent bodies.

The abovementioned objectives serve the general interest.

The trust is a non-profit organization and does not have the objective to make profits with its charitable activities.

3 Trustees

The Trustees are the following persons:

- Irene van Lippe-Biesterfeld;
- André Killian;
- Jaime Bernardo Prins de Bourbon de Parme; and
- Guillaume Taylor.

Together they are referred to as the “Trustees” and individually as “Members”.

The Trust shall at all times have at least three Members. A decision can only be taken by a majority of the Members.

The Members, and thus the Trust, operates independently from the donors and / or beneficiaries of the Trust.

The Members are not entitled to a remuneration from the Trust in respect of fulfilling his/her duty as a Member, except for a refund of a Trust Member’s out-of-pocket expenses necessarily incurred in fulfilling their obligations as a Trust Member. These expenses should be reasonable and non-excessive.

4 Fundraising

The funds of the Trust shall be formed by gifts and donations, subsidies, bequests and legacies.

At the moment, the equity of the Trust has been formed by an approximately 8%-10% retention of the funds received in order to be able to cover operational expenses. The trustees will review periodically whether this retention is still appropriate in view of the actual operational expenses and will adjust the percentage / amount withheld accordingly. At the moment it is the intention of the Trust to actively recruit additional donors.

The expenses of the Trust will be in reasonable proportions to the grants made in accordance with the purpose of the Trust. Until now, no expenses except for out of pocket expenses have been made for fundraising yet.

5 Investment policy

As of the establishment of the Trust and in line with its long-term objective the Trust has committed itself to keep any funds received in a conservative way. Therefore, any funds that are received and not immediately spent on the aforementioned objectives, are kept on an interest-bearing bank account at Standard Chartered. If funds are invested, the investments should bear no to low risks. The Trust does not expect to keep (substantial) funds as equity.

6 Appropriation of funds

The Trust has the intention to ultimately spend all gifts received but at least for 90%

- a. to present courses to students of South African universities to enhance their training in nature reserve management as field guides and trackers and more particularly to equip them as so called Intuitive Guides in the program known as "Spirit of the Wild" endorsed by the Field Guides Association of South Africa (FGASA); and

- b. to provide training in the SA College for Tourism Tracker Academy for young people from the disadvantaged communities of the Republic of South Africa aimed at providing the students with formal qualifications as tracker and thereby empowering them and enhancing their employability;
- c. to maintain the Bergplaas nature reserve, located in the Republic of South Africa, and to encourage nature conservation and ecological development in this reserve, also by acquiring land as extension of the Bergplaas nature reserve, for the purpose of land conservation;

to encourage nature conservation and ecological development in general, and to do all that is connected therewith, all to be interpreted in the broadest sense.

This financial and investment policy enables the Trust to create a secure and stable financial position of the Trust in the coming years. This would eventually enable the Trust to also make donations in years in which it receives less funds from its donor(s). Furthermore, this policy would enable the Trust to make larger donations to a project if the situation so requires.

The donations made by the Trust may be made in the form of one-time donations or long-term benefits. The Trustees do not wish to commit the Trust in advance to a specific form of use. Each Member may propose a charity and/or project. The Board will decide by majority of votes on the proposals of the respective Members.

The Trust will not hold more funds than necessary for the continuity of the activities of the Trust.

7 Activities

At the moment, the activities of the Trust are raising, managing and transferring funds in favour of the Spirit of the Wild Programme, established in South Africa, according to the main objects and activities as mentioned in the Trust deeds and article 2 of this policy.

8 Administrative and financial affairs

All income and expenditures are administrated meticulously by an independent accountant nominated by the Trust. The administration will show specifically the refunds of expenses to the Members, the expenses relating to the (raising of) funds and the management of the affairs of the Trust and the equity of the Trust.

Financial statements are drawn up annually and are subject to the approval the Trust. These financial statements are published on the website of the Trust within six months after the end of the relevant financial year.

A thereto appointed secretary will draw up minutes of every Trust meeting and of ordinary meetings of the Trustees. In addition, all related documents will be administered meticulously by the secretary.

9 Fiscal affairs

The Trust will file a request with the South African authorities to be qualified as a public welfare institution.

The Trust does not carry on an enterprise. It is therefore not necessary to file corporate income tax returns on a yearly basis.

10 Accountability

The Trust shall annually draw up a report describing all carried out projects and related information. The report will be an integral part of the Annual Report. This report will be published on the website of the Trust annually.

11 Envisaged policy from 2018 up until 2020

The Trust contemplates to support the following projects in the above depicted time span:

- Spirit of the Wild Programme

The above list is non-limitative and may be adjusted throughout the mentioned period.

Drawn up in Graaff Reinet on this 25th day of June and approved by the Trust