



Cultural Connections

for Conservation and Restoration

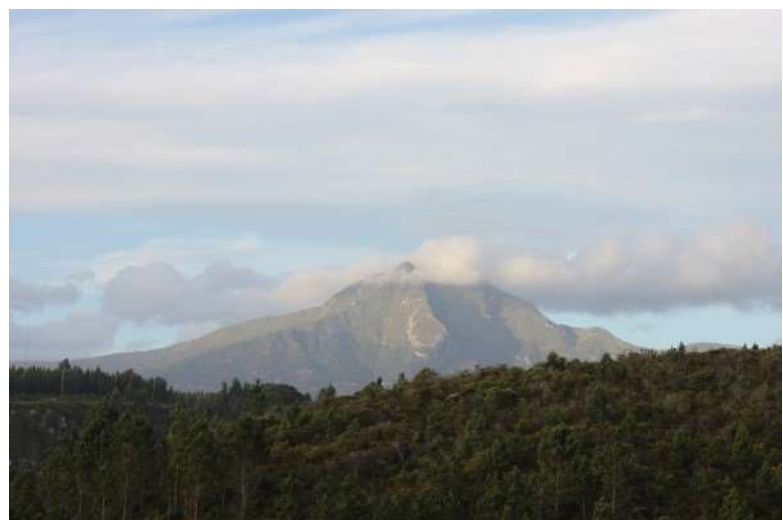
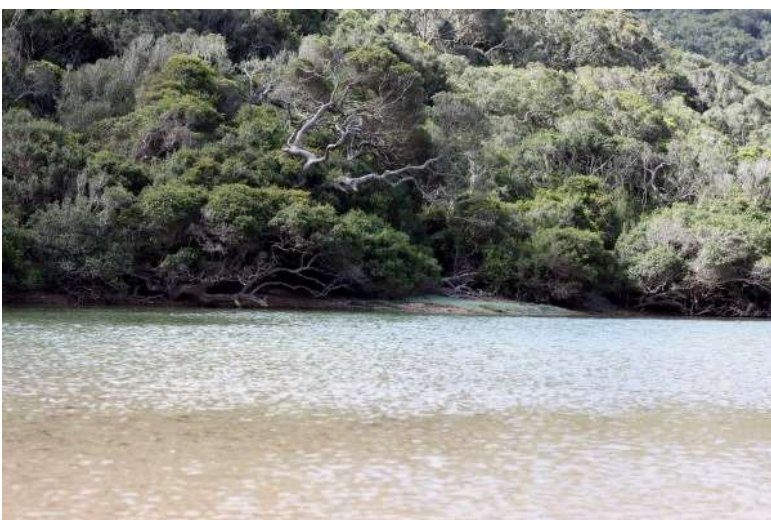


Table of Contents



This is a ‘living’ document that is hyperlinked to an online platform where all the information is stored and shared.

Maps	Page 1
Stories from the past	Page 2
Stories of the present	Page 3
Values and principles	Page 4-5
Theory of Change: Cultural Connections	Page 6
Plans	
Organogram - Who?	Page 7
What? How? Where? When?	Page 8-9
What else is in the pipeline?	Page 10
Indicators and learning questions - Why?	Page 12
References and Gratitude	Page 13
Appendix A - Mind map Summary	Page 14

The online platform will be worked on from 2020 onwards, therefore most of the information will not be available here. This is the skeleton document that is fleshed out with accompanied hard drives wanting to be saved in the clouds.

If you would like to view some of the information before the website is online, please email carlacol@gmail.com to send you the specific documents requested.

Maps

Of conservation and restoration sites.
The below will be linked to online maps from 2020.

Karoo - meaning 'Hard' or perhaps 'Desert'
Tsitsikamma - meaning 'Place of Abundant Waters'
Ciskei - meaning 'On this Side of the Kei River'



Stories from the past



So far, stories from past work with Calabash Trust, Ikhala Trust and Sophakama Community Partnership has been noted here and will be added to the website in 2020. Any other relevant stories of the past can also be shared here with prior consent, adhering to intellectual property rights.

Case Studies:

WB Tshume Primary School ABCD/Permaculture Case Study (Linda Baartman)

UK School Visits Reflection (Rifqah Tifloen)

Newsletters:

Sophakama Community Partnership Newsletters (Jade Jacobsohn, Carla Collins, Gareth Ciki)

Reports:

ABCD reports and maps (Ninnette Eliasov, Carla Collins)

Strategic Planning Reports (Dirk Marais, Ninnette Eliasov)



Stories of the present



This section includes ongoing processes and collaborations relating to asset/strengths-based development work, indigenous/cultural knowledge, nature conservation, land restoration and other relevant topics.

