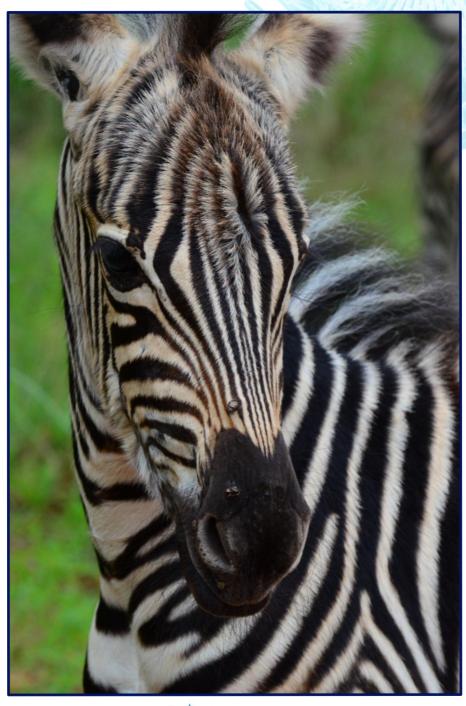
# A Rocha South Africa Annual Review 2019





NPO Number: 038-193 PBO Number: 930020406

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2019 A Rocha AGM held at African Enterprise, Pietermaritzburg.

#### A Note from the Chairman

As a biodiversity conservation organisation with a Christian ethos, A Rocha South Africa has enjoyed a positive and productive year. I have been privileged to work alongside a Board of Trustees who have shown exemplary commitment, great thoughtfulness and displayed a wisdom that has been beneficial to the organisation. I'm incredibly grateful for the hard work conducted by this team and for the support and encouragement I have received from this group of individuals for whom I have great respect.

The following pages will touch on the influence A Rocha SA has had in our three main areas of focus, namely: practical conservation projects, environmental education and theological engagement including participation with the local church. The progress made has been, in no small part, due to the effort and commitment of our family of volunteers and supporters for whom we are extremely thankful. Mention must also be made of the A Rocha SA administrator, Melanie Rood, who has worked effectively behind the scenes to coordinate much of the good work.

Sadly, in October, A Rocha SA found itself at the epicenter of a great tragedy that affected the entire global A Rocha community. Whilst working alongside A Rocha SA to develop partnerships in conservation, the Director of A Rocha International, Chris Naylor and is wife Susanna and A Rocha founder's Peter and Miranda Harris, were involved in a tragic motor accident outside of Port Elizabeth. The accident claimed the lives of Chris, Susanna and Miranda and critically injured Peter. Personally, and as an organisation, we grieve deeply with the Harris and Naylor families whilst our prayers remain with Peter as he heals. Through this tragedy we have experienced incredible support and encouragement from all around the world but special mention must be made of the practical support provided by many within the region of Port Elizabeth and surrounds. Thank you!

Even in this tragedy we find a glimmer of hope in that the final work that Chris, Susanna, Peter and Miranda conducted in South Africa has begun to yield fruit and will continue to. Added to this is the great hope we have in the One who liberates from the bondage of decay and brings into the freedom and glory of the Children of God.

"Kuba indalo yalulanyiselwa kokungelutho, kungengakuvuma kwayo, kungenxa yowayilulamisayo, inethemba lokuba nendalo ngokwayo iya kukhululwa ebukhobokeni bokonakala, isingiswe enkululekweni yozuko lwabantwana bakaThixo" (KwabaseRoma 8:20-21) (Romans 8:20-21 Xhosa)

