SQF NEWS

SiyaQhubeka Forestry for Life

Stakeholder Newsletter for SiyaQhubeka Forests 2023

Izinsiza zekhethelo ze-maths ne-science zizolekelela isikole somphakathi







Ohlelweni olwenziwe ngokubambisana, iSiyaQhubeka Forests (SQF) ne-Ligbron e-Learning System bazama ngakho konke ukuletha izinsiza ezisezingeni eliphezulu ze-maths ne-science Emkhayideni Technical High School eNyakatho yesifundazwe saKwaZulu-Natal...

Kwethulwe ngokusemthethweni iLigbron e-Learning System ngosuku lweNtwasahlobo Emkhayideni Technical High School eNtshingimpisi enyakatho yeRichards Bay.

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General Manager's Message



Linda Vilakazi, SQF General Manager

The year has been eventful on many fronts, with many highlights and a few lowlights. One of our biggest lowlights for the year 2023 was the Lost Time Injury that took place in February. At the beginning of the year, we had an unfortunate recordable incident whereby a tractor driver was stung by a swarm of migrating bees. The employee has since recovered fully. This incident indicated the unpredictability of nature and its elements. The entire SiyaQhubeka Forests team, together with our contracting partners, have worked tirelessly to ensure that our employees are safe. We have not recorded another injury this year, after the bee sting injury. It has been amazing to witness the commitment shown by all staff members and contractor employees towards safety. Each day becomes a testament to the commitment. Safety remains our core focus at work and at home and employees are encouraged to share their safety learnings from work with their loved ones at home.

There have been several vehicle related incidents involving third parties. In most cases, the third party involved fled from the scene. Although the incidents have not resulted in an injury or loss of life, it remains a big risk for our employees. Various measures have been put in place to ensure that this risk is mitigated. These include, avoiding the N2 as much as possible, and ensuring that we all drive during daytime hours.

Fire awareness throughout the year was successful. The Stakeholder Engagement team, together with the Working on Fire crew and Traditional Leadership collaborated in efforts to eliminate fires in our plantations and communities.

There were various campaigns championed by the health team throughought the year. The campaigns are meant to create awareness and remove stigma around many illnesses. These campaigns included high blood pressure awareness, gender-based violence awareness, breast, and cervical cancer to name a few. Employees are given time off from work to go to various points where they can access the mobile clinics and discuss all other health related matters in a private and confidential manner. The mobile clinics and the assistance they deliver to our workforce is highly appreciated by all who used this opportunity.

Employees are encouraged to be in control of their physical and mental health. Awareness is created through toolbox talks as well as contact sessions to ensure that employees know when and how to seek help. Taking time out is also encourage, this becomes a period when employees check in on their physical and mental state of being. The work environment can be difficult and overwhelming at times, hence the need to continuously promote the physical and mental wellbeing of contractor employees.

SiyaQhubeka Forests was part of an integrated surveillance audit by Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) and Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC). The audit was a success, with no major findings. There were two minor findings which will be closed before the next audit. The auditors complimented the teams for the professionalism of staff and contractor employees as well as our operations.

KwaMbonambi, specifically Langepan, is home to a rare and endangered plant species called kniphofia leucocephala. The plants were counted in October, and we achieved the highest number of flowering plants which was 864. This is a great achievement and testament to the dedication from the management team at KwaMbonambi. The surrounding communities have played a critical role in assisting the management by ensuring that cattle are kept away from the plants.

There were several Corporate Social Investment projects that were handed over during the year. These included the additional classroom at Sqophumlando Creche, e-learning launch at Emkhayideni High School, various Arbor Day projects as well as various skills development projects. The projects were well received by the community leadership, with a commitment to protect and preserve the infrastructure.

There were several engagements that involved our stakeholders with the aim of addressing various issues such as grazing, illegal dumping and sand theft to name a few. The engagements were positive and there is great collaboration between Management and local stakeholders. However, there is great pressure from the community for job opportunities due to the high unemployment numbers. The concern is that idle youth in our communities tend to gravitate towards criminal activities. And the traditional leadership is struggling to address this matter.

Our communities are critical to our sustainability and the continuous engagement with them is critical. SQF cannot address all the needs of our stakeholders, however, where possible, we endeavour to be part of projects that are sustainable and contribute positively.

The message for the remainder of the year is to remain focussed and take responsibility for your safety and that of your fellow colleagues. The next two months are deemed the "silly season" because that is the time when employees are fatigued, and their minds start to wonder about the festive holidays. Toolbox talks and safety awareness are crucial around this period. Management is also encouraged to be visible and lead by example because safety is a collective responsibility.

Here's wishing you and your family a happy and safe festive season.

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Izinsiza zekhethelo ze-maths ne-science zizolekelela isikole somphakathi

Lo mcimbi obuyintokozo ubuhanjelwe iziphathimandla zesikole, izithunywa ezivela ebukhosini bakwaMbonambi, abasebenzi bakwaSiyaQhubeka, othisha, abafundi kanye nabebe mele uMnyango wezeMfundo. Usuku luqale ngokuthi kukhonjiswe ukuthi uhlelo lwe e-learning lusebenza kanjani, lokhu kwenziwe nguMnuz Franz Kalp, oyiPhini likathishanhloko eLigbron Academy e-Ermelo nongumsunguli we-revolutionary distance-learning project. Lezi zinsiza ezikhethekile zinikelwe iSiyaQhubeka Forests zafakwa iLigbron, ngenhloso yokusiza abafundi abenza i-maths ne-science esikoleni.



Lolu hlelo luxhumanisa izikole zalapha eNingizimu Afrika kufundwa ngobuxhakaxhaka besimanje bezobuchwepheshe. Ukufundwa kwe-maths ne-science kuyasatshalaliswa nge-video conferencing ne-desktop sharing platforms. Ikilasi le e-Learning line e-Boxx, iSMART interactive whiteboard, ubhazabhaza we-LCD, i-digital camera, i-sound system ne-microphone. Lo bhazabhaza we-screen ukhombisa izithombe zothisha nabafundi basezikoleni eziqhuba lolu hlelo, lubasiza ngokuthi babambe iqhaza ezifundweni ngobuchwepheshe besimanje. Izifundo eziqoshiwe nezinye izinsiza ziyakwazi ukuthathwa ngabafundi nothisha noma ingasiphi isikhathi.

Emkhayideni isikole sokuqala esisizwe iSQF ukuba sibe ingxenye yalolu hlelo.