Karoo:

Plains of Camdeboo Nature Reserve and Pearston [Angus Tanner, Carla Collins, Mai Family Foundation, Sophakama Community Partnership]

Nieu Bethesda Natural Spring [Justin Duckitt, Cuer Projects]

Tsitsikamma:

Bushman's Pillow Reforestation [Carla Collins, Cultural Connections]

Johan Huss Primary School Permaculture Food Garden [Layla Staegman, Beneath the Leaf]

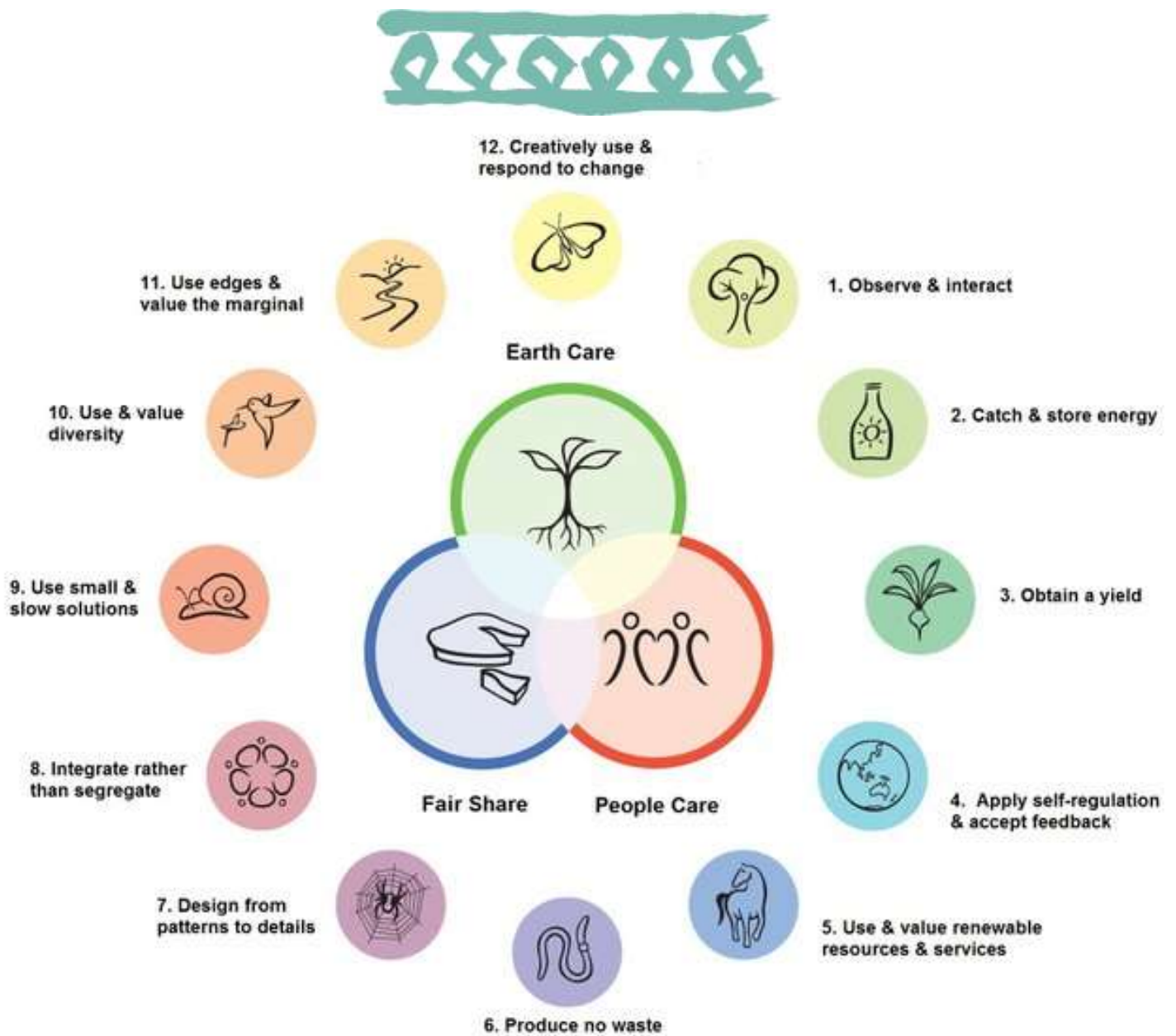
Honeybush Tea Project [Nobulumko Ganthso, Sanparks]

Ciskei:

Ncwele Eco Village Design [Ninnette Eliasov, Elamanzi and Environmental Monitoring Group]



Values and principles



Development is based on:

Going where the energy is
Acknowledging that everyone has something to offer
Working together, from the inside-out
Organic processes
Unlocking and unblocking
Mutual respect and learning
Authentic relationships
Co-investing