Blessings

Murray Tessendorf

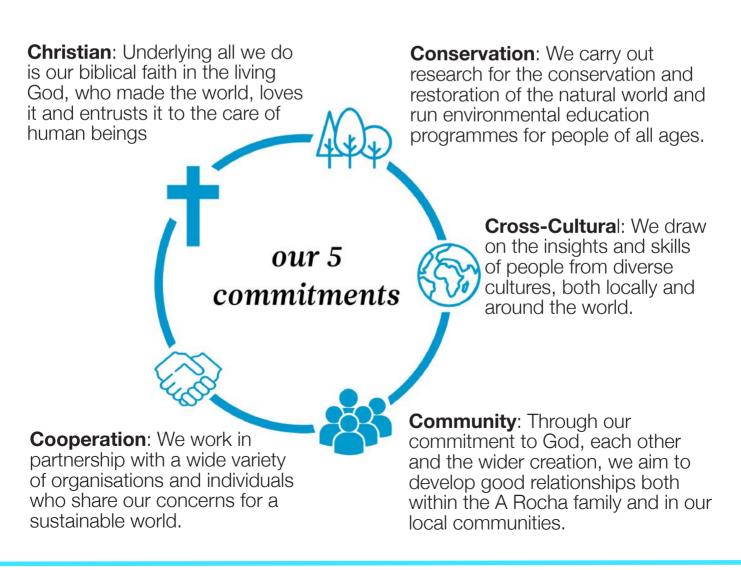


A Rocha South Africa is a national Christian organisation which equips, motivates and mobilises people to care for God's creation, through theology, education, research and projects.

# A Rocha South Africa is proud to be a part of the international family of A Rocha organizations, focusing on:

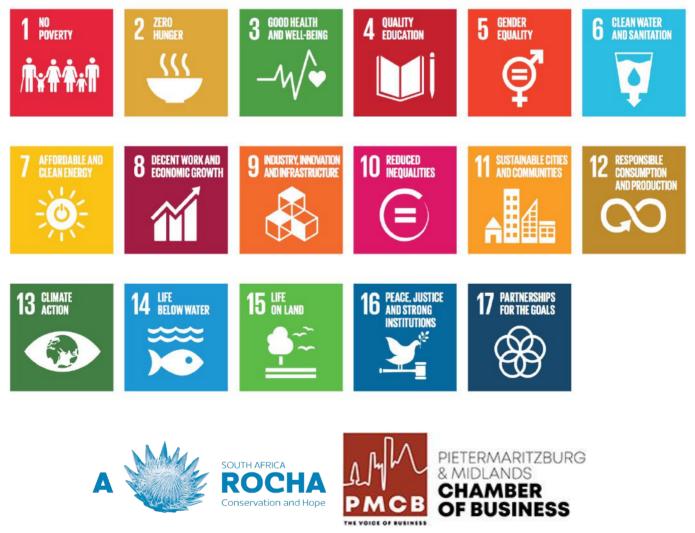
- Scientific research
- Community-based conservation
- Environmental education
- Equipping the church
- Climate action





The work of A Rocha South Africa contributes towards the goals set out in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. By working towards the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, Α Rocha South Africa contributes towards a global plan of action for the benefit of people, planet, prosperity, peace and partnership.





A Rocha South Africa is a member of the Pietermaritzburg & Midlands Chamber of Business

### **Board of Trustees: A Rocha South Africa**

A Rocha South Africa is governed by a Board of Trustees comprising of wise and talented individuals who work hard to further the creation care mandate of the organisation. Under their capable leadership, A Rocha South Africa has continued to expand its influence, serve communities and care for God's creation. We are grateful for a Board of Trustees who continue to embody our organizational values of good governance, integrity and accountability.



Christine Cuenod: KwaZulu-Natal Action Team chairperson



Martin de Wit (Co-opted for 2019): Western Cape Action Team, Governance and EcoYouth Representative



David Gertzen: Gauteng Action Team Chairperson



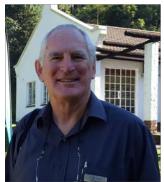
Godfrey Harris (Co-opted for 2019): Treasurer



James Irlam: Western Cape Action Team Chairperson



Sydney Saayman: East Griqualand Action Team and Global Church and Theology representative



Carl Swart: A Rocha South Africa Board Secretary



Murray Tessendorf: A Rocha SA Chairperson

#### **Outgoing Board Members**



During 2019 Kelly Taylor stepped down from the Board of Trustees of A Rocha South Africa due to family relocation to the Isle of Man. During her time on the Board, Kelly was instrumental in launching the A Rocha work in Gauteng by establishing the Gauteng Action Team. Whilst her time with us was too brief we are appreciative of the work that she started and the foundation upon which David Gertzen has been able to continue building A Rocha's presence in Gauteng.

