

Singita

# Singita One Planet Action Plan Progress Review - 2017

May 2018

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## **1. Message from Tom Fels, CEO - Singita Group**

In line with our 100-year purpose to preserve and protect large areas of African wilderness for future generations. Singita continues to prioritise a holistic and responsible approach to our business operations.

It has been a year and 4 months since Singita Southern Africa joined Singita Serengeti in a formal collaboration with Bioregional and One Planet Living, and 2017 marks the first year that our Southern African properties have undergone a One Planet Annual Review. We are proud to acknowledge that we are making progress across all Principles, with no 'red carded' targets, that is, no areas 'substantially incomplete, behind schedule or in doubt over delivery.' This demonstrates a shared and very real desire by all staff to make a difference through our daily activities and should be commended.

With the support of strong, committed leadership, we will continue to persevere towards the achievement of our sustainability ambitions. We are excited to introduce bold new initiatives and measurement standards into the Group, guided by the One Planet Principles. Crucially, we are also making strides in embedding sustainability culture throughout our staff complement. Our staff are the change-makers who make these ideas a reality in their everyday work and are therefore critically important to our success of truly becoming a conservation company. We feel an incredibly heartening momentum growing within staff - and guests - to live, work for and enjoy sustainable lives.

## 2. Message from Ben Gill – One Planet Communities Technical Manager

Singita's commitment to One Planet Living has formed part of its formal transition from a tourism company to a conservation company. Singita has always been involved in conservation, through their partnerships with The Malilangwe Trust, The Singita Lowveld Trust, SANparks and the Sabi Sand Wildtuin, and through going above and beyond what is required of it in terms of conservation and community. Now its goal is to make conservation the core of its work, and minimising environmental impact is a key component of this.

In 2017 there were some fantastic achievements including bringing the total of solar PV capacity to 1,015 kWp which is currently meeting about 70% of energy demand at the lodges in the Kruger National Park. Singita has also all but eliminated the use of plastic bottled water. These and other efforts have seen its carbon footprint fall by 10%. Alongside these new initiatives its conservation and community work continues to grow and reap benefits.

This is though the start of their journey and significant challenges remain – not least developing a renewable energy strategy for the Sabi Sand operations which account for more than 40% of the total carbon footprint. Likewise, while the One Planet Committees have been established and all staff trained, it will take time for more sustainable habits and behaviour to become engrained to maximise recycling and help reduce vehicle emissions.

Singita has certainly hit the ground running in 2017 – the challenge is now to maintain this momentum!

# **3. Summary of progress**

This is the first review of Singita's One Planet Action Plan so there are some areas where the targets and indicators for specific outcomes need additional detail developed. On the other hand, while this is the first year of implementing Singita's One Planet Action Plan, this is not the first year of Singita's sustainability journey and so there are already an impressive array of achievements to review.

| Substantially or entirely completed, or a high degree of certainty over deliverability |
|--|
| On track for a long-term target  |
| Substantially incomplete, behind schedule or doubt over delivery                       |

| One Planet<br>Principle        | 2020 Outcomes  | Progress  |
|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Health and<br>happiness        | Improvement in staff health and<br>engagement<br>Improve local education and | 15 One Planet events held<br>Significant upgrades to staff<br>accommodation at all sites<br>Grow to Read programme ongoing –                        |
| Equity and                     | teaching levels<br>Maximise local recruitment                                | reached 20 schools and 141 teachers<br>Local employment remained above 75%  |
| Equity and<br>local<br>economy | Support development of local businesses                                      | R8.8mi spend in the local economy at<br>SSS and SKNP  |
|                                | 25% of guests to participate in a<br>community activity                      | Community visits on hold  |
| Culture and community          | Promote a culture of sustainability  | All staff received a basic induction<br>'Train the trainer' sessions run with Heads<br>of departments. OP Staff engagement<br>programme established |
|                                | Maximise contribution to Singita<br>Lowveld Trust                            | Donations (Lodge & Guests) average<br>approximately 6 bednights a month   |
|                                | Maximise area under management   | Additional 10,000 Ha brought under management in 2017   |
| Land and<br>nature             | Maximise anti-poaching and conservation efforts                              | 19% of total Lodge operating spend is on conservation efforts   |
|                                | Encourage environmental care within local communities                        | 175 teachers completed enviro awareness<br>module in SA, and 440 children received<br>enviro education in Zimbabwe region.                          |
|                                | Reduce losses through leaks to 5%  | Meters not yet installed at critical points   |
| Sustainable<br>water           | Reduce extraction of water from boreholes                                    | SKNP 10% reduction to < 400litres/<br>person/day<br>SSS unchanged   |
| Localand                       | Increase local expenditure   | Local food sourced where possible   |
| Local and sustainable          | All fish to be sustainable harvested   | Ongoing engagement with suppliers   |
| food                           | Improvement in staff diet  | Meat free Mondays; increased vegetable options  |
| Travel and                     | 20% reduction in fuel  | No change from 2016   |
| transport                      | Reduction in business flights  | Flights logged and offset options to be reviewed  |
| Materials                      | Only sustainable cleaning products   | All lodges achieving this   |
| and<br>products                | Prioritising sustainable<br>construction and fit-out materials               | Sweni refurbishment reutilised sanitary-<br>wear and timber.  |
| Zero waste                     | 90% reduction in plastic waste   | 95% less plastic bottled water waste  |
| Lero waste                     | > 90% recycling rate   | 13.6 tonnes recycled at SKNP/SSS  |
| Zero                           | 30% reduction in energy use  | 3% reduction in primary energy use  |
| carbon<br>energy               | 100% renewable energy  | 17% reduction in carbon emissions with 20% of electricity being supplied by PV  |

## 4. Singita – Southern Africa operations

Singita is a company which operates 12 tourism lodges and camps across Africa. Preserving large areas of wilderness for future generations while benefitting local communities lies at the heart of its business. Singita operates in Southern and Eastern Africa.

