



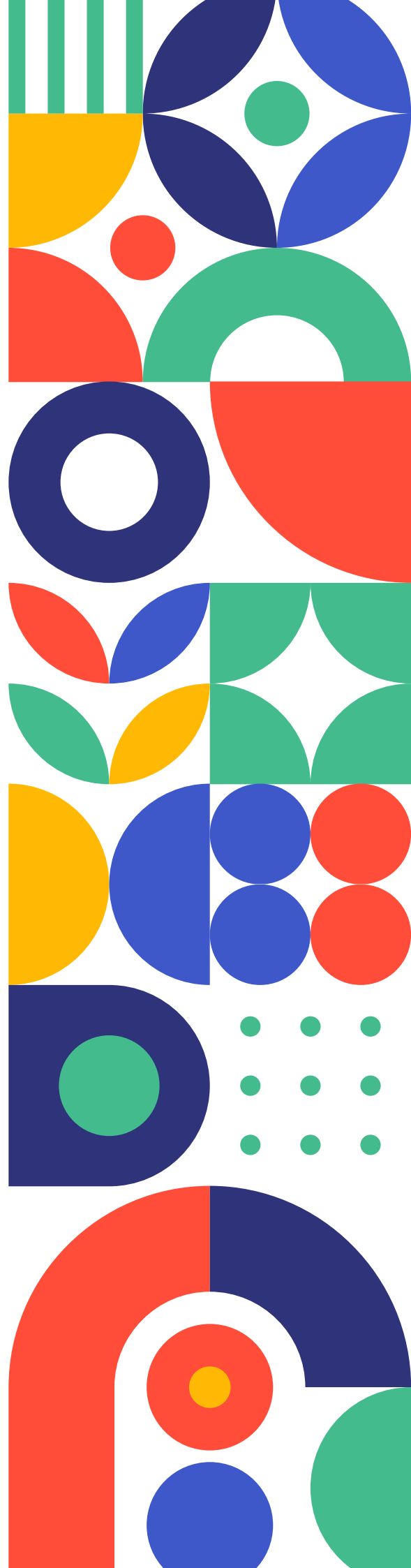
# NOURISH

# 2023

# ANNUAL REPORT

Nourish's 2023 Annual Report showcases commitment to our goal to connect communities to conservation and grow resilience in wildlife communities.

Covers September 2023 - August 2024.





*"Food security is not just about filling empty stomachs; it is about nourishing minds and empowering communities."*





# NOURISH



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*Connecting Communities  
to Conservation*

# ABOUT US



Nourish was created as a platform linking conservation with community issues and ideals, finding integrated sustainable solutions to issues plaguing conservation such as wildlife crime, poverty, low levels of education and food insecurity. We work towards growing resilient wildlife communities through engagement in conservation & sustainable development through integrated and holistic project based programming.



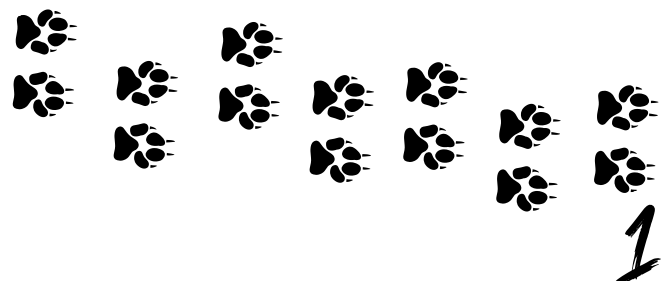
This past year has brought incredible progress for Nourish Eco Village, It has been a dream come true in so many ways for me, both personally and professionally.

From nurturing our established programs to dreaming bigger for the future - we have grown from strength to strength. As we look ahead, our vision is to continue building pathways toward resilience and sustainability.

Together, we're forging a future where community empowerment and conservation go hand in hand, helping communities thrive in harmony with nature.

As Mother Teresa once said, "I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the waters to create many ripples." We're creating those ripples, building lasting change together.

## NOTE FROM FOUNDER



# SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

There are 17 SDGs.