Mark Gush has been a long time servant of A Rocha South Africa, having spent two seasons as a member of the Board of Trustees. Mark's organisational wisdom has contributed greatly to the stability and increased influence of A Rocha SA. During 2019 Mark stepped down as a member of the Board of Trustees of A Rocha SA to take up a position in the United Kingdom as head of an environmental horticulture team with the Royal Horticultural Society.



# A Rocha SA Administrator



Whilst Melanie Rood fulfills a part-time role of Administrator of A Rocha South Africa, her job goes far beyond its description. In addition to keeping up to date with communications, finance, membership renewals and general admin, she regularly utilises her considerable skills in such areas as events coordinator and social media guru. She has also proven adept at alien vegetation clearing and it's not uncommon to find her brandishing a panga / machete at an A Rocha Ferncliffe event.

#### A Special Word of Thanks: Josh Bean

A Rocha South Africa expresses extreme gratitude to Josh Bean who has voluntarily served as the organization's bookkeeper during the 2019 financial year. Josh has skillfully ensured that our financial records are in good order and clearly presented. Thank you for the time and effort you have given to A Rocha South Africa.



### Home Office

Having entered into a lease agreement with African Enterprise in 2018 for office space, A Rocha SA has enjoyed a home base within the beautiful surrounds of the African Enterprise campus. Conveniently situated on the outskirts of Pietermaritzburg, the premises is nestled between the Ferncliffe Nature Reserve, where A Rocha runs a forest rehabilitation programme, and Queen Elizabeth Park which both serve as the headquarters of KZN Ezemvelo Wildlife and a space for A Rocha's environmental education programmes. A Rocha SA is greatly appreciative to Theuns Pauw (AE CEO), Michael Cassidy (Founder of AE) and the staff of African Enterprise for affording us the opportunity to work alongside them in fulfilling the Great Commission.



Situated at the heart of the Maputaland-Pondoland-Albany Biodiversity hotspot, A Rocha South Africa enjoys office space on the tranquil African Enterprise Campus.

#### A Rocha International

A Rocha South Africa, whilst an independent organisation, is a part of an international community of 22 A Rocha organisations working around the globe. United by common core beliefs and commitments, A Rocha South Africa greatly benefits from the collective experience and knowledge of this



global body. A notable mention must be made of the support and guidance provided by A Rocha International (ARI) and particularly Sarah French (Director of Operations) and David McKay (Interim Executive Director).

A Rocha South Africa's Murray Tessendorf was privileged to attend an A Rocha International sponsored Environmental Conference Education held outside Kampala, Uganda. The event, attended by representatives from A Rocha Uganda, Kenya, Ghana, South Africa, Peru and India provided a platform for delegates to learn from each others' environmental education strategies and experience the excellent work being done by A Rocha Uganda. Thank you to the facilitators, Angela McKav Environmental (Volunteer Education Coordinator: ARI) and Sarah French.



Delegates attending the Environmental Education conference in Kampala, Uganda.





Left to right: Brenda Tessendorf, Angela McKay (A Rocha International), Sarah French (A Rocha International), Ramon Casana (A Rocha Peru) and David McKay (A Rocha International) at the source of the Nile River in Uganda.

#### A Rocha Action Teams

A Rocha's focus on 'local expressions of creation care' encourage volunteer Action Teams to care for God's creation within their neighborhoods, towns and Within the Western cities. Cape, action teams raised the funding and ran a creation care underprivileged for camp young people. The KwaZulu-Natal team has been working hard to rehabilitate a portion of the Ferncliffe Nature Reserve whilst the Gauteng team engages with local churches to encourage creation care. During



Members of the Rosebank Methodist A Rocha group preparing for their annual sustainable supper event.

the year a group of Christians in the east Griqualand region of KZN has formed an action team with their stated purpose as "We care for the environment within the Kokstad area so that Jesus Christ can be glorified". We appreciate the hard work of Christine Cuenod (KZN), James Irlam (WC) and Kelly Taylor and David Gertzen (Gauteng) who continue to oversee Action Teams within the provinces.



