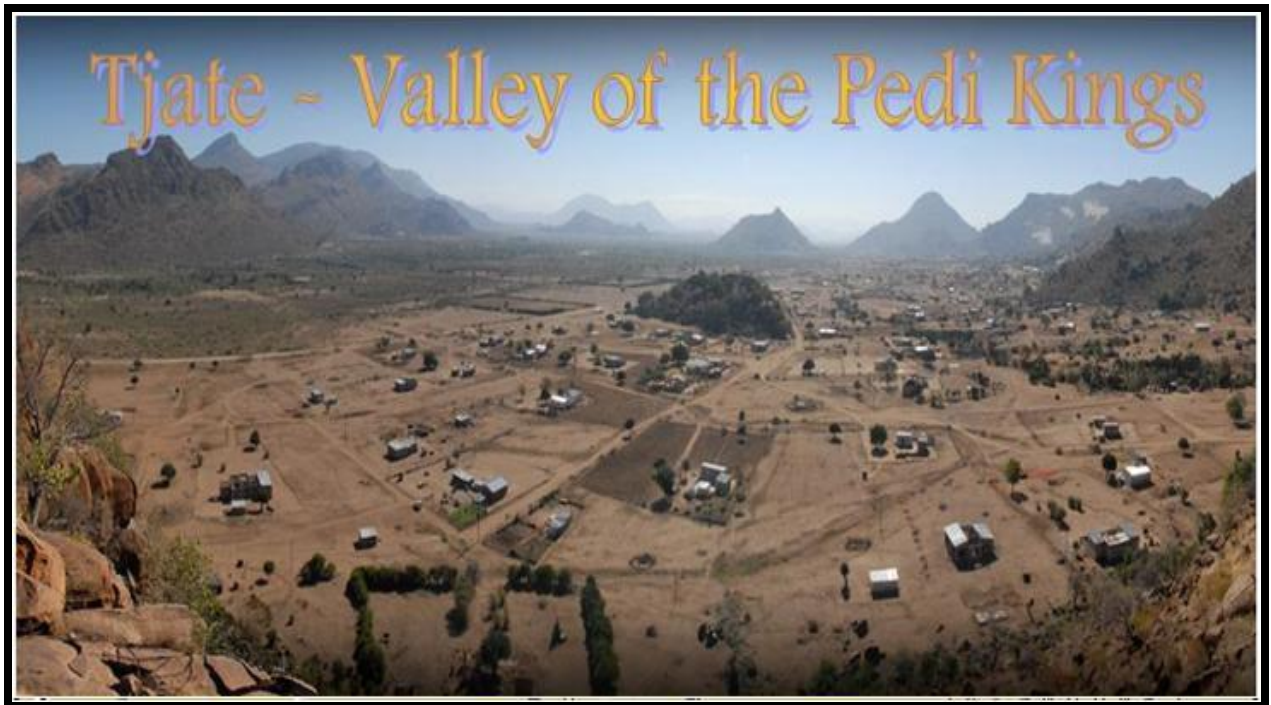


# TJATE HERITAGE SITE DEVELOPMENT

## PHASE FOUR: REPORT TWO



GLEN STEYN & ASSOCIATES CONSORTIUM  
OCTOBER 2009

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Phase Four of the Tjate Heritage Development process commenced in August 2009 and the intention was to concentrate the bulk of the development work on Mosega mountain, because this is where Kings Sekwati and Sekhukhune I lived, at least at certain times. However, Chief Mashabela has refused permission for the team to work on Mosega, claiming that he was not personally consulted about the project and that the entire Tjate area falls under his jurisdiction. The Executive Mayor has personally met with the Chief to resolve the matter, which is taking some time. The project team was compelled to adjust the work programme as reported below in order to maintain momentum on the project.

## 2. LANDSCAPING, SITE DEVELOPMENT AND ARCHAEOLOGY

The adapted programme for landscaping, site development and archaeology is reflected in figure one below.

Figure One: Adapted Programme For Landscaping, Site Development And Archaeology Aug-Dec 09

No	Item	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
<b>1. Development of Ntswaneng</b>					
1.1	Landscape Design Ntswaneng and Tjate				
1.2	Preparation for Heritage Day				
1.3	Development of festival site				
1.4	Design and installation of a large granite interpretive sign with a orientation map at Ntswaneng				
1.5	Landscape Development.				
<b>2. Development of Mission Station Site</b>					
2.1	Cleaning of site				
2.2	Development of hiking trail from Tjate village to mission				
2.3	Design and installation of a granite interpretive sign at the mission station with Wangemann sketches				
<b>3. Development of Tjate village (excavated site)</b>					
3.1	Construction of thatched structure over excavated floor at Tjate				
3.2	Design and installation of a interpretive sign at the excavated floor				
<b>4. Development of new royal residential site</b>					
4.1	Remove alien vegetation and map the features on the site				
<b>5. Development of Thaba Mosego</b>					
5.1	Complete survey of Mosego	Work suspended			
5.2	Design and installation of 2 granite interpretive plaques at Mosego	Work suspended			
5.3	Rebuilding of Stone walls at Mosego	Work suspended			

Details on work that was done during August can be found in report one for phase four. The work that was done in September is described below.

## 2.1 Development of Ntswaneng:

### 2.1.1 Landscape Development Plan:

Details were added to the concept designs completed in August in order to:

- Establish the reception area as the obvious entry point for visitors to the Tjate Heritage site
- Ring fence the Ntswaneng heritage area through landscaping to distinguish it from the surrounding residential area, and to
- Facilitate visitor movement from the reception area to other attraction across the site.

The concept design is reflected design is reflected in figure two below and the detailed design at the end of this report.

Figure Two: Concept Landscape design for Ntswaneng



Construction of the parking area, the waiting area and the service yard around the temporary site office, as well as the planting of trees as illustrated in the detailed design, will commence in October.

### 2.1.2 Preparations for Heritage Day

The Tjate Heritage Site was honoured to have a cleansing ceremony on heritage day that was attended by King Sekhukhune III, the MEC for Education in Limpopo and the Executive Mayor for Sekhukhune District Municipality, as well as other dignitaries. The Deputy President attended and addressed a heritage celebration at the nearby Mecklenburg later that day.

In preparation for the heritage day celebrations, the project team cleaned up