Here's a breakdown of how Nourish Eco Village addresses each of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):

- **No Poverty:** By empowering communities and reducing reliance on external aid, Nourish tackles poverty through sustainable job creation, skill development, and enterprise support.
- **Zero Hunger:** The food security program provides 4,400 meals monthly, supporting children, teachers, and staff with both farm-grown and purchased food.
- **Good Health and Well-being:** Nourish promotes well-being by providing nutritional meals and mental wellness through educational, social, and environmental programs.
- **Quality Education:** Nourish supports early to secondary education, including ECD programs, Green Kidz Club, and local school outreach for comprehensive learning and growth.
- **Gender Equality:** Programs like Ubuntu Girls Club empower girls through mentorship, skills training, and career guidance.
- **Clean Water and Sanitation:** The Eco Village integrates sustainable water and sanitation practices to support agriculture, food security, and hygiene.
- **Affordable and Clean Energy:** Green building workshops promote renewable energy usage, while eco-friendly practices align with sustainable living.
- **Decent Work and Economic Growth:** Nourish creates local jobs through micro-enterprise development, supporting artisans, farm workers, and hospitality staff.
- **Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure:** Nourish's training workshops in areas like computer literacy, financial skills, and hospitality foster workforce readiness and innovation.
- **Reduced Inequalities:** The Eco Village focuses on inclusion, supporting marginalized and underprivileged individuals with equal access to opportunities.
- **Sustainable Cities and Communities:** Nourish integrates conservation into community life, linking local livelihoods with environmental stewardship to foster sustainability.
- **Responsible Consumption and Production:** The Eco Village promotes waste reduction and recycling, while artisans create products from sustainable or upcycled materials.
- **Climate Action:** Environmental education in Green Kidz Club and indigenous farming practices contribute to local climate resilience and awareness.
- **Life Below Water:** While not directly addressed, environmental education promotes a holistic understanding of biodiversity, including aquatic systems.
- **Life on Land:** Through conservation education and wildlife protection efforts, Nourish fosters harmony between people and nature, reducing poaching by addressing poverty.
- **Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions:** Community-centered governance fosters transparency, empowerment, and equality within programs.
- **Partnerships for the Goals:** Partnerships with Thornybush Community NPO, Andersen Foundation, and local stakeholders drive impactful community and conservation initiatives.



# Priority SDGs

**Nourish Eco Village is strongest in the following SDG areas:**



## PRIORITY SDG

No Poverty (SDG 1): Through economic empowerment, enterprise support, and job creation, Nourish addresses poverty by equipping communities with sustainable livelihoods.

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## PRIORITY SDG

Quality Education (SDG 4): Programs like RISE Educare and Green Kidz Club provide comprehensive education, from early childhood to secondary school, supporting both academic and environmental learning.

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## PRIORITY SDG

Zero Hunger (SDG 2): Nourish's food security initiative delivers thousands of meals monthly, addressing hunger and enhancing local food sustainability through its working farm.

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## PRIORITY SDG

Decent Work and Economic Growth (SDG 8): By supporting micro-enterprises and offering job training, Nourish promotes local economic stability and growth.

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# Nourish Progress

*Lots of activity and huge expansion happened both in terms of physical infrastructure as well as impact delivery!*

- SKILLS DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS – 72 individuals benefited from increased skills by attending workshops/training in hospitality, sewing, baking, entrepreneurship, crafting, carpentry, and basic construction.
- JOBS/EMPLOYMENT – 70 were jobs created including YES 4 YOUTH supporting 350 beneficiaries.
- YES 4 YOUTH - 31 youth were hosted in job shadowing learnerships to enable them to gain workplace skills. In partnership with Africa Foundation we have been able to offer job opportunities for these previously unemployed youth for a year. This government funded project enables youth to gain invaluable work experience to jump start their employment path. For us, at Nourish we benefit with all this new, youthful energy which helps us keep the programs relevant and growing.



# Scaling!

**MAKREPENI** (located on the road to Gowrie Gate, Sabi Sands) – the dream of replicating the Eco Village model became a reality with the launch of phase 1 in September 2023. Thank you to funding from Andersen Construction! Phase 1 included Green Kidz library, playground, outdoor classroom, Grannies kitchen and covered eating area, camping area for volunteers, and the farm.