KZN Action Team members celebrating Arbor day at Ferncliffe Nature Reserve.



James Irlam of the Western Cape Action Team used his participation in the Two Oceans Marathon to raise money for for the A Rocha EcoChamps Camp through a BackaBuddy crowd-funding campaign.



Cape Town Action Team members ready for a clean-up event in Khayelitsha..

A Rocha KZN action team and African Enterprise collaborate for International Coastal Cleanup.



### **Church and Community**

Although there are many good for environmental reasons concern and action, A Rocha foundational motivation SA's emerges from a biblical theology of creation care. In furtherance of our ongoing mission to inform actions hearts and through theological engagement, 2019 Rocha SA directly saw А engaging with more than 650 people through church engagements, bible studies and creation care workshops.



The A Rocha group of Rosebank Methodist Church explored the topic of practical solutions to plastic pollution at their annual 'Sustainable Supper' event.



Workshopping 'A Biblical Motivation to Creation Care' with Pastors from the Pietermaritzburg area in partnership with Project Gateway .



A Rocha leading outdoor devotions with the staff of African Enterprise.

2019 saw active A Rocha engagement with various church denominations through sermons, bible study series and engaging with Sunday school classes.



Rev. Carl Swart of A Rocha engaging with pastors from across Africa at the Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens as part of the Love CapeTown City Fest event.

#### **Community Based Conservation Projects and Events**

A Rocha South Africa continued to conduct a number of conservation projects and community events specifically promoting biodiversity conservation. During 2019 A Rocha SA continued rehabilitation programmes on the Kuils River (Western Cape) and Ferncliffe Nature Reserve (KwaZulu-Natal).

The Kuils River project is an initiative of the Western Cape Action Team and here, the A Rocha partner 'Footsteps to Good Hope EcoYouth' has spent considerable time conducting clean ups along a portion of the river.





The Ferncliffe Nature Reserve project is the longest running A Rocha SA project, started in 2007 with the replanting of an indigenous Mistbelt Forest tree species on land clear felled of exotic timber plantation. This rehabilitation programme continues with the removal of invasive alien vegetation and continued indigenous tree planting.





A Rocha SA celebrated World Wetlands Day with a wetland exploration day on the Hilton College Estate (KZN) and coordinated a cleanup of the Kleinmond Lagoon (WC).

John Roff guiding participants through a wetland on the Hilton College Estate.



Kleinmond Lagoon cleanup on World Wetland Day





A Rocha SA participated in the International Coastal Cleanup 2019 with events held in KZN and the Western Cape by the respective action teams. 2019 saw our first engagement with Christian Camping South Africa (CCSA) with Board Member, Sydney Saayman representing A Rocha SA at the annual CCSA conference. A Rocha SA member, Dr Anna Whitehouse, addressed the conference on a biblical motivation to creation care. We look forward to a fruitful relationship with CCSA.



Dr Anna Whitehouse addressing the Christian Camping Southern Africa Annual Conference on the Biblical foundation of creation care.

Left to right: Lulu van der Berg (responsible for morning 8 evening devotions), Josh Bestwick Chairperson), (CCSA Sydney Saayman (A Rocha SA), Kelly Smith (Guest Speaker from Australia),

CHRISTIAN

CAMPING







#### Love Cape Town City Fest

During November 2019, A Rocha SA participated in the Love CapeTown City Fest event organised by African Enterprise and the Luis Palau Association. А Rocha specifically organised and participated in two community cleanup projects, in Khavelitsha and Mitchells Plain, as well as conducting a information creation care with morning local and visiting evangelists at the Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens. Thank VOU to Pauw Theuns (African Enterprise) for affording us this opportunity and to James Irlam for organising the events.