Decision making is:

Values driven
Environmentally aware
Ethically led
Assets orientated
Appreciative and strength-based focussed
Inclusive
Non-judgemental

The following is considered:

Prior informed consent obtained before visits, following protocol
Engagements based on mutually respected partnerships
Natural rhythms of communities respected and not interrupted
Respect for privacy, worldviews, beliefs, lifestyles and rights of all
Stories are authentically told, the sacred remains sacred
Age, gender and other differences are respected
Permission acquired before sharing materials and information
Adhering to intellectual property rights

Theory of Change:

Cultural Connections



Ultimate Outcome:
Eco-Systems are Restored, Indigenous Knowledge Revived
All beings living in harmony, abundance and freedom

A network of conscious citizens
shares what they have and know
with others

A conscious network economy
thrives

Landscapes, forests and food
gardens grow and expand

A support network of conscious
citizens grows and share their
assets

*Connectors understand their
unique strengths, are aware of
and appreciate their assets

*Connectors know and love
themselves, live their purpose
and share their gifts with others

*Connectors appreciate, respect
and learn from nature

Pathway of Change:
Transformative and experiential
learning spaces expand

Pathway of Change:
Retreat, healing spaces are
created

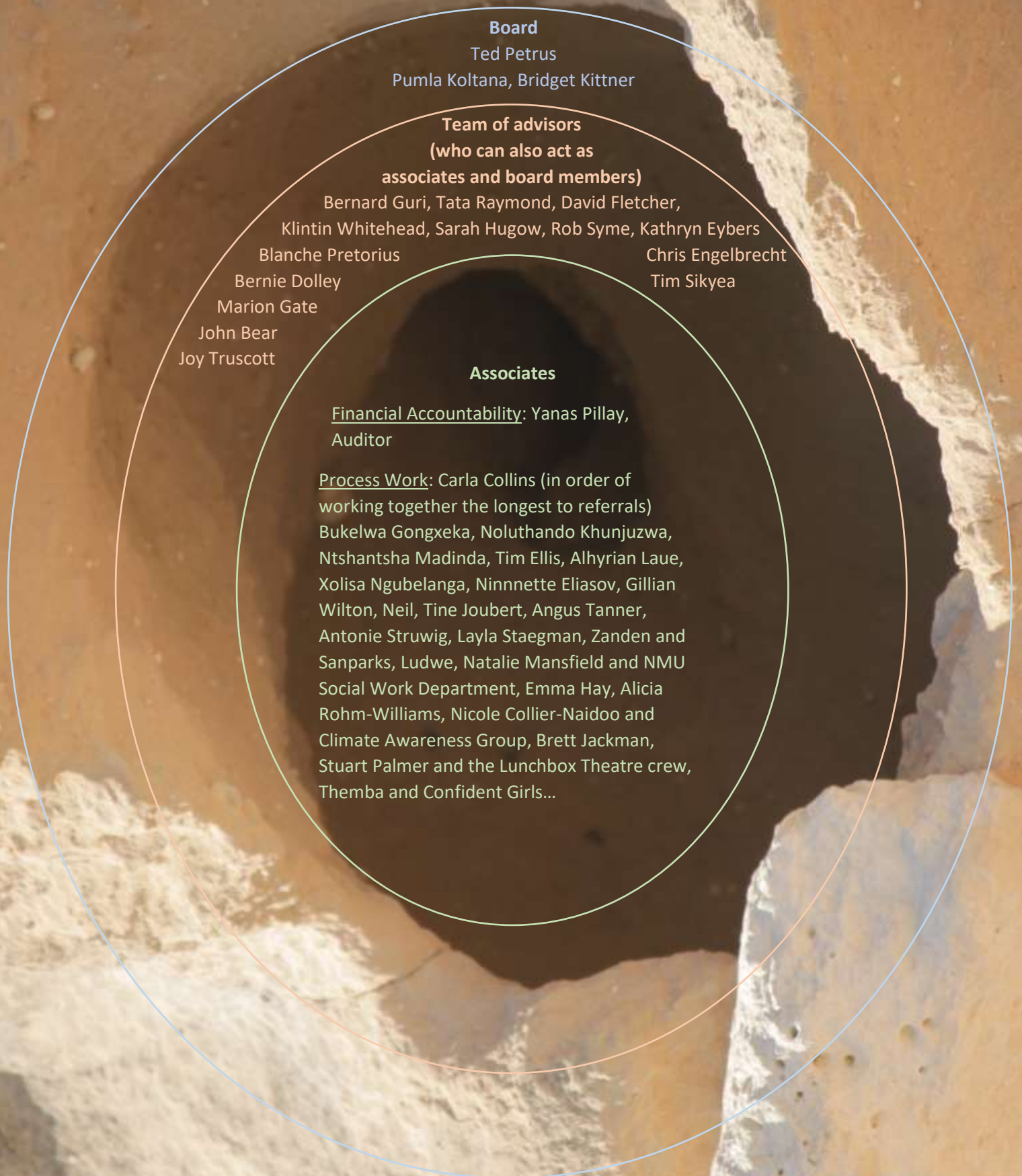
Pathway of Change:
Restoration and demonstration
sites expand

- * Connectors refer to collaborators in our learning spaces who chooses to live more consciously, grow and share their assets.
- * Assets refer to human, social, natural, material and financial assets.