Singita is a conservation company, financially supported by a number of commercially operated lodges within the reserves that are under Singita's stewardship. Non-profit trusts, which focus on community development and biodiversity management, also form part of the larger Group.

Singita's operations in the Serengeti have been applying the One Planet Principles since 2012 and produce a separate report on its progress. This report covers all existing Singita operations outside of Tanzania; these are predominately in Southern Africa but includes the project being developed in Rwanda.

- All existing Singita lodge properties in South Africa:
  - Singita Sabi Sand (SSS): Boulders, Ebony and Castleton Lodges
  - Singita Kruger National Park (SKNP): Lebombo and Sweni Lodges
  - The Singita Lowveld Trust
- Singita lodge properties and partnerships in Zimbabwe:
  - o Pamushana Lodge
  - The Malilangwe Trust
- All Singita support companies and their buildings
  - Singita Management Company (Cape Town)
  - Singita Style, Design and Procurement (Johannesburg)
  - Singita Mauritius Reservations office
- New projects:
  - Singita Kwitonda (SK) lodge, under construction in Rwanda

The Malilangwe Trust is a wholly Zimbabwean, non-profit organization with a focus on harmonizing biodiversity conservation, community development and commercial tourism. Singita Pamushana lodge is situated within the Malilangwe Reserve, Zimbabwe The Singita Lowveld Trust is the South-African based non-profit organization supporting biodiversity conservation and community development in South Africa.

## 5. Singita's One Planet Action Plan

In committing to its <u>One Planet Action Plan</u> Singita is aiming to create a benchmark for sustainable tourism for the 21st century – demonstrating how conservation, local economic development and high-quality tourism can reinforce each other.

Singita's Southern African operations is complex as they are, in effect, both a business and three communities combined; more than 320 staff and their families are provided accommodation onsite. Furthermore, the success of the tourism operations is directly linked to the success of the conservation and community development work that Singita undertakes or supports.

By becoming a One Planet Community Singita is pledging to 'operate within global environmental limits' and committing to this principle as the foundation of how the company conducts its business. Singita has demonstrated this in a number of ways:

- Outreach to influence conservation in the region and tourism globally
  - The Singita Group Chairman represented Singita on a sustainability panel at Virtuoso Trade show
  - Industry benchmarking project started with other safari operators, Wilderness and Asilia, to understand what is good practice and develop sustainability benchmarks for the industry
  - Awards: <u>Singita Kruger Park</u> won the 2017 PURE conservation and sustainability award. PURE Life Experiences is a global community of leading experts in experiential travel – including high-end suppliers, Private Travel Designers serving a high-net-worth clientele and renowned members of the travel press.
- Increasing the awareness of conservation and environmental issues amongst key stakeholders
  - Staff: programmes to embed sustainability culture are run all year.
  - Suppliers: engagement around sustainability criteria for foodstuffs and products is ongoing from Procurement division and lodges.
  - Guests: receive information on conservation and sustainability initiatives in written collateral as well as in person when at the lodges.
- Transforming existing operations to a sustainable One Planet level, particularly during major refurbishments, without compromising conservation and tourism goals
  - Refurbishment at SKNP's Sweni Lodge
  - PV solar plant upgrade at SKNP
- Developing new camps and lodges in line with One Planet Principles
  - Singita Kwitonda in Rwanda

## 6. Carbon footprint

A carbon footprint was undertaken by an external company in 2012 – this has been used as a driver to internalise the data gathering and calculations within the organisation.

As Singita has improved its data monitoring there has been an apparent increase in the carbon footprint. While in some areas this is real – in other areas it is actually due to increased data gathering.

The graphs in Figure 1 and Figure 2 show the carbon footprint from 2013 - 2017, with only 2016 having a comparable data set to 2017. The first graph shows carbon footprint by scope, and the second by location. This highlights a number of key points:

- Singita Sabi Sand is responsible for over 40% of the carbon footprint and its electricity use in particular accounting for about a third of the total carbon footprint
- There has been a more than 10% drop from 2016 to 2017 primarily due to the solar plant installed at Singita Kruger National Park.
- While vehicle emissions account for only 17% of the carbon footprint these emissions are increasing, whereas building emissions are falling.