“Okuhlukile ngalesi sikole kithina ukuthi isikole sokuqala esiyi-technical school ukuba yingxenye yohlelo le-ligbron,” kusho uFrans Kalp. “Lokhu kusho ukuthi sizokwazi ukubasiza ngezinsiza eziningi ezahlukene zalezi zifundo ngoba iLigbron Academy enye yama-technical schools ahamba phambili ezweni. Uma uhlelo seluqalile, sizobheka ukuthi isikole siyawabamba yini amakilasi nokuthi senza kanjani. Uma isikole sisohlelweni isikhathi eside, kuzosisebenzela,” I-Ligbron izoqapha iphinde inakekele uhlelo ukuqinisekisa ukuthi lusebenza kahle. “Sizosakaza bukhoma amakilasi ethu e-maths ne-science sise-Ermelo lapha Emkhayideni sisebenzisa ubuchwepheshe besimanje, ngeke size sithembele kwamanye ama-network angaphandle,” kuchaza uFrans.

Ngokusho kwesikhulu esiphezulu kwa-Ligbron, ongomunye wabasunguli uDup van Rensburg lolu hlelo lwaqala eminyakeni yo-1976.

“Singothisha hhayi osomabhizinisi ngaleyo ndlela ukuqhubeka kohlelo into eseqhulwini kwiphupho lethu. Sinamakilasi angaphezu kuka-200 ezweni, kumanje sibhekene nenkinga eseqhulwini okuyi-maths ne-science.”

Sishintsha indlela i-Maths ne-Science ebukeka ngayo

Ngemuva kokubonisa ukuthi uhlelo luqhutshwa kanjani, zonke izinhlaka, abafundi nezicukuthwane bahlanganile ehholo lesikole zadla zabe sezixoxa kabanzi ngokuthi yini lolu hlelo engeza nalo.

Uthishanhloko wesikole uMnu Lawrence Shandu uthe ukholwa ukuthi uhlelo olusha luzoshintsha indlela imaths ne-science ebukeka ngayo. “Abafundi bethu abaningi babuka lezi zifundo njenge-monster!” uchaza kanje. “Kunokwesaba okukhulu ngenxa yokuntula ulwazi. Lolu hlelo olusha luzokwenza lezi zifundo zibe nesasasa futhi abafundi bangazisabi, luzosiza ekushintsheni indlela abafundi ababuka ngayo kusinikeza nethemba lokunyusa izinga lethu lokuphasa nokwenza kahle kulezi zifundo ezinzima,”

Uthisha we-maths wakwaGrade 11, uMnuz Bongani Magwaza wengeze ukuthi abafundi baqalile ukusingatha ikilasi labo ngezobuchwepheshe futhi libe impumelelo. “Abafundi banentshisekelo futhi belilangazelele leli thuba lezobuchwepheshse elibasiza ukuthi bakwazi ukusingatha lamakilasi,” usho kanje. Uthe lolu hlelo lwezobuchwepheshe lizokwazi ukubafinyelelisa kothisha abasezingeni kanye nezinsiza ezisezingeni, wengeza ngokuthi okunye bayakwazi ukubamba iqhaza uma kufundwa babuze nemibuzo.

Umbono weSQF

IGeneral Manager yakwaSQF uMnuz Linda Vilakazi uveze ukuthi lolu hlelo luzothuthukisa umphakathi wonke kanye nezinye izikole ezingomakhelwane.

“Lezi zinsiza zingasetshenziswa inoma ngubani inqobo uma enezinto zokungena kulolu hlelo. Wonke amaphepha amadala, izincwadi nezinye izinsiza eziza nohlelo zibaluleke kakhulu futhi zizothuthukisa izinga lokufunda,” usho kanje.

UVilakazi unxuse isikole nomphakathi ukuba balulawule uhlelo, baqinisekise ukuthi kuyagcwala ekilasini baphinde banakekele lengqalasizinda.

I-Social Programme Coordinator kwaSQF uNksz Corne Peter wengeze ngokuthi uhlelo luyiqhinga elisabalele lokunxenxa abafundi ukuthi bangene emkhakheni wamahlathi, kwaSQF.

“Sifuna ukuba nemisebenzi, ukuze sibe nekusasa eliqhakazile, impilo yemiphakathi esiyakhele iseqhulwini ebhizinisini lethu, siyasithemba isikole, siyazithemba iziphathimandla zesikole, futhi siyawuthemba umphakathi ukuthi uzozinakekela lezi zinsiza futhi uzisebenzise kahle,” kusho uCorne.

Uqhube wathi lolu hlelo luyabasiza abafundi lubacijele amanyuvesi ngokwethula izindlela ezisezingeni zobuchwepheshe zokufunda.

Ekhuluma egameni lo Mnyango wezeMfundo uMnu Stanley Mbatha unxuse othisha nabafundi ukuba bathole imiphumela emihle, ukukhombisa ukubonga ngethuba abalinikiwe.

“Siyabonga kuSQF ngokukhetha thina nangokusithemba, bafundi kumele nikhombise ukuzimisela nikhombise ngemiphumela ukubonga kwenu, ikusasa lenu lisezandleni zenu,” usho kanje.

Safety focus
Make A Difference Day (MADD)

SiyaQhubeka Forests (SQF) conducted a safety awareness campaign during the Make a Difference Day (MADD) in Richards Bay aimed at reducing accidents and fatalities in the workplace.

SQF Safety Facilitator Trusty Nkosi said that the company held safety campaigns as a way of engaging with contractors on issues of health and safety.

She added that the aim was to shift the mindsets of the workers and caution them about distractions in the working environment. The goal is to encourage each and every forestry worker to take responsibility for their safety and the safety of their colleagues.

“We’ve observed that there are accidents that could have been avoided, but ended up taking place because of negligence on the part of the workers,” she said.

Trusty, noted that it is important to shape the mindset of the workers, because if they are in a good state of mind, the chances of making mistakes are reduced.

She said that this year there was a serious incident with bees in one of the SQF plantations.

“One of our workers was stung by a swarm of migrating bees in the forest and he had to be taken to the hospital as a result of the severe injuries he sustained,” said Trusty.

“The company is providing protective gear, including bee nets, to the workers with the aim of reducing incidents in the workplace,” she said.

One of the workers at the safety campaign, Nozipho Mbeje lauded the company for holding the MADD.

“These campaigns make us think more about safety, which will help reduce accidents that are caused by the negligence of workers,” she said. “We need to work together to ensure everyone returns home safely at the end of the day.”









KwaMbonambi Career Day

Shepherding youth towards meaningful employment



Despite the rainy weather, the students remained undeterred and eagerly attended the Ndluzela Foundation career day at Nzalabantu Reserve, KwaMbonambi. It was a testament to their determination and enthusiasm for exploring future career opportunities. A total of 400 learners from five different local high schools gathered at the event, ready to broaden their horizons and gain valuable insights.

"We believe that comprehensive career exploration is essential for empowering students with knowledge and choices for their future," said Similo Magwaza who is a Community Development Facilitator for SiyaQhubeka Forests.