Green Kidz after care was the first program launched serving the communities of Serville A & B, Utah, and Dixi and the turnout was much larger than expected! We are now feeding and providing environmental education for 250 + children each day. Green Kidz outreach into surrounding schools in the area has also commenced.

The build of Phase 2 comprised of the Enterprise Hub - Coffee Shop, Bakery, Craft Shop and Hospitality Training Centre commenced near year end to be launched in the next fiscal year. This project also allowed us to bring onboard 40 local labourers from the Makrepeni community over a period of 10 days (creating income and building skills).

**METSI** (near Paul Kruger Gate) - land has been granted by the tribal authorities for another 'node'.



A new computer lab was built and launched at Makrepeni in May 2024 thanks to a collaboration with University of Massachusetts, Amherst and the Isenberg School of Management – we are now fundraising so that we can offer accredited and non-accredited courses to the children and adults in the community empowering them with important digital skills.





## That's not all...



The computer lab at Sigagule has been busy with extra Maths classes this year benefitting 32 students. UMass students also visited Sigagule in May donating even more computers to the lab there and significantly boosting our capacity to deliver impact to the community.



Farming – both farms (Sigagule and Makrepeni) are thriving with fresh organic produce in abundance – beetroot, spinach, onions, tomatoes, chilies, and peppers. Over 600 kg of healthy veg was harvested! The majority of the produce goes into the feeding scheme which, between the 2 Eco Villages combined, provided 143,616 healthy meals to vulnerable children and community members in the year.

AND 38 fruit trees were planted at Sigagule and Makrepeni Eco Villages.

We have gone OFFGRID at Sigagule thanks to an incredible and generous donation by Filius e.V allowing us to walk the talk and be more eco friendly (plus survive loadshedding!)



Our Volunteers make a difference!

215 volunteers from 14 countries supported the 2 Eco Villages and built 6 veggies garden to support food security for community members.

Volunteers built 6 playgrounds in the communities uplifting the lives of 516 children

# IMPACT METRICS

## EDUCATION

- RISE CRECHE Sigagule - 62 children provided with ECD learning opportunities and WILD HEARTS environmental education for pre-school children.
- Teachers are provided with on-gong training and resources for the WILD HEARTS program which helps us teach environmental education at a pre-school level through creative activities and art



## GREEN KIDZ

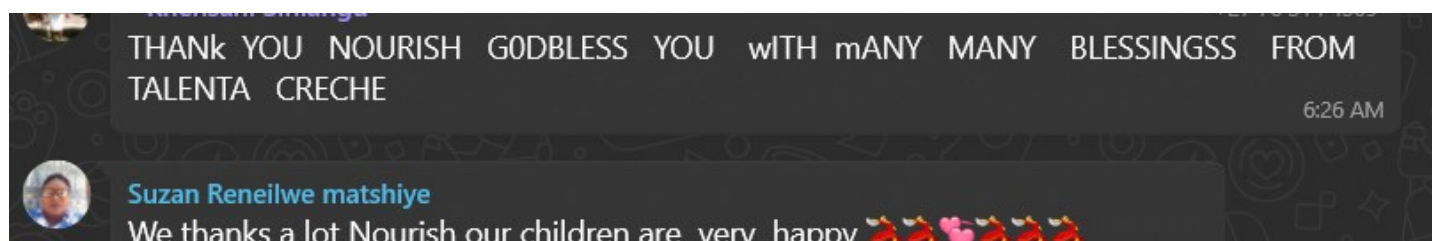
- 4860 children provided with environmental education through Green Kidz outreach.
- 397 children received homework support, creative work, sport and eco development through Green Kids at Sigagule and Makrepeni
- 300 children experienced conservation/nature oriented field trips



## RISE CRECH OUTREACH

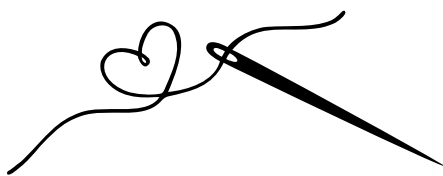
- 420 children supported with moringa supplements. This is purchased from community homes supporting livelihoods. We also grow onsite at the Eco Village in Sigagule.
- 10 creches supported with food staples, resources and play learning support.
- Messages from our outreach creches remind us, that at a grassroots level - small things make a big difference!