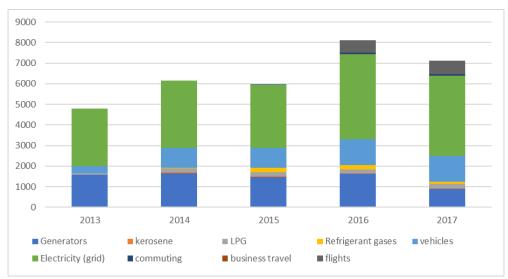


Figure 1. Total carbon footprint (tco2eq) by emission source

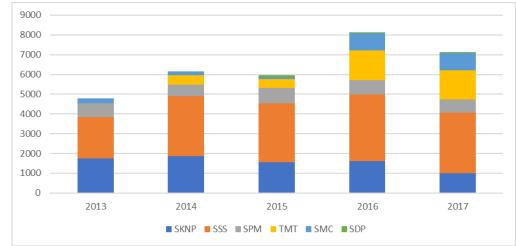


Figure 2. Total carbon footprint (tco2eq) by locatiom

The carbon footprint includes all Scope 1 and 2 carbon emissions: generator and vehicle fuel, LP gas, paraffin, electricity and refrigerant gases. Refrigerant gas measurement does need to improve, however the measurement of other Scope 1 & 2 resources are solid. Indirect, Scope 3, emissions covered in the report include: business flights, commuting to office and other vehicle transport for business.

DEFRA (UK Department for environment) emission factors for the year in question are applied to the relevant resource quantities.

**One Planet Living resonated with me immediately,** Kerryn Broodryk, HR Manager at Singita Sabi Sand

"Growing up, my family were always aware of minimising our impact on the environment. So, when I was introduced to One Planet Living it resonated with me immediately. I really like the way that the ten principles balance the human side of sustainability with environmental practices in a holistic way.

In my work it provides a clear and simple way to engage people as we try to educate everyone about conservation and sustainability. At a personal level I continue to try and embody the One Planet Principles, using washable nappies for my twins (and washing them with recycled bath water!) and car-pooling where I can. And I think attitudes are changing with fewer incredulous reactions from people who learn about my nappy-washing and a growing interest in learning about the alternatives to our disposable culture."

## 7. Review of progress against the One Planet Action Plan

This section reviews the progress against the targets set out in the 2016 One Planet Action Plan.

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## 7.1. Health and happiness

|     | 2020 outcome   | Target and Baseline   | Progress  |
|-----|--|---|---|
| HH1 | Improvement in key<br>health statistics of staff,<br>including psychological<br>health | Target: to be determined<br>Benefits significantly exceed<br>legal minimum  | All staff have access to<br>medical care with<br>ongoing improvement        |
| HH2 | Maximise staff<br>engagement   | Target: to be determined  | 15 events held in first<br>year   |
| HH3 | Improvement in local<br>education and teaching<br>levels                               | Target: > 1700 children<br>Baseline: SSS and SKNP 1720<br>pre-school children provided<br>with improved education | Growing to Read<br>programme run in 19<br>schools impacting 141<br>teachers |

Figure 3. K9's new accommodation unit at SSS



#### 7.1.1. Key achievements and challenges

- 15 staff engagement events relating to One Planet Living were held across the properties
- While the Employee wellness programme has not been initiated, the One Planet Committees were established in each location headed up by onsite One Planet champions, and a quarterly award scheme set up to recognise staff for their efforts to promote One Planet Living.
- Improvements in healthcare provision include complimentary HIV testing and flu shots at SMC.
- There were significant improvements to staff accommodation:
  - SSS: 4 new staff accommodation units completed; staff canteens at Boulders and Castleton lodges upgraded.
  - o SKNP
    - New school for young children of staff
    - 26 new units built and 38 repainted
    - Renovation of staff swimming pools
    - New school of cooking built
  - SPM / TMT: new mosquito nets for all staff

#### 7.2. Equity and local economy

|     | 2020 outcome                | Target and Baseline       | Progress           |
|-----|-----------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|
| Eq1 | Maximise recruitment from   | Black employment >        | Local employment > |
|     | the local community,        | 75%                       | 75% on average     |
|     | increasing total black      | 2015 baseline: 314 of     |                    |
|     | employment                  | 440 staff                 |                    |
| Eq2 | Maximise the impact of      | Target: to be determined. | 10 students at SSC |
|     | training programmes         | Singita School of Cooking |                    |
|     |                             | trains 10 students a year |                    |
| Eq3 | Entrepreneurship - actively | Target: increase          | > R8.8mi at SSS    |
|     | support the development of  | purchases by 10% per      | and SKNP           |
|     | local businesses            | annum                     |                    |

#### 7.2.1. Key achievements and challenges

- The Singita School of Cooking (SSC) is in its 10<sup>th</sup> year, with about 60 chefs now in new careers as a result. Approximately 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of SSC graduates have a job at a Singita Lodge.
- 'Project 100' conservation competition run to generate ideas that would crosssect and enhance all 3 pillars of the conservation umbrella: community, biodiversity and sustainability.
- Expenditure in the local economy
  - SSS: R6.3mi; approximately 19% of lodge operating spend excluding payroll.
  - SKNP: R2.5mi, spread across 42 suppliers; approximately 6% of lodge operating spend excluding payroll.
  - Sweni Lodge provided an additional 123 jobs during the refurbishment construction phase
- Employment figures
  - Local: SSS: 73%, SKNP: 75% local, SPM: 100%
  - Local salary/total salary: SSS:45% SKNP:47% SPM:100%
  - Female; SSS: 46%, SKNP: 53%, SPM: 34%