SQF aims to highlight the importance of introducing careers within the forestry industry during Career Days, emphasizing the many opportunities available to students. SiyaQhubeka aims to pave the way for sustainable development, job creation, skills development, and community empowerment in rural South African communities, said Magwaza. She emphasized that career days serve as a platform for students to discover the existence of bursaries offered by companies. SiyaQhubeka, for instance, provides bursaries not only in forestry but also in various other fields such as Engineering, Human Resources, Safety, Finance, Environmental Health, and Agriculture. This broad range of opportunities ensures that students are exposed to diverse career paths, encouraging them to explore and pursue their passions.



The Ndluzela Foundation took the initiative to host and organize the career day, driven by their recognition of a lack of information among students regarding suitable courses at educational institutions. "With a desire to bridge this information gap, we decided to return to the community, specifically the schools we once attended, to bring forth valuable knowledge during this special event," said Kwazi Ngema from Ndluzela Foundation. "We firmly believe that it is crucial for students to hear directly

> ***SiyaQhubeka aims to pave the way for sustainable development, job creation, skills development, and community empowerment in rural South African communities – Similo Magwaza, Community Development Facilitator***

from companies about the institutions they recognize and prefer," added Ngema. Understanding the diversity in career choices, the Foundation invited a wide range of companies, including Capitec Bank for banking careers, SiyaQhubeka for career opportunities in the forestry sector, and Transnet for maritime careers to name a few. Their intention was to ensure that students obtained a comprehensive understanding of various career paths, acknowledging that not everyone will pursue engineering but instead could explore other fulfilling avenues.

Sithabiso Msane, a graduate of Maritime Sciences, emphasized the significance of being well-informed and connected with entities and organizations during his inspirational speech at the career day. Recognizing the transformative impact of the ongoing fourth industrial revolution, he stressed the importance of students continuously updating their skills to future-proof themselves in the ever-evolving job market. Msane motivated the young students by highlighting the potential benefits of networking and building relationships with different people, as it opens doors to diverse opportunities. His words served as a reminder that staying informed, adaptable, and proactive is key to thriving in the dynamic landscape of the future.

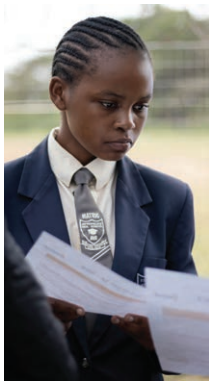
Musa Ngubane, a senior specialist at Transnet Academy, wholeheartedly sought to uplift and inspire the youth as he himself hailed from the KwaMbonambi community. He conveyed an essential message to the students, highlighting the wealth of opportunities available within Transnet and the expansive maritime economy. Ngubane emphasized the versatility of this industry, accommodating students from various academic backgrounds and interests. His primary objective was to instil in them a deep-rooted belief that success is within their reach. Ngubane urged the learners to take charge of their educational journey, particularly in these crucial final six months of schooling. With unwavering dedication and a tenacious spirit, he assured them that their dreams could be realized through hard work and determination.

















King Cetshwayo District Career & Business Expo

Information and opportunities to empower local youth...

SQF made a valuable contribution to the vibrant KCD Career and Business Expo held in Richards Bay in June (Youth Month).

Hundreds of youth flocked to Kingfisher Hall in Richards Bay to participate in the two-day programme, which included exhibitions, career stands, presentations and discussions.

The event aimed to assist youth with information about career options, businesses (the local economy) and access to funding opportunities.



Addressing our future leaders

SQF representative Donny Mahlalela spoke about the opportunities available within the company and in the forestry sector.

Mahlalela revealed that he was a beneficiary of a SQF Bursary and that he has now been with the company for six years.

“Forestry offers great job opportunities in a range of specialisations, both locally and worldwide,” said Mahlalela. “There is no age limit - if you want to study, you can apply for a bursary through SQF.”

KCD Youth Council secretary Sabelo Mayise said that they are determined to produce youth that would be future leaders.

“I believe you will leave this career and business expo as better people, with better opportunities,” he said.

Mayise encouraged local youth to be self-sufficient.



"We want to produce youth that will be able to give back to the communities they come from," he said.

Small Enterprise Development Agency (SEDA) representative Pamela Shezi explained that Seda funds businesses with an annual turnover of less than R50 million.

She said that SEDA provides all kinds of support for small businesses, adding that they also help aspiring entrepreneurs with ideas to start and grow their businesses.

"We also help existing businesses to improve their operations and become more profitable," she said.

King Cetshwayo District Municipality Mayor Thami Ntuli said that they invited government departments and various tertiary institutions to the expo to showcase and share information.

"We want to assist youth with access to tertiary education, so that when they qualify and return with their skills, they can assist in growing the local economy and opening businesses," said Ntuli.

Ntuli noted that many young people have qualifications, but they are struggling to find employment due to the lack of job opportunities.

He shared the good news that the municipality has set aside R50 million to help young people start businesses, highlighting the importance of entrepreneurship.

"We also have bursaries for young people in the district, so it is up to you to seize these opportunities!" He concluded on a positive note.

"King Cetshwayo District Youth Council secretary Sabelo Mayise said they are determined to produce youth that will be future leaders."









SiyaQhubeka Forests helps create a ‘safe haven’ at local crèche



SiyaQhubeka Forests (SQF) demonstrated their commitment to community welfare by spending Mandela Day volunteering at Sqophumlando Crèche in KwaMbonambi. The crèche had reached out to SQF for assistance in completing a partially constructed new classroom, as their resources had been depleted.

The Early Childhood Development centre caters for children up to five years and currently has an enrolment of 48 learners. The existing situation had led to both older and younger children sharing a single classroom, which created challenges for effective teaching and learning. The older students were sometimes taught in an exposed outdoor space, subject to the elements.



Similo Magwaza, SQF’s Community Development Facilitator, commented on the issue: “The space constraints were hindering education. Our response was to donate the necessary materials to finish the new classroom, alongside a vibrant jungle gym that our staff painted. Additionally, our volunteers helped established a vegetable garden on the premises.”

Similo emphasized that SQF’s community outreach strategy is built on aiding those in need within the local area.

Linda Vilakazi, SQF General Manager, expressed his joy at making a positive impact at the crèche.

“We derive great joy from contributing to the community’s well-being,” he said with a smile. “We had previously secured the















crèche by fencing it, which transformed it from a danger zone to a safe haven. The jungle gym will assist children with learning how to manoeuvre their bodies in proactive ways, to coordinate their movements and balance effectively. The vegetable garden will not only be a source of nutrition, but it will also be a fun and essential activity for the children. They will learn about gardens and vegetables, which will teach them to appreciate and take good care of the environment."

Vilakazi added that SQF was committed to continuing its support for Sqophumlando Crèche, contributing to the sustainability of the project.

Crèche Principal Thembeka Ndlovu conveyed heartfelt gratitude to SQF and shared her blessings upon the business.

"May God shower you with abundant blessings so that you can continue aiding the less fortunate," she said earnestly.

Nompilo Nene, a teacher at the crèche, extended her appreciation as well, noting the challenges of conducting lessons in an overcrowded environment.