#### **Environmental Education**

The environmental education focus of A Rocha South Africa has continued to grow during 2019. Whilst predominantly focusing on the A Rocha linked EcoYouth groups, every opportunity is taken to engage with young people to both instill within them a love for the environment and to draw attention to its fragility.



A Rocha SA's Murray Tessendorf guiding a group of learners from the Howick High School ECO club to the Karkloof Crane & Conservation Centre.



John Roff doing some ad-hoc environmental education with children attending A Rocha SA's World Wetland Day at the Hilton College Estate.



#### Footsteps to Good Hope EcoYouth



A Rocha EcoYouth are groups of Christian young people answering the call to creation care and engaging their considerable energy to do so.

The 'Footsteps to Good Hope EcoYouth' grew out of Jakobus van der Linden's epic 2017 walk from the mouth of the Orange River to the Cape of Good Hope. Along this walk Jakobus made detailed recordings of Black Oystercatcher sightings, drew attention to coastal plastic pollution and engaged with Christian

communities along the way.

The 'Footsteps to Good Hope EcoYouth', situated in Bellville (WC), was launched in February 2019 and has continued the work of youth e m p o w e r e d conservation action throughout the year.



Members of 'Footsteps to Good Hope EcoYouth' hosted A Rocha founders Peter and Miranda Harris and International Director, Chris Naylor for a creation care event. This would be Chris and Miranda's very last public engagement for A Rocha.

#### **Strandlopers EcoYouth**

Strandloper's EcoYouth, active in the Overberg region of the Western Cape, have engaged with the region's children and young people to instill within them a passion for the environment and involve them in conservation action.





Contact: strandloperseyc@gmail.com

# A Rocha EcoChamps Camp

The A Rocha EcoChamps Camp was attended by young Christian leaders from a wide range of Christian church denomination in the Western Cape. Each participant, who was identified by their respective church as having an interest in creation care, was exposed to the amazing biodiversity of the Fynbos and intertidal coastal zone around Kleinmond (WC). The camp, facilitated by members of the 'Footsteps to Good Hope EcoYouth', was an exceptional success and enriching to all involved.



Guided exploration of the extraordinary biodiversity found within the Fynbos biome and within the rock pools of the Western Cape.



"The Eco-Champs Youth Camp in Kleinmond turned out to be a blessed experience for all involved. We praise the Lord for the position He placed us in to study His creation and to share our knowledge and concerns with the young (eco) leaders of the future from Delft, Langa, Macassar, Kleinmond and Bellville".

> Footsteps to Good Hope EcoYouth Report



A Rocha 40 mins · 🛞

\*\* Press statement: A Rocha International staff in fatal accident in South Africa

On Monday 28th October Peter and Miranda Harris, cofounders of A Rocha, and Chris Naylor, A Rocha International CEO, together with his wife Susanna, were involved in an horrific car accident in Port Elizabeth, South Africa. Miranda, Chris and Susanna did not survive. Peter and the driver of the car are being treated at a local hospital and are in a stable condition. We await further news on their progress.

Above all, their families and friends are held in our prayers.



Peter and Miranda Harris, and Chris and Susanna Naylor traveled from the UK towards the end of October 2019 to further the work of A Rocha in South Africa. Time spent in Cape Town and the Port Elizabeth area allowed for the renewing of A Rocha friendships, valuable networking and speaking engagements, along with sufficient time for birding in the busy schedule. After two incredibly valuable days in the region of the Greater Addo Elephant Park exploring an exciting new A Rocha SA partnership with the Kuzuko Foundation, the Harris's and Naylor's were involved in a motor accident on the way back to the Port Elizabeth Airport. Tragically, Chris, Susanna and Miranda lost their lives in the accident whilst Peter was critically injured. A Rocha SA's Murray Tessendorf, who had been traveling with the Harris' and Naylor's right up to their final journey, remarked how excited they were for the work of A Rocha SA and how palpable their joy was as they departed on the last leg of their journey.