## 7.3. Culture and community

|     | 2020 outcome                   | <b>Target and Baseline</b> | Progress            |
|-----|--------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|
| CC1 | Guests to experience the local | Target 25% guest           | The CPP             |
|     | community                      | exposure to the            | programme is being  |
|     |                                | Community                  | reviewed, thus      |
|     |                                | Partnership                | guest exposure      |
|     |                                | Programme                  | limited in 2017.    |
| CC2 | One Planet Centre for guests   | Target: 100% of staff      | All staff receive a |
|     | and staff to promote a culture | trained in One Planet      | basic induction     |
|     | of sustainability              | Living                     |                     |
| CC3 | Maximise contribution to       | Equivalent to 14 bed       | Approx. 4 bed       |
|     | Singita Trust Fund from        | nights a month total       | nights donated by   |
|     | Singita and Guests             | donated                    | lodges, Guest       |
|     |                                |                            | donations approx. 2 |
|     |                                |                            | bednights a month   |
|     |                                |                            | Total: 6            |
|     |                                |                            | bednights/month     |

#### 7.3.1. Key achievements and challenges

- Group-wide 3% of spend was on community partnership programmes
- SPM community tours to Kambako Living Museum continue to be a success.
- Staff engagement has been successful with a One Planet Champion in each location, and a supporting committee in most locations. One Planet Champions are responsible for running One Planet engagement events and other sustainability-related projects.
- Training has been ongoing with a 'Train the Trainer' session run with Heads of Departments at SSS and SKNP on training their staff about One Planet Living
- An Industry Sustainability Indicators Benchmarking initiative has been set up with Wilderness and Asilia, two like-minded tourism organisations. The aim of the cooperation is to identify best practice standards and industry benchmarks for sustainability.
- Community visits at SKNP and SSS are currently on hold while the visits are reassessed to maximise their beneficial impact.

|     | 2020 outcome              | Target and Baseline          | Progress                |
|-----|---------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| LN1 | Land area under           | increase by 20% (85,000Ha    | 10,000 Ha added to      |
|     | conservation management   | 425,000 Ha (2016) was        | Karingani project in    |
|     |                           | 287000 Ha (2015)             | Mozambique              |
| LN2 | Maximise Singita's anti-  | Zero incidents of poaching   | One Rhino lost to       |
|     | poaching and conservation | of key species (rhino, lion, | poaching                |
|     | efforts                   | elephant)                    |                         |
|     |                           | Conservation spend >20%      | 19%                     |
|     |                           | of total                     |                         |
| LN3 | Encouraging a commitment  | Reach >1000 children per     | 175 teachers            |
|     | to environmental care     | year                         | (environmental          |
|     | within local communities  | 2016:SKNP: 3 school, SSS:    | awareness module)       |
|     |                           | 600 kids, 75 teachers        | SPM: 440 children (EEP) |
| LW4 | Progress in conservation  | Specific indicator per site  | Not defined             |
|     | goals at each site        |                              |                         |

#### 7.4. Land and Nature

#### 7.4.1. Key achievements and challenges

- Singita is collaborating on a project in Mozambique adjacent to the Kruger National Park, which added 10,000 Ha to Singita's stewardship in 2017. Singita's conservation team is advising on the land management and conservation strategy
- In 2017, Singita partnered with NGO Panthera to run a camera trap survey on its land in the Sabi Sand with the intention of benchmarking what is ecologically possible in terms of density of leopards in a stable, well-protected population.
- Given the level of threat and its commitment to protecting local rhino, in 2012 Singita deployed a highly-skilled team of tracking dogs and handlers, referred to as the K9 unit, to further enhance anti-poaching efforts on its 45,000 acres of the Sabi Sand; operations are ongoing.
- Construction of Singita Kwitonda started with associated rehabilitation of farmland into native forest to act as a buffer to Volcanoes National Park
- SKNP's experience as a sustainability exemplar was collated and transferred as a case study for tourism concession guidelines for the IUCN and Convention on Biological Diversity; and for a book on private sector tourism in conservation areas.
- 175 teachers (1/3<sup>rd</sup> of participants) completed an environmental awareness module as part of Singita's Teaching & Technology programme.
- At SPM about 440 school children participated in the Environmental Education Programme, with two teachers accompanying each of the 18 school groups.

#### 7.5. Sustainable water

|     | 2020 outcome          | Target and Baseline         | Progress              |
|-----|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| SW1 | Reduce losses through | 5%                          | Meter systems not yet |
|     | leakage               | Baseline – not known        | able to measure this  |
| SW2 | Reduce extraction of  | 20% reduction or 350 litres | 10% reduction at SKNP |
|     | water from boreholes  | /person/day                 | to < 400l/p/day.      |
|     |                       | 2015 baseline: SSS and      | SSS unchanged         |
|     |                       | SKNP: 93,000m3/year         | 2017: SSS and SKNP    |
|     |                       |                             | 95,259 m <sup>3</sup> |

#### 7.5.1. Key achievements and challenges

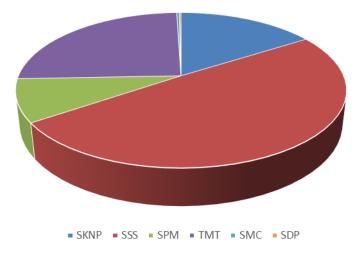


Figure 4. Total treated water consumption by location

Water is a major issue in many areas of Southern Africa as highlighted by the long-term drought in the Western Cape of South Africa. This makes water conservation an important issue at SSS and SKNP but thankfully SPM is not in a water stressed location. In 2017 Singita used +/- 146,000m<sup>3</sup> of treated water across the Southern Africa properties with SSS being the main consumer – followed by TMT (Figure **4**).