SQF's contributions to Sqophumlando Crèche exemplifies their dedication to improving the health and well-being of neighbouring communities and fostering a brighter future for all.



ARBOR DAY 2023

SiyaQhubeka Forests' important tree-planting effort

SiyaQhubeka Forests (SQF) joined hands with other stakeholders in celebrating Arbor Day by planting trees at the Amabuye Secondary School in Esikhaleni, Richards Bay.

This year's theme – Forests and Health – was adopted from the United Nations Collaborative Partnership on Forests and was also used for the 2023 International Day of Forests.

SQF Community Development Facilitator, Similo Magwaza reported that SQF has donated 165 trees to be planted at various schools in the King Cetshwayo District.

"Programmes that promote tree planting are very close to our hearts - we have a passion for forests and conservation," said Magwaza.

"Trees are crucial to combating climate change," she continued. "That is why every year we participate in the Economic Development, Tourism, and Environmental Affairs (EDTEA) Arbor week programme. This is in addition to our own Arbour week programmes that we have at schools in our areas."

Similo went on to say that SQF partnered with the City of uMhlathuze and EDTEA in the September environmental programmes, Arbor Day and Clean Up initiatives because of the need to conserve, protect and plant trees for environmental and human-related benefits.

She urged learners to pursue careers in forestry, adding that SQF offers bursaries to select students from local communities. SQF also distributed matric revision papers to the matriculants at the event.

Mondi Zululand Land Manager, Nosipo Zulu stated that, as a company that owns commercial forests which are sustainably managed, SQF can attest to the fact that forests create sustainable healthy communities through benefits such as employment opportunities, business opportunities, fresh air, medicinal plants, clean water, places for recreation and more.

She said that Mondi will continue to cooperate and collaborate with communities and other stakeholders in an effort to take care of the environment and spread awareness.

"SQF is always looking for bright young talent," she added on





the topic of bursaries. “There are many careers available in the forestry value chain - learners must study hard and choose a career path that aligns with local industries and opportunities,” she said.

EDTEA representative Nosipho Mkhwanazi lauded Umhlathuze Municipality under the King Cetshwayo District for preserving nature.

Mkhwanazi noted that the Umhlathuze Municipality is surrounded by commercial forests, which create employment opportunities for local communities, contribute to the GDP of the municipality, and help mitigate climate change.

“We also have a large number of small-scale growers in our communities,” she said. “Forestry is an important economic driver for the region.”

Amabuye Secondary School Principal, Mr Sibusiso Mpanza thanked the stakeholders for choosing his school to celebrate Arbor Day.

Councillor Happinesss Mkhwanazi from Umhlathuze Municipality said that she is a testament to the fact that you can make a living by planting trees.

“My mother is a small-scale grower of eucalyptus trees. Forestry is a source of livelihood for our family,” said Mkhwanazi.



A national and global perspective

Forests play a crucial role in reducing the accumulation of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, absorbing the equivalent of roughly two billion tons of carbon dioxide each year.

During the launch of the Arbor Week in 2021, President Cyril Ramaphosa called for the planting of 10 million trees in South Africa in the next five years. It is evident that SQF is making an important contribution to this ambitious target.



SQF is always looking for bright young talent. There are many careers available in the forestry value chain - learners must study hard and choose a career path that aligns with local industries and opportunities.
- Nosipo Zulu, Mondi Zululand Land Manager



SiyaQhubeka Forests environment spotlight
The story of the rare white Kniphofia

SiyaQhubeka Forests (SQF) is home to an extremely rare and critically endangered white-flowering Kniphofia, a close relative to the commonly known red-hot poker or torch lily that is found throughout South Africa.

This delicate white wetland poker of the leucocephala (family *Asphodelaceae*) is so rare that it is only known to grow naturally in the Langepan wetland in the KwaMbonambi region.

SQF Silviculture Forester Mzothule Gcaleka said that the company is extremely lucky to have the white Kniphofia growing on its land.

“We have many of these flowers in the conservation areas surrounding our KwaMbonambi forests and we are probably the only place in the world that has them,” said Gcaleka.

The history of the rare flower

In 1970, Mr R.G. Strey collected a white-flowered species of *Kniphofia Moench* from the Richards Bay area in Zululand.

These herbarium specimens were examined by Dr L.E. Codd who indicated that there was a resemblance between this plant and the very rare species, *K. pauciflora Bale*, which occurred in the Durban area.

Dr Codd considered that this white-flowered plant might be worthy of separate status, but did not explore it further.





According to Dr Codd: “There was great excitement when a local horticulturist, Mr Wally Menne, informed me about the presence of a white-flowered red-hot poker in Zululand. On investigation, it was discovered that these plants of the Langepan population in KwaMbonambi were identical to those collected by Mr Strey in the Richards Bay area. It also emerged that this entity is new to science.”

Further information:

Location: The only known wild population occurs in the Langepan wetland, KwaMbonambi, greater Richards Bay area, north-eastern KZN coastal belt.

Management: Careful management of the Langepan wetland is critical as this is the only place in the world where the species is found.

Red List Status: Critically Endangered (CR)

Publication reference:

BAIJNAITH H. 1992. Kniphofia leucocephala (*Asphodelaceae*): a new white-flowered red-hot poker from South Africa. *South African Journal of Botany* 58(6): 482-485.



SANBI (2020)

Biome: Indian Ocean Coastal Belt

Vegetation type: Maputaland Wooded Grassland

Habitat: wetlands in low lying coastal grassland, in moist black, sandy clay soils.



SiyaQhubeka Forests Clean-Up Day
Love your planet!

At the SQF Clean-Up Campaign, staff and stakeholders tackled the illegal trash that is choking the environment and threatening the health of the forests and community...

SQF staff, contractors and community volunteers all joined forces for a successful Clean-Up Day on a hot summer morning in KwaMbonambi. This annual initiative is aimed at bringing awareness to the importance of protecting the environment and the public from unsightly and dangerous waste.

The initiative was supported by the Umfolozi Municipality, which supplied refuse bags and a dump truck to collect all the waste at the end of the day.

Around 50 members of the Sabokwe Community gathered in the morning to attend a briefing session with local ward councillor, Amos Mtshali, who gave his support to the cause, and encouraged the volunteers to spread the message with the broader community. SQF sponsored PPE and refreshments for all the participants, who split up into three teams to tackle different areas that have been worst affected by the problem.

“SQF shares its borders with a number of communities, so it is vital that we all take responsibility for our environment,” commented SQF Community Development Facilitator, Similo Magwaza. “The campaign is aimed at changing mindsets around litter and waste. Dumping is not a solution, and the waste does not go away once it is dumped in the plantation. It becomes a risk to the health of cattle that graze in the open areas, children that play nearby and people that commute along the roads.”

Magwaza added that the air quality is affected by the dumping. There are also wild animals and incredible birds that call the forests home, and they are at risk if they consume waste by accident or get caught in the debris.