Plans

Organogram (Who?)

This is based on our current circle of influence and will adapt according to people's interests and availability.



What?	How?	Where?	When?
Transformative & experiential learning	Workshop process: <i>(With interested collaborators and their circle of influence):</i> Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) Organisational Development (OD) Project Management (PM) Indigenous Knowledge (IK) Truth Studies (TS) Social Work (SW) <i>[more to be added depending on people' s interests] ...</i>	Pearston Club and Library Covie and Thornham Libraries, Honeyshed Cottage	Starts Feb 2020 with subsequent monthly gatherings
	Learning material is co-created into modules and courses and added to libraries	Pearston, Thornham, Covie Libraries	Ongoing

Retreats	Wilderness / Heritage walks and hikes: <i>(With 4 eco-club youth each from Pearston, Tsitsikamma and Port Elizabeth *unschoolers plus an adult representative from each area = 15 Total)</i>	Tsitsikamma Kruis River ‘adult rekkie’ Pearston Plains of Camdeboo with youth Tsitsikamma Kruis River with youth	5-10 Mar 2020 25-27 Apr 2020 30 Oct-1 Nov 2020
	Woman and Men Circles: <i>(With interested people - including parents of youth where possible and suitable)</i>	To be confirmed	To be confirmed
	Learning material is co-created into modules and courses and added to libraries	Pearston, Thornham, Covie Libraries	Ongoing
Restoration demonstration	Action camp: <i>(With the above 15 eco-club youth and adult representatives plus 4 more from each area = 27 total)</i>	Tsitsikamma (venue to be confirmed)	22-28 June 2020
	Learning material is co-created into modules and courses and added to libraries	Pearston, Thornham, Covie Libraries	Ongoing

*Unschoolers refer to learners who chose an alternative learning path to the conventional education systems.

*Dates may be subject to change. If you are interested to participate somehow email carlacol@gmail.com for a working calendar.



What else is in the pipeline?

Collaborating at the annual ABCD Festival
- November 2020 by Ikhala Trust
Platform for learning, sharing,
performing, exhibiting and celebrating.



Markets - when people are ready
Platform for sharing assets and generating
income, for example plant, book, second
hand goods, clothes, food and other
trading.



Concert for the Trees - to be confirmed
Platform for fundraising for the costs in
the budget.



Online membership-based learning website
- launched by CC sometime in 2020
Online Library Archive - A Journey into Learning

Research funding campaigns, including a Crowd Fundraising - when people are ready
Platform to advocate and fundraise for our
work, values and principles



Indicators and learning questions - Why?



This section needs especially more thinking and development over time.
Ithala Trust's monitoring tool will be adapted and used to collect baseline information, with an annual follow up that will inform the evaluation report.

The following will indicate whether we are making progress:

Number and diversity of participants becoming 'connectors'
Number and diversity of plants and trees planted
Personal and collective stories of change (reflections)
Case studies/examples of assets growing and being shared/exchanged
Number and diversity of restoration and food growing sites
Number and diversity of people in our network and membership
% asset growth and sharing
Quality and quantity of learning material, modules and courses developed

Learning questions [to be added]:

What is a connector?
What is a conscious citizen?
What is a conscious network economy?



References and Gratitude



People in the photos - *contact to request consent before final distribution*

Meanings under maps - Online Dictionaries

Permaculture Principles developed by David Holmgren

TeachPeace Graffiti from Pinterest

Photos by Carla Collins, unless otherwise stated from Jane Parker, Richard Gill...

Graphics by Care OneLove

Learnt from and found inspiration from Calabash Trust, Ikhala Trust, Elamanzi and all their networks. Thank you so much. Love you xxx

Became re-activated by Face Africa, TRY Ecosystems, Beneath the Leaf, Expression Sessions and Earthstompers. Thank you for helping me see what is possible. Love and hugs.

Thank you, Southern Hemisphere, for supporting meaningful change and helping to consolidate things.



A.

Cultural Connections
for conservation & restoration

Our eco-systems restored, indigenous knowledge revived
Living in harmony, abundance & freedom