At the Lodges water consumption per person (guest and staff) has remained relatively constant, with SSS using the most significantly (Figure **5**).

- SKNP reduced water consumption by 10% and continues to be below its allowance from SANParks
- During the refurbishment of Sweni Lodge at SKNP the water from the approximately 60m3 original pool was held in filtrated tanks and reused in the new pool. Water saving estimated at 60,000 litres.
- SSS installed a 1000 litre rainwater collection tank.
- In the Cape Town office (SMC) water use awareness initiatives were run throughout the "Day Zero" drought period.

SSS is the major challenge in terms of water with old infrastructure and poor metering in place. This is a major focus in the coming year.

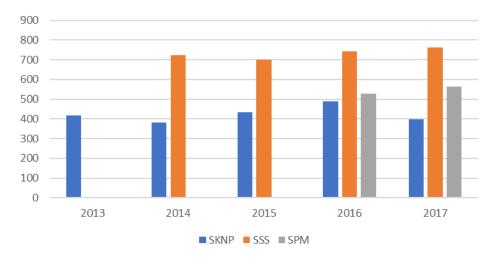


Figure 5. Water use per person per day (litres) at three key locations

#### 7.6. Local and sustainable food

|      | 2020 outcome                                 | <b>Target and Baseline</b> | Progress   |
|------|--|----------------------------|--|
| LSF1 | Increase expenditure<br>on 'local' suppliers | ТВС                        | R8.8m spent on local procurement in South Africa |
|      | on local suppliers                           |                            | (not all food)                                   |
| LSF2 | All fish to be                               | % certified, green list    | Ongoing collaboration with                       |
|      | sustainably farmed or                        | All green/orange           | suppliers  |
|      | harvested                                    |                            |  |
| LSF3 | Progressive                                  |                            | Meat free Monday at all lodges                   |
|      | improvement in the                           |                            | for staff meals. Improved                        |
|      | balance of the staff diet                    |                            | vegetable offerings                              |
| LSF4 | Maximise procurement                         | Eliminate specific         | Palm oil all but eliminated, bar                 |
|      | that is environmentally                      | foodstuffs (e.g. palm      | margarine and dairy cream                        |
|      | friendly - e.g. certified,                   | oil)                       | alternative.                                     |
|      | low-impact products                          |                            |  |

#### 7.6.1. Key achievements and challenges

- Meat-free Monday has been introduced widely across the group to the degree that even the shop in the staff village at SKNP does not sell meat on Mondays.
- An exercise was run with the chefs using the sustainability criteria from the *Eat Out* Sustainability Awards. This approach identified knowledge of the suppliers and supply chain as a potential weakness and this will be addressed in the coming year.
- A local supplier has been supported to provide fruit and vegetables to SKNP / SSS
- Guest meals always have a vegetarian option and all effort is taken to minimise food waste.
- Staff Food: At SKNP, every staff meal has a vegetable offering: lunch options include a salad bar, every breakfast and most lunches include fruit.
- SKNP are considering (lower footprint) venison as a beef replacement.
- At SPM fruit and veg portions introduced as of Feb 2017. The new staff cooks were employed with higher skill sets to create healthier and tastier meals.

|     | 2020 outcome                   | <b>Target and Baseline</b> | Progress                 |
|-----|--------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| ST1 | Reduction in onsite vehicle    | Reduce fuel litres 20%     | 370kl (no change on      |
|     | fuel use                       | 2014 and 2015              | 2016, 25% increase on    |
|     |                                | approx. 290kl              | 2015)                    |
| ST2 | Reduction in business flight   | 20% reduction in           | Approx. 1000 t CO2eq     |
|     | emissions                      | emissions                  |                          |
| ST3 | Compensate for all direct      | 2014: approx. 2000         | Flight carbon offset     |
|     | transport emissions (vehicles  | tonnes of CO2eq to         | strategy in progress for |
|     | and flights)                   | offset                     | 2018                     |
| ST4 | 50% of guests offsetting or    | 50% involved               | No progress              |
|     | using a low-carbon air carrier |                            |                          |

#### 7.7. Travel and transport

#### 7.7.1. Key achievements and challenges

Vehicle fuel and business flights account for approximately 25% of Singita's carbon footprint; vehicle fuel at 17% and flights at 9%. Other transport-related emissions – commuting and land business travel are minor, no more than 1%.

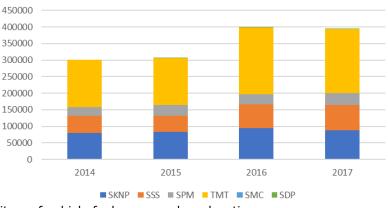


Figure 6. Annual litres of vehicle fuel consumed per location

While the carbon impact of transport fuel is less than that of building emissions it is still important and is noticeably on an upward trend (Figure 6). TMT is the most significant fuel user accounting for approximately 50% of fuel use, though it is important to note that TMT performs a vital anti-poaching function on a concession of 130,000 acres.