Fezile Mdletshe, Environmental and Waste Management Officer represented the Umfolozi Municipality on the day, putting in hard work alongside community members combing the forest for an assortment of waste, which ranged from household waste to building material, rubber pipes (indicating copper theft), glass and plastic.



"What I've observed today is that people are not properly educated about how to dispose of their waste," said Mdletshe. "As a municipality we have placed skip bins in the area, but we still see dumping and a lack of responsibility for the issue. Human waste and medical waste pose a serious health risk to people, animals, and the environment. The contamination of watercourses is extremely dangerous. This area is shared by the public and the forestry stakeholders, so it needs to be respected by all parties. We need to take pride in our environment."

Mdletshe was impressed with the good turn-out and went on to say that the campaign will have a positive impact because the community is being encouraged to take responsibility for the space, instead of expecting other parties like SQF and the municipality to deal with it.

SQF General Manager, Linda Vilakazi emphasised the value and beauty of the plantations, open areas and conservation areas that border local communities. "The forests are a beautiful natural resource. We want to maintain a clean environment, where kids can play, and animals can roam around freely. We can't keep it pristine without the support of the community. Thank you to all our staff, community members and our contractors that came out today to support the initiative."

Linda added that all the effort on the ground sent a strong message to the public – that SQF and its partners care about maintaining the environment, which should be valued and protected for current and future generations.

SQF hosted a delicious braai at the end of the day to celebrate a job well done. The campaign showed what can be achieved when different stakeholders come together and work towards common goals that create positive change in our communities.

> ***"The forests are a beautiful natural resource. We want to maintain a clean environment, where kids can play, and animals can roam around freely. - Linda Vilakazi, SQF General Manager"***











EMPLOYEE FOCUS

INTRODUCING

Similo Magwaza

SiyaQhubeka Forest's passionate Community Development Facilitator...

This year, SiyQhubeka Forests welcomed Similo Magwaza, incoming Community Development Facilitator (CDF), to the team. Similo is a dynamic career woman – she has a colourful background, an impressive resume and real passion for community development, which shines through everything she does.

Similo joined the team from Mondi, Piet Retief, where she had been serving as the CDF for one year.

From agriculture to community development

Similo was born and raised in Ngwelezana, Empangeni. After she matriculated, she moved to Durban to study her Diploma in Animal Production at Mangosuthu University of Technology, followed by a B.Tech in Agricultural Management. Her love for farming led her to her a position at the AIDS Foundation, where she worked as an agricultural extension worker – a role that introduced her to community development.

Similo reflects on her career path thus far: "At the AIDS Foundation, I was working in deep rural areas, doing extension support for farmers – distributing seeds, giving technical advice, helping farmers and communities become more sustainable. That is where my love for community development began."

This experience led Similo to a change of careers. In 2018 she began studying for her BA in Community Development through UNISA, and she was fortunate enough to land a position at Mondi, Piet Retief in 2022.

"My time at Mondi was lovely," she remembers. "The people were welcoming and there was a sense of community there. However, I've always wanted to be here in Zululand, close to my home and my family... so when the opportunity came up to join SQF, I applied!"

Similo joined SQF in May 2023 and hit the ground running. The role is slightly different to her Mondi position because she does not report to a Land Manager.



"It was very challenging at first!" She admits. "But Linda and the rest of the SQF staff have been very supportive, so I am getting used to the new role. There is a real sense of unity here. The role is more diverse than what I was doing previously - I have to manage my time carefully and allocate the Corporate Social Investment (CSI) budget strategically. I am also doing communications and organizing launches for projects, so I am always learning and growing."

Similo goes on to speak about her role as the link between the business and the surrounding community. "It is my job to represent the company and there are good lines of communication between SQF and the surrounding communities," she explains. "There are a lot of challenges facing our neighbouring communities, socially and economically, but our projects are making a real difference in people's lives. When we launch a new project or visit an existing project, you can see that people appreciate what we are doing. It can be both challenging and exciting, but overall, I love my job."

Similo believes that her work must speak for itself, and she plans to continue her journey of personal growth. She aims to do her Honours in Community Development and become a valuable part of the SQF team.

"I am still an agriculturalist at heart," she admits with a laugh, "so one day I would like to have my own farm with veggies and chickens. But for now, I'm just a real family person - my kids are my everything," she beams.

When she's not hard at work investing in local development projects, Similo enjoys spending quality time with her family, going to the beach or relaxing at home.

Siyabonga Mathebula - the ambitious young forester of KwaMbonambi



With less than two years in the industry, Siyabonga Mathebula is a new kid on the block at SiyaQhubeka Forests and has started making a name for himself in the business.

Born in 1999, in Mpumalanga province, Mathebula started his education at Eluyengweni Primary before he went to Lilanga High school, where he matriculated in 2016.

After finishing his matric, he took a gap year to explore career opportunities.

"During my gap year, I took a one-year learnership programme in a company that deals with forestry in Mpumalanga province," he said about how his career began. "After finishing the programme, I applied at Nelson Mandela University, where I did my diploma in Forestry between 2018 and 2020. I was studying through a bursary from the learnership company. After finishing my diploma, I went back to the company to do a one-year internship programme. Before I finished my internship, I applied at Mondi to be a forester-in-training, and I was lucky enough to be appointed here at SiyaQhubeka," he said.

Mathebula said his duties are to manage the SiyaQhubeka farm in Port Dunford.

"I am responsible for all the silviculture duties – planting the seedlings, fire protection and maintenance. There is one driver and three sub-contractors that report to me," he said.

Mathebula said some of the challenges faced on a day-to-day basis are community relations, timber theft and managing cattle that graze on SQF land.

"We are tackling these issues through stakeholder and community engagement, and there have been positive improvements," he said.

He added that another challenge to all forestry operations is the threat of fire. However, this year they had fewer fire incidents than last year. Nevertheless, fire-fighting teams and equipment are always on standby.

The ambitious Mathebula said that he sees himself as a senior staff member at SQF in the next five years, with the experience he is gaining and the support he receives from his colleagues.

"I also want to move from managing a small farm to a bigger farm, because SiyaQhubeka has both small and large farms," he said in conclusion.

Sanelisiwe Mbhense - empowering women in forestry



Sanelisiwe Mbhense, a Senior Silviculture Forester at SiyaQhubeka Forests is making fantastic strides in the company, and speaking boldly about the role of women in the sector.

Born in rural KwaNoshezi in Pietermaritzburg, KwaZulu-Natal midlands, Sanelisiwe is determined to make her mark in the once male dominated industry.

"Our industry was very male dominated and there are still very few women holding important roles," she said. "As women, we need to excel in what we do so that we will be able to turn the tide."

Sanelisiwe, who started her primary school at KwaNoshezi and matriculated at Ngqongela High school in 2009, has no doubt that she is going to be a force in the industry.

Sanelisiwe said that she had initially wanted to become a lawyer or a doctor.