After an extended hospital stay, Peter recovered sufficiently to leave South Africa a month after the accident and continues to regain strength at his home in the United Kingdom. The driver of the vehicle sustained light injuries and was discharged from hospital after a period of observation.

> The A Rocha South Africa family convey our deepest love to the Harris and Naylor families and to the global A Rocha family for the loss of those for whom we had such affection. We continue to pray for Peter for his healing and strengthening.



Peter and Miranda's family, Jo Swinney (left), Esther Youlton (2<sup>nd</sup> from left), Jeremy Harris (2<sup>nd</sup> from right) and Beth House (right) pictured with Damien Catherine (centre) who was the first responder who resuscitated Peter at the scene of the accident.

Immediately after the tragic accident of 28 October 2019, and during Peter's recovery in South Africa, many showed incredible love, concern and support to the A Rocha family in South Africa. A Rocha South Africa would like to express our gratitude to the following people for the assistance provided during this time: Catharina de Lange and the management of Kuzuko Lodge, the management of Legacy Hotels. The medical staff of St George's Hospital, Colin Jackson (A Rocha Kenya), Sarah French (A Rocha International), David McKay (A Rocha International), the many Port Elizabeth residents who provided meals for the family, the global A Rocha family and friends of A Rocha who prayed for us through this time.

(Left to right) Jeremy, Esther, Beth, Catharina de Lange, Jo and Murray Tessendorf.





Jo (left), Jeremy (2<sup>nd</sup> from left) and Colin Jackson (right) praying with Thando (2<sup>nd</sup> from right), the driver of the vehicle, upon his release from hospital.



Members of the Bluewater Bay Surf Lifesaving Club and first responders who assisted at the scene of the accident. As the accident occurred a short distance from the lifesaving club, these lifesavers were the first on the scene to provide emergency assistance.



Peter Harris (2<sup>nd</sup> from right) upon being discharged from hospital, pictured with his brother Stephen (2<sup>nd</sup> from left), Ewen (right) and Mo Wilkenson( left).



Carl Swart and Matthew Burnett enjoying some early morning birding.



Ps. Jabu Nmculwane (CEO Project Gateway) and friends receiving copies of 'PlanetWise'.

### **Celebrating Friends**



Our wonderful hostess, Carla Calhias, at an A Rocha meeting in Cape Town.



Joro and Nano Rakotoarivelo learning more about the work of A Rocha as they embark on a creation care project in Madagascar.



Gary Almeida and Melanie Rood doing their part to clean up Cape Town.



Geoff Gould, Tabea Zimmermann and Mandihlume Gongxeka being introduced to the work of A Rocha SA.



Murray Tessendorf, Catharina de Lange of Kuzuko Lodge and Lize-Mari Arthur of Kingfisher FM.



Matthew Burnett (UKZN) and Kevin McCann (Conservation Outcomes) and the 2019 A Rocha SA AGM.



Michael Cassidy at the signing of his book, "Footprints in the African Sand".



# **A Rocha Financial Statement**

#### A Rocha South Africa

#### Detailed Income Statement for the year ended 31 December 2019

|                           | 2019       | 2018       |
|---------------------------|------------|------------|
|                           | <u>R</u>   | <u>R</u>   |
|                           | _          | -          |
| Administration            |            |            |
| Revenue                   | 92 214     | 190 369    |
| Revenue                   | 92 214     | 190 209    |
|                           |            |            |
| Book sales                | 2 490      | -          |
| Event income              | -          | 139 969    |
| Exchange gains            | -          | 684        |
| General donations         | 88 424     | 45 836     |
| Membership income         | 1 300      | 3 880      |
|                           |            |            |
| Other income              |            |            |
| Interest income           | 32 345     | 31 956     |
| Total Income              | 124 559    | 222 325    |
|                           | 121355     |            |
| Operating expenses        | ( 190 663) | ( 443 225) |
|                           |            |            |
| Admin fees                |            | 70 020     |
| ARI Global Service<br>Fee | 98         | 12 396     |
| Audit fees                | 15 921     | 14 880     |
| Bank charges              | 1511       | 1 437      |
| Books purchased           | 1 320      | 1 +37      |
| Computer expenses         | 2 135      | 1 540      |
| Consulting fees           | 96 125     | 1 540      |
| Depreciation              | 1 817      | 1 817      |
| Donations paid            | 1017       | 1 000      |
| Event costs               | 11 647     | 269 934    |
| Honoraria                 | 355        | 2 676      |
| Meeting costs             | 27 657     | 47 073     |
| Printing and              | 21 057     | 11 015     |
| stationery                | 449        | 133        |
| Publicity costs           | 12 004     | 7 513      |
| Rent                      | 12 000     | 3 000      |
| Subscriptions             | 3 971      | 413        |
| Telephone and             |            |            |
| internet                  | 370        | 1 047      |
| Travel and accommodation  | 3 2        | 83 8 34    |
|                           |            |            |
|                           | ( 66 104)  | ( 220 900) |
|                           |            |            |