*We can do no great things – only small things with great love. Mother Teresa*



## SEWING CENTRE

- New sewing centre completed at Sigagugle. Thank you to Timbavati Foundation. It's now buzzing with activity to stock our craft shop and empower skills to young women and men from the local village. We have hosted 4 sewing workshops during the year.
- 1200 reusable sanitary pads produced and distributed to 200 teen girls to keep them in school.





## UBUNTU GIRLS CLUB

- 40 girls educated about HIV, unprotected sex, teenage pregnancy etc.
- As part of the program the girls also engage in self care practices such as meditation and journalling, creative development such as beading, and empowerment and confidence building such as self defence classes.



## ANIMAL OUTREACH

- 42 animal outreach days to help community learn animal kindness and animal care.
- 460 village dogs vaccinated, treated, or sterilised to help animal welfare. We believe that animal kindness starts at home - so working with peoples dogs promotes empathy and connection. This is also part of our ONE HEALTH worldview - healthy people - healthy environment - healthy animals.



## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- 11 Cleanup/plogging days to collect litter in the village.
- 648 kgs of waste collected, sorted and recycled.
- 12 wire snare removed from the bush near our Eco Villages. This is a practical way we can help keep animals out of snares and promote conservation.





## An exciting new chapter of growth for Nourish Eco Villages; Founder Sarah Bergs Passes the Torch to Pride Muguti to Spearhead Eco Village Project Nodes

Nourish is proud to announce a significant transition in leadership. Pride Muguti has been appointed as President of the organisation, in a strategic move that will ensure the continued growth and success of the Nourish Eco Village model. Pride not only brings new perspectives and fresh energy to the role, but also a wealth of experience and a deep-rooted passion for community development, conservation and hospitality tourism.

Nourish Founder Sarah Bergs will continue to play a pivotal role within Nourish, retaining her position as CEO. This shift will allow her to focus her efforts on shaping the overarching vision for the organization, while exploring innovative funding mechanisms which are necessary to propel Nourish into its next stage of growth and impact.

"I am thrilled to welcome Pride Muguti to lead our Eco Village project nodes," said Bergs. "His demonstrated dedication to bringing dignity and professionalism to community empowerment makes him the ideal candidate to nurture and expand our initiatives. With Pride at the helm, I am confident that Nourish will continue to thrive and make a lasting difference in the world."

Muguti shares Berg's enthusiasm and vision for the future of Nourish. "I am honoured to take on this role and build upon the strong foundation that Sarah and the Nourish team have laid. In the true spirit of Ubuntu, together we will go far in growing sustainable communities that prioritise environmental stewardship, social equity, and collective well-being."

As Nourish embarks on this exciting new chapter, the organisation remains steadfast in its commitment to growing resilient wildlife communities, fighting poaching by fighting poverty through sustainable cradle-to-career life and livelihood improvements.

Join us in welcoming Pride!



# Budget and Resources



## Budget Expenditure:

Annual Financial report available upon request (when audit has been finalised)

A large thanks goes to the following large donors and key partnerships that have made it all possible:

- Andersen Contstruction
- Filius e.V
- Tintswalo Lodges
- AHA Hotels
- Thornybush Community and Timbavati Foundation

## Resource Utilization:

- Personnel: Nourish has expanded to a team of 41 individuals running not only head office but the two Eco Villages.
- This means we are impacting 205 community members through employment.



## Conclusion

- Summary of Progress: Significant progress was made at the Eco Village this year, as well as towards our goal of being a transformative replicable model of community development. The establishment of our second campus (Eco Village) proved this is possible! We are committed to continuing our work in social and environmental impact - and to finding innovative ways to create pathways out of poverty.





*"When you teach kindness to animals,  
you teach reverence for life in general."*

*- Bernard Beck - Nana Awere Damoah*



# NOURISH



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Date: 20 September 2024

Signature: 

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Branch: Hoedspruit, 270652  
SWIFT/BIC: FIRNZAJJXXX



## GROWING RESILIENT WILDLIFE COMMUNITIES