Some key interventions in 2017 include:

- The Porter vehicle schedule has been tightened at SKNP
- Walking safaris are being promoted when safe to do so
- Flight data has been gathered in detail to allow an accurate calculation of the associated emissions with a view to offsetting

#### 7.8. Materials and products

|     | 2020 outcome  | <b>Target and Baseline</b> | Progress   |
|-----|---|----------------------------|--|
| SM1 | All cleaning products to be sustainable                           | 100%                       | All lodges use<br>environmentally<br>friendly ranges             |
| SM2 | Maximise local and<br>environmentally friendly<br>procurement     | 5% increase per annum      | Local: R8.8mi  |
| SM3 | Prioritising sustainable<br>construction and fit-out<br>materials | Project by project basis   | One Planet integrated<br>into process for<br>Sweni refurbishment |

#### 7.8.1. Key achievements and challenges

- Ongoing improvement in materials for example:
  - Guest amenities switched to the Melee range which is locally produced by a South African entrepreneur, and ticks a multitude of sustainability boxes including: is a member of Peta, suitable for vegetarians and vegans, does not contain any microplastics, parabens, silicones, mineral oils and animal originated ingredients, eco-certified and also has anti-animal testing certification, belongs to the round table for sustainable palm oil and made using cold pressing which uses less energy than hot processing.
  - The spa brand switched from imported products to all local Terre D'Afrique which boasts the use of natural local products like (responsibly-harvested) ostrich eggs for massage, as well as local wood products made from acacia and mopane. Products make extensive use of FairTrade, organic and natural ingredients. Wild harvested ingredients are harvested in a way that does not deplete ecosystems.
  - Guest amenities toothbrush is made of bamboo, and ear buds have cardboard stems instead of plastic. All the plastic for amenity tubes fillers has been changed to plant-based corn starch packaging which are manufactured for renewable resources, plant based, biodegradable and compostable. This is part of the drive to eliminate single use plastics.
- Drive to maximise the use of sustainable materials: urban offices are using reusable straws and takeaway coffee mugs. Lodge 'takeaway' packaging is compostable or biodegradable.

I've started planting my own vegetables, Nonkululeko Sosibo, a skin care therapist at Singita Sabi Sand Spa

"I grew up in rural South Africa with grandparents who taught me a lot about caring for nature, plants and living creatures. When I was introduced to One Planet Living at Singita, this helped me bring together these early learnings with my modern lifestyle. I've realized I can substitute going to the gym (which I never enjoyed anyhow!) with walking instead of getting the porter vehicle. I've been collecting paper for recycling, contacting suppliers about taking back bottles for reuse and started planting my own vegetables. I've also started wearing my hair naturally and not using make-up, which as a skin therapist does provoke a lot of questions – but this approach frees me from unnecessary pressure, saves me money and keeps me beyond happy."

#### Sweni Lodge refurbishment

A refurbishment of Sweni Lodge was completed in 2017. A review of the construction was undertaken, and the key findings were:

- Attention was paid to minimising the impact of the refurbishment for example; storing of the pool water, re-using of sanitaryware and timber.
- The opportunity was taken to install energy-efficient equipment (air conditioning units in rooms and kitchen equipment but further opportunities, such as greywater systems, were not considered).
- One Planet Living was an agenda item at every site meeting
- In terms of construction materials:
  - $\circ~$  Stone and sand were the most important materials by weight totalling over 1000 tonnes.
  - The carbon footprint of the refurbishment was around 150 tonnes CO2eq, with the transport of sand and stone and the embodied carbon of cement being the main contributors – each responsible for around 30% of the embodied carbon.

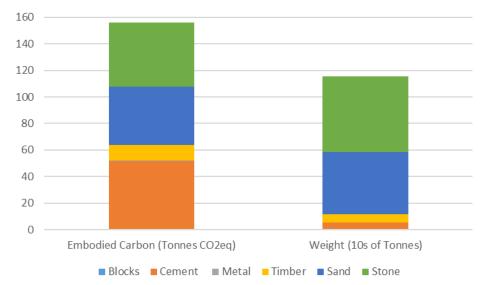


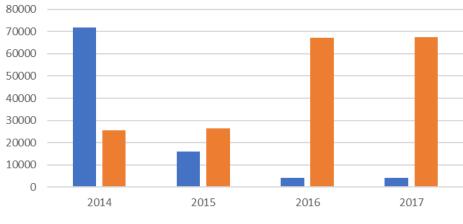
Figure 7. Quantity of material and embodied energy of Sweni refurbishment



Figure 8. Sweni guest suite refurbishment

## 7.9. Zero waste

|     | 2020 outcome           | <b>Target and Baseline</b> | Progress                     |
|-----|------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| ZW1 | Reduction in plastic   | Reduce plastic water       | 4,000 litres – close to 97%  |
|     | waste                  | bottles by 90%             | reduction                    |
|     |                        | Baseline - 70,000          |                              |
|     |                        | litres/year (2014)         |                              |
| ZW2 | Reduction in other     | Tonne year – 10%           | SPM – 30% reduction,         |
|     | waste                  | reduction                  | SSS & SKNP baseline          |
|     |                        |                            | measurement started in 2017  |
| ZW3 | Recycling rate of non- | 90%                        | 13.6 tonnes recycled at SKNP |
|     | food waste             |                            | / SSS                        |
| ZW4 | Responsible disposal   | 100%                       | SPM: compost pit, worm farm  |
|     | of food waste - 100%   |                            | SSS & SKNP: pig farmer       |
|     |                        |                            | receives a proportion, the   |
|     |                        |                            | balance to landfill          |