#### A Rocha South Africa

#### Detailed Income Statement for the year ended 31December 2019 (continued)

|                             | 2019<br><u>R</u> | 2018<br><u>R</u> |
|-----------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Living waters –<br>Msunduzi |                  |                  |
| Revenue                     |                  |                  |
| Restricted donations        |                  | 2 900            |
| Operating expenses          |                  |                  |
| Sub-contractor              | -                | (1260)           |
|                             |                  | 1 640            |
| Sales and programs          |                  |                  |
| Revenue                     |                  |                  |
| Sales income                |                  | 2 220            |
| Operating expenses          |                  |                  |
| Printing and stationery     | ELL'             | ( 449)           |
|                             |                  | 1 771            |
| Net loss for the period     | ( 66 104)        | ( 217 489)       |

#### A Rocha South Africa

#### Statement of Financial Position at 31 December 2019

|  | <u>Notes</u> | <u>2019</u><br><u>R</u> | <u>2018</u><br><u>R</u> |
|--|--------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Assets   |              |                         |                         |
| Non-Current Assets                                       |              |                         |                         |
| Property, plant and equipment                            | 2            | 1 622                   | 3 439                   |
| Current Assets   |              | 453 415                 | 517 702                 |
| Trade and other receivables<br>Cash and Cash Equivalents | 3            | 5 900<br>447 515        | 4 394<br>513 308        |
|  | 5            |                         | 515 506                 |
| Total Assets   |              | 455 037                 | 521 141                 |
| Equity and Liabilities                                   |              |                         |                         |
| Equity   |              | 454 192                 | 520 296                 |
| ARI Grant: National Director                             |              | -                       | -                       |
| Retained Earnings  |              | 454 192                 | 520 296                 |
| Current Liabilities                                      |              |                         |                         |
| Trade and Other Payables                                 |              | 845                     | 845                     |
| Total Equity and Liabilities                             |              | 455 037                 | 521 141                 |

Audited annual financial statements in compliance with the Non-Profit Organisation Act, 1997. Independently audited by Savunde Accountants / AhvRJ.

Full report available from info@arocha.org.za.

Thank you to the many who have assisted A Rocha South Africa during 2019. Thank you to those who have volunteered for events, assisted financially or given of their time and means to help us further our work of 'Conservation and Hope'. A special word of thanks to the churches who have opened their doors to the work of A Rocha over the year.

Thank you

A Rocha SA would like to acknowledge the following organisations which have assisted us in various ways during 2019. We are thankful for the part they have played in helping us further our work.







1 Nonsuch Rd Townbush Valley Pietermaritzburg, 3241



info@arocha.org.za



https://www.arocha.org.za https://www.arocha.org/en/a-rocha-south-africa/



https://www.facebook.com/ARochaSA/



https://www.instagram.com/arochasa/



https://www.linkedin.com/company/a-rocha-southafrica/?originalSubdomain=za

# **Bank Details**



Bank account name: Account number: Nedbank branch: Universal branch code:

Universal branch code.

International Swift code:

A Rocha South Africa 1340528916 Hayfields 198765



NPO Number: 038-193 PBO Number: 930020406