"I knew about forestry because my father grew up on a farm and his parents worked on a farm. When I was doing my matric, my high school teacher sent my results to Mondi for a bursary application because I was doing well at school. Mondi then contacted me and explained everything about the opportunities in the industry. That's when my interest and journey began, and I forgot about my ambitions of becoming a lawyer or a doctor," she said.

Sanelisiwe was a beneficiary of the Mondi Bursary Programme, and after finishing her B-Tech in Forestry at Nelson Mandela University, her career began at Mondi as a forester in training.

She worked at Mondi for more than six years before joining SiyaQhubeka at the beginning of this year.

With her experience in the field, Sanelisiwe is climbing the ladder fast and was recently appointed as a senior forester at SiyaQhubeka.

Sanelisiwe has been entrusted with the critical role of managing the planting of trees for the company.

"The core of my work is about planting, maintaining and protecting the trees that are the foundation of the business," she explained. "I oversee a team of four members, and I am stationed at the company's offices in KwaMbonambi."

She encouraged young women to pursue a career in forestry.

"There are many opportunities in this industry, and it is also a sustainable industry with many payoffs," she said.

Isikole samabanga aphansi

Echwebeni sigubhe olwamaGugu ngesitayela

Bekumnandi kudelile Echwebeni Primary School eMtubatuba enyakatho yesifundazwe saKwaZulu-Natal ngesikhathi kugujwa usuku lwamaGugu. Bekuguga imbadada, abafundi bakulesi sikole becula bebhikla ingoma.

Lo mcimbi ubusingathwe iSiyaQhubeka Forests (SQF) uhambisana ne-Arbour Month kubungazwa amagugu nemvelo. I-SQF iphinde yanikela ngama-citrus nama-indigenous trees, nembewu yezitshalo. Lokhu kusiza kakhulu ekongiweni kwemvelo nasekugqugquzeleni ukulima okusiza kakhulu ekulweni nobubha.

“Ama-citrus trees akhiqiza izithelo ezinomsoco kanti ama-indigenous trees wona abalulekile kwizinsiza ezifana nophethiloli, emkhakheni wezokwakha, imithi nakwinhlabathi,” kusho i-SQF Community Development Facilitator, uSimilo Magwaza.

Lesi sikole sinengadi evuthiwe esayiqala ngo-2001, ezinye izitshalo eziphuma kule ngadi zinikelelwa imindeni empofu eNkundusi nokulapho lesi sikole sakhiwe khona.

Abafundi yibona abalimayo belekelelwa ngothisha.

Amandla omculo nengoma

Abazali nezimenywa babheme bakholwa ngesikhathi abafundi becula besina, baphinde badlala nomdlalo wasesiteji oqwashisa ngokongiwa kwemvelo.

USimilo uthe uhlabeke umxhwele ngethalente elikhonjiswe abafundi baseChwebeni. “Umdlalo wabo wasesiteji ubusezingeni eliphezulu futhi ukhombise ulwazi olunzulu ngokongiwa kwemvelo, fanele futhi nothisha sibathulele isigqoko ngoba ibona abapheka labafundi,” kusho uSimilo.

USmilo unxuse abafundi ukuba bayiphathise okwezikhali zamaNtungwa imfundo, wabe esebazisa ngamathuba emifundaze akhona kwaSQF, abawanika labo abasuke benze kahle kwamatikuletsheni.









> ***I-SQF iphinde yanikela ngama-citrus nama-indigenous trees, nembewu yezitshalo.***

“Sihlinzeka ngemifundaze kubafundi basemiphakathini eyakhele amahlathi ethu, sisiza kakhulu abafundi abenze kahle kwi-maths ne-science, uma labo bafundi sebeqede ukufunda siyabaqasha kwaSiyaQhubeka,” kusho uSimilo.

Uthe imifundaze yabo ayigxili kuphela kulabo abasuke befuna ukwenza izifundo ezihlobene namahlathi kodwa isabalele nakweminye imikhakha.

Imifundaze yabo ihlose ukulekelele ekwakheni amathuba emisebenzi. Bafunda ngesikhungo sezokuVakasha esihamba phambili emhlabeni

Isikhulumi ebesimenyiwe uSifiso Vumase ovela kwiSimangaliso Wetland Park engumakhelwane neSQF, uthe ezokuVakasha ziyi-‘green investment’, engenawo umthelela omubi kwezemvelo.

UVumase uthe iSimangaliso sengesinye sezindawo ezihamba phambili zezokuVakasha lapha ezweni.

“I-Kruger National Park inkulu kunathi ngokwendawo kodwa uma sekuziwa ngokugcinwe ngaphakathi okungamagugu thina sihamba phambili,” usho kanje.

UVumase ugqugquzele abantu ukuba bayivakashele indawo yabo khona bezofunda kabanzi mayelana nokongiwa kwemvelo nokugcinwa kwamagugu. Uthe kuyamjabulisa ukuthi abafundi baseChwebeni bayayivakashela indawo yabo eyi-World Heritage Site.

Umzali uNokwethemba Mbokazi, obehambele umcimbi utuse isikole ngokufundisa abantwana mayelana namagugu nemvelaphi yabo.

Amazwi okubonga kuthishanhloko

Uthishanhloko waseChwebeni Primary School uNkk Nonhlanhla Mchunu ubonge zonke izinhlaka ezifake igxalaba ukwenza isiqiniseko sokuthi umcimbi uba yimpumelelo.

UMchunu uphinde wabonga nobuboli bomdabu baseNkundusi ngokuvikela isikole ezigebengwini.

“Ngaphandle kokuvikeleka esikuthola kubaholi bomdabu, isikole sethu ngabe sesiphenduke inkundla yobugebengu, obumise kabi indawo yaseNkundusi,” usho kanje.

Sekuphothulwe izinkulumo, ithimba leSiyaQhubeka ngokubambisana nabafundi libe selitshala izihlahla esikoleni. Usuku lwamaGugu lugujwa minyaka yonke njalo ngomhlaka 24 kuMandulo, kanti futhi lolu suku luyiholide lapho okusuke kugqugquzelwa ubunye kwizinhlanga ezahlukene namagugu.

> ***I-Kruger National Park inkulu kunathi ngokwendawo kodwa uma sekuziwa ngokugcinwe ngaphakathi okungamagugu thina sihamba phambili. - Sifiso Vumase, iSimangaliso Wetland Park***

















SiyaQhubeka Forest's bursary student focus

Jabulile Jobe – the anatomy of success

Jabulile Jobe is well on her way to becoming a fully qualified medical professional, thanks in part to the consistent academic, financial, and psycho-social support that she receives via the SQF Bursary Programme.

Jabulile is in her third and final year of her Medical Science degree at the University of KwaZulu-Natal. She has come a long way from her humble formative years in Mtubatuba, where she grew up and attended Masibonisane High School. Jabulile first heard about Anatomy in grade 11, and it sparked an interest that would set an exciting career in motion...