#### 7.9.1. Key achievements and challenges

- Plastic water bottles have been close to eliminated across the project with a more than 95% reduction since 2014 (Figure 9). At SKNP bottled water is no longer available for staff to buy, having been replaced with refillable bottles and filtered water access in staff areas.
- SDP piloted and rolled out a system of reusable crates for South Africa deliveries with paper packaging and gum tape to replace plastic tape and bubble wrap.
- SMC has established a Bokashi wet waste composting system and diverted a total of 670kg food waste from landfill.
- SSS and SKNP have a single waste contractor, a visit was made to their site to see the waste management and verified that waste was being effectively sorted and recycled
- SSS undertook a major clean up and upgraded various waste storage facilities
- Approximately 900 litres of used cooking oil was collected from SKNP kitchens and converted to biodiesel.
- SPM / TMT is undertaking a reusable nappy drive with staff.
- On the audit visit in October it was noted that while both SKNP and SSS have excellent waste sorting facilities, staff do not always follow the requirements. A renewed focus was placed on this post the audit.

## 7.10. Zero carbon energy

|     | 2020 outcome   | Target and Baseline                                | Progress   |
|-----|--|--|--|
| ZC1 | Reduce total building<br>energy use  | 30% reduction in<br>MWh/year<br>9235MWh (2014)     | Approximately<br>9000MWh (primary) –<br>3% reduction   |
| ZC2 | Reduce non-building<br>energy GHG emissions<br>(e.g. refrigerant gas<br>emissions) | 30% reduction in CO2eq<br>115tCO2eq (2012)         | 112t CO2eq   |
| ZC3 | Near zero building energy emissions  | Near zero<br>5200 tCO2eq (2014) and<br>6200 (2016) | 5150 tCO2eq, 17%<br>reduction on 2016, no<br>change cf 2014  |
| ZC4 | 100% renewable energy  | % renewable energy<br>Zero (2012)                  | PV contributes 20% of<br>electricity, (equivalent<br>to 12% of building<br>energy – electricity and<br>generators) |

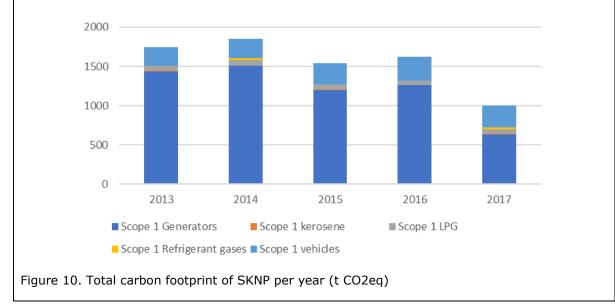
#### 7.10.1. Key achievements and challenges

#### SKNP Solar PV system

SKNP installed a PV system in 2016, and in March 2017 this was upgraded to now include 1,015kWp of PV and 4.7 MWh of storage split across the lodges and the staff villages, with the first commissioning of Tesla Powerpacks in Africa. While there have been challenges, 2017 has seen major benefits in terms of reliability and carbon emissions notably:

- There have been several days where the generators have not been required to run at the Lodges or staff villages at all
- The total carbon footprint is half of that of 2014 and generator fuel consumption close to 60% down.

Given that the system was only operating for 9 months of the year even larger savings are expected in 2018.



The PV solar development at SKNP has been the main focus of the year but additional energy efficiency measures have been made:

- 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of A/C units in senior staff rooms upgraded
- Sweni refurbishment saw upgrades of the guest suite air conditioning units
- At SSS all air conditioning units are now inverter and only LED bulbs are being purchased
- At SPM only solar geysers are being installed.

#### 8. Message from Andrea Ferry – Singita Sustainability Coordinator

It's been a very exciting year for Singita's Southern African lodges and urban offices with the official One Planet Living collaboration in full swing. I believe we are making good progress in all areas and these will only gain greater momentum in the years ahead. Some significant projects that came to fruition this past year included the upgrade of SKNP's solar PV project, the shift from imported to local and sustainable spa and guest amenities, the introduction of Meat Free Mondays for staff, sustainable packaging from the procurement team and many more.

In 2017 we ratcheted up the programme to boost sustainability culture among staff. We appointed One Planet champions, ran competitions and recognized staff for their sustainability efforts, held regular monthly staff engagement events around the One Planet Principles and increased our internal communications on key issues. This has built awareness and positively encouraged staff to be part of the journey. Although there has been a high turnover of volunteer OP champions, others have willingly stepped up to replace them.

We have also improved and expanded our sustainability data collection and reporting processes, including producing One Planet quarterly reports which provide extended narrative details on projects and progress, over and above the monthly resources statistics. This has enabled us to start sharing best practice among properties. Speaking of collaboration, I am very excited to be working with safari operators Wilderness and Asilia in developing an industry benchmark for key sustainability indicators, (planned to be issued mid-2018.) Collaboration is key if we are to advance the sustainability agenda.