"My neighbour was a few years older than me," remembers Jabulile. "She was studying Medical Science and she explained Anatomy to me – how she was studying the human body in detail and learning how different diseases affect the body. I found it so fascinating."

Jabulile had her heart set on studying Medicine, but the more she learned about Health Science the more she believed that it was the right career path for her. In 2020 she completed her matric and was awarded a SQF bursary as one of the top performing students in SiyaQhubeka's neighbouring communities.

"I grew up in the Mfekayi area of Mtubatuba, so I was aware of the forestry businesses nearby," she explains. "I received the SQF bursary through the Rural Education Access Programme (REAP)."

The Programme provides funding and guidance to students from under-developed and rural areas, to assist them with tertiary education and thereby reduce rural poverty within the country. The SQF Bursary Programme is run in partnership with REAP to give additional support to students from the forestry operational footprint.

While SQF provides financial support to select learners, REAP offers academic and psycho-social services to give learners a holistic and well-rounded support system.

"I want to take this opportunity to thank SQF for the bursary," says Jabulile earnestly. "The funding has made so much possible – I was able to get my driver's license and live comfortably, so that I can focus on my studies. The bursary is life changing."

"REAP has walked alongside me throughout the journey," she adds. "My mother passed away last year and my REAP mentor gave me the personal support I needed to get through."



Future prospects

Jabulile plans to do her Honours in Medical Microbiology.

"I have grown so much in my understanding of the field," she says with confidence. "What I am really passionate about is working in the lab. As a medical scientist, you test and study specimens from patients and you are then able to advise doctors on your findings, the nature of the disease, the best medication to prescribe. Beyond that, you can do research and even develop cures or vaccines. It's an important service to humanity."

When she's not busy with her studies, Jabulile enjoys watching documentary films and reading novels. "I am interested in different cultures and learning about how other people live," she muses.

Jabulile has had to be resilient and self-reliant throughout her life, and her success is a testament to this strength of character.

"I believe you are responsible for your own life and your own future," she says philosophically. "If you want something in life, it is up to you to get it!"

Menzi Zakwe – for the love of animals

Menzi Zakwe from Mtubatuba is one of the new SQF bursary students leading an exciting academic career and thriving with the help and support of the bursary programme...



Menzi is in his third year at the University of KwaZulu-Natal in Pietermaritzburg, where he is studying a BSc in Animal and Poultry Science. “I have a deep love for animals,” he explains. “In the area where I grew up, we were always surrounded by animals... when you wake up in the morning, the animals are there. When you go to sleep at night, they are there too, always alongside the people.”

Menzi attended Madwaleni High School where he excelled at Physical Science and achieved good results when he matriculated in 2020. As one of the top students at his school and growing up in a community that is neighbouring the SQF plantations, Menzi qualified for the SQF Bursary in partnership with the Rural Education Access Programme (REAP).

While SQF provide financial support to select students in the operational footprint, REAP provides the psycho-social and academic support to ensure the overall success and well-being of students from under-developed areas.

“At first it was hard to be so far from home,” admits Menzi. “My mom passed away in 2011, so I have been taking care of my younger sister ever since. I was worried about leaving her behind, but I go home when I can, and I call her every week to check in and see how she is doing. I would say I have adjusted to the new life now.”

Menzi goes on to say that the REAP mentors have played a crucial role in supporting him through his academic journey.

“The REAP mentors are your first friend when you come to university,” explains Menzi. “They are always there to talk to you and advise you.”

REAP students are given a stipend and a laptop computer, as well as personal mentoring, study strategies, life skills training and preparation for the workplace.

Farming and the future

Menzi has a clear vision for his career path and the steps he needs to follow to achieve his goals. “I chose Animal and Poultry Science in order to understand animal products and production,” he comments. “I enjoy the practicals - going out to the farm and seeing how they run their operations.”

Once he has completed his BSc in Animal and Poultry Science, Menzi plans to go on to study Veterinary Science, in order to understand animal health and have a broad scope of knowledge about his field.

“My dream is to return home and start my own farm one day,” he continues. “I want to play a part in transforming my community.”

Menzi plans to farm cattle, pigs and goats - starting at a small-scale and growing his business into a commercial enterprise, while always having the animal’s health and well-being at the forefront of the management philosophy.

Menzi says that what inspires him most is when he sees youth from his community leading successful lives.

“It really encourages me every time I see people I grew up with doing good things with their lives,” he explains. “That reminds me that it is so important to help others. When I return home, I volunteer at my old school to help the students with their Physical Science.”

Menzi thanked SQF for the ongoing support: “We face many challenges at home and at university,” he said. “The support we get is appreciated. It makes all the difference.”

ISiyaQhubeka Forests nohlelo lokusiza imiphakathi ukuba itshale

Uhlelo lokutshala oluhlanganisile lusiza umphakathi nabebhizinisi lamahlathi ohlelweni olusha ukuze kusetshenziswe ngendlela umhlaba osuke ukhona ngaleso sikhathi...

Ezintabeni ezisabalele ezibheke amahlathi akwaSQF ePort Durnford, ihlathi eliluhlaza cwe, elilapho likwazi ukudonsa amehlo. Indawo inezinkulungwane zama-hectares yezihlahla i-eucalyptus, ezigabeni ezahlukene kusuka ekutshaleni nasekuwiseni. Lokhu impilo yebhizinisi lamahlathi. Khona lapho kulo ihlathi kukhona into ekhulayo, kukhona ubhontshisi, Izindlubu namakinati.

Kunemiphakathi emibili eyenza lolu hlelo lokutshala oluhlanganisile ePort Durnford- umphakathi waseNkonjane onamalungu angu 17 nomphakathi waseMatholenjeni onamalungu angu 45. Uhlelo kumele lwenziwe ngobuchule emahlathini amasha ngoba uma i-canopy ivala, izitshalo azikwazi ukukhula

"I-SQF inikela ngembewu nango mhlaba," kuchaza ithwasa lo msebenzi kwaSQF uSiphilile Msibi, okunguye obhekelele lolu hlelo. "Sinohlelo olufanayo KwaMbonambi ithimba lethu kumanje limatasa lilungiselela ukutshala, kwaMbonambi sinemiphakathi emithathu engene ohlelweni, kukhona owakwaSokhulu, Nzalabantu neNhlabane enamalungu angu 60 sebehlangene," usho kanje.

Lamathimba asebenza ngokubambisana kulo mhlaba, azotshala ndawonye aphinde ahlukaniselane inzuzo yezitshalo, ngalokho akukhiqizile nangemali engenile. Lolu hlelo lusasesigabeni sokuqala kusabhekwe nokuthi bathole imakethe enkulu.