We are pleased to report successes particularly under the Land use & Wildlife Principle which was elevated as a key strategic focus area in late 2016. Our efforts to recruit locally and spend with local businesses (Equity & Local Economy) have been rewarded and our reduction of plastic waste is significant. We continue to improve the sustainability of Materials and Products, not only in new builds and refurbishments, but in everyday operations. Upgrading the solar PV plant at SKNP has reduced reliance on diesel by +/-70%, contributing towards our journey to Zero Carbon.

On a strategic level, Singita dedicated greater financial support to sustainability initiatives this year, and integrated sustainable decision-making earlier in the process of new lodge design and refurbishment. We are starting to make headway in the area of supply chain and I expect this to be a significant part of our 2018 work. I am confident that with the heartening commitment evident from our leadership, our dedicated staff and assistance from One Planet and other advisors Singita will very soon be leading the way in sustainable safari operations.

# 9. Plans for the year ahead

| One Planet<br>Principle | 2020 Goal  | Key strategies  |  |
|-------------------------|--|---|--|
| Health and<br>happiness | Improvement in staff health and engagement   | 76 events planned across SSA<br>SKNP: Plans include: new gardens, repaint of 50<br>staff accommodation, kitchen refurb and netball<br>and volleyball refurbishments.  |  |
|                         | Improve local education<br>and teaching levels   | Ongoing implementation of educational<br>programmes   |  |
| Equity and              | Maximise local recruitment   | Ongoing implementation of successful programmes. Diversity programme planned.   |  |
| local<br>economy        | Support development of<br>local businesses   | Review of the community outreach programme will identify new opportunities. David Shilabi's market garden is receiving particular focus.  |  |
|                         | 25% of guests to participate in a community activity   | Review of the community outreach programme<br>will identify new opportunities to engage guests in<br>a more customised way. There are plans to<br>partner with established educational NGOs in the<br>region to augment environmental education.  |  |
| Culture and community   | Promote a culture of sustainability  | Increase in number of One Planet events, on-<br>going training, quarterly newsletters, and OP<br>champion awards.   |  |
|                         | Maximise contribution to<br>Singita Lowveld Trust and<br>The Malilangwe Trust  | New community outreach programme should<br>support this initiative.<br>Singita Lowveld Trust plans to partner with Lion<br>recovery Fund (USA) in 2018 to garner guest<br>donations and support for lion conservation.  |  |
| Land and<br>nature      | Maximise area under<br>management<br>Maximise anti-poaching<br>and conservation efforts<br>Encourage environmental<br>care within local<br>communities | Continue to collaborate with partners to identify<br>opportunities to expand areas under stewardship.<br>Partnering with Panthera, a leading NGO which<br>initiated the Furs for Life project in an effort to<br>curb the poaching of leopards for their skins.<br>Singita and Panthera will run a further four<br>leopard surveys in Kruger, including Singita's<br>concession, as well as one on Karingani Game<br>Reserve in neighbouring Mozambique, in 2018.<br>Singita aims to raise specific funds to support<br>SANParks with the Black Rhino Guardianship<br>Programme in southern Kruger. This programme<br>aims to safeguard black rhino through increased<br>monitoring and understanding of black rhino<br>movements in space (habitat, home range) and<br>time (day/night, seasonal).<br>Ongoing implementation of programmes.<br>SKNP launching a programme for Grade 7 children<br>at a local primary school. |  |
| Sustainable<br>water    | Reduce losses through<br>leaks to 5%<br>Reduce extraction of water<br>from boreholes   | Focus on installing meters and upgrading the<br>water measuring system at SSS.<br>New SKNP garden to be irrigated with grey water.  |  |
| Local and sustainable   | Increase local expenditure   | Engage more with suppliers and the supply chain.<br>Integration of targets for local content into new<br>lodge projects   |  |
| food                    | All fish to be sustainable harvested   | Ongoing engagement with suppliers   |  |
|                         | Improvement in staff diet  | Continue initiatives like Meat-Free Mondays<br>Introduce a responsible driver programme. Sign in  |  |
|                         | 20% reduction in fuel  | and out controls of all vehicles to staff.  |  |

| Travel and transport | Reduction in business flights                                     | Carbon Offset fund set-up   |
|----------------------|---|---|
| Materials            | Only sustainable cleaning products                                | Ongoing improvement and elimination of non-<br>environmentally friendly products from staff<br>villages   |
| and<br>products      | Prioritising sustainable<br>construction and fit-out<br>materials | SPM refurbishment has a One Planet Action Plan<br>developed in advance. Singita Kwitonda has had<br>One Planet Living principles integrated from the<br>design phase. |
| Zero waste           | 10% reduction in waste  | Ongoing review of purchasing and ways to reduce waste; search for alternative uses for organic waste in SA.   |
|                      | > 90% recycling rate  | Staff engagement and monitoring on recycling appropriately.   |
| Zero<br>carbon       | 30% reduction in energy use                                       | SKNP: 2/3rds of senor staff A/C units to be replaced with inverter, installation of solar geysers in staff villages at SSS  |
| energy               | 100% renewable energy   | Review of opportunities for SSS to install some solar power.  |