"Siqale ukutshala ngo-Mfumfu wangonyaka ophelile," kuchaza uHlengiwe Mngomezulu, oyilunga lomphakathi waseNkonjane "Sifuna ukutshala ezindaweni lapho kunezithombo ezincane khona izitshalo zethu zizothola ilanga eliningi. Sivuna ngemuva kwezinyanga eziyisithupha. Izindlubu zimunandi kakhulu!"

UHlengiwe uchaze ukuthi ukuvuna kuyamsiza ukuthi ondle umndeni wakhe bese eyakwazi futhi nokushintshisana ngezitshalo nomakhelwane. Udayisa izitshalo zakhe emgwaqeni nasemakethe ePort Durbford naseSikhaleni.

UTholinhlanhla Dindi, oyi Agricultural Extension Officer yakwaMondi Zimele's, uyena ojutshwe ukuba atholele labalimi imakethe eSikhaleni naseRichards Bay.

Abasebenzi bakwaSQF bathenga ubhontshisi kulaba balimi ukuze babaseke njengoba besacathula.

"Okujabulisayo ukuthi ePort Durnford imiphakathi yakhona iyathenga iphinde izitshalele ubhontshisi wayo," kusho uMsibi.



Kuyathokozisa Ukuthi bafaka imali yabo ohlelweni ngokuthi bathembe imbewu yokunezela kule esibapha yona, lokho kuyizimpawu ezinhle-okusho ukuthi bafuna ukuba ngabanikazi bohlelo. Sifuna izinhlelo zemiphakathi ukuba zikwazi ukuzimela, zizenzele nenzuzo,"

UMsibi uthe izitshalo ezidinga indawo eyomile zisendawni ekahle eZululand, wengeza ngokuthi izitshalo zisendaweni eyanele engaphinde isetshenziselwe ezinye izinhloso.

Ubuhlobo bokusebenzisana

Ukutshala izitshalo ezihlukene endaweni eyodwa kusiza ekuqinisekiseni ukuthi ukudla akupheli kuphinde kulwe nokuntuleka kwamathuba emisebenzi kuphinde kusize nebhizinisi lamahlathi.

I-SQF Community Development Facilitator, uSimilo Magwaza, uveze umbono obalulekile mayelana nalolu hlelo: "Lolu hlelo luyasisiza ukuthi siqinise ubuhlobo bethu nemiphakathi ngoba iyakwazi ukusebenzisa umhlaba," usho kanje.

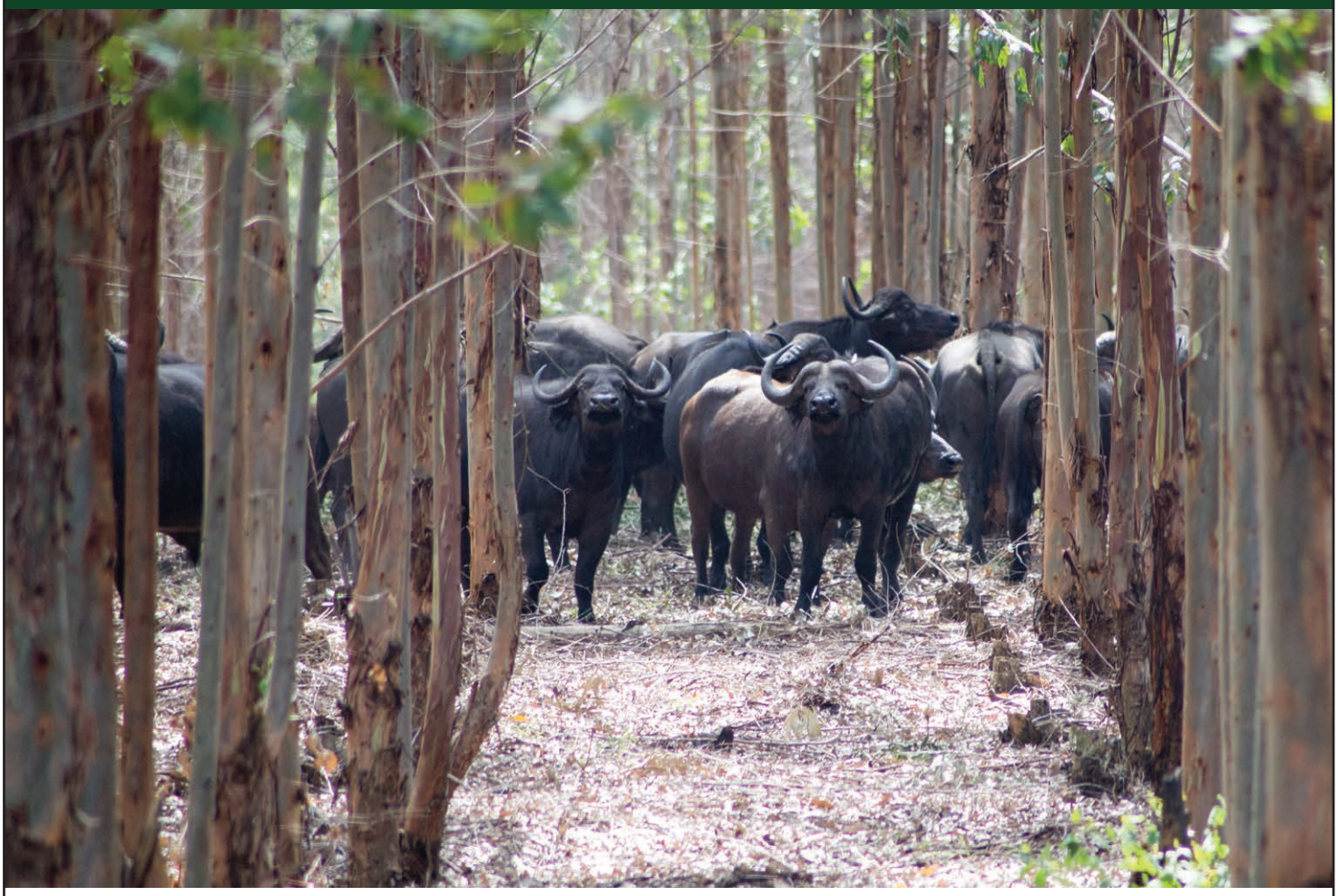
"Sithemba ukuthi luzophinde lukwazi ukulawula izinkomo nenye imfuyo engena endaweni okutshalwe kuyo. Uma umphakathi kunento ewuthintayo emhlabeni onamahlathi, uzokwazi ukuvikela izitshalo,"

Okokugcina ukuthi lolu hlelo lunezivuno eziningo ngoba lwenza nomhlabathi ubenempilo uphinde uvunde.

Lolu hlelo alusizi kuphela abantu kodwa luphinde lusize nemvelo.



NEW GENERATION
PLANTATION



SIYAQHUBEKA FORESTS is a partnership between Mondi, its black economic empowerment (BEE) partners, government and local communities. The plantations are designed to grow timber efficiently and sustainably, providing benefits for stakeholders, while minimising environmental impacts and supporting conservation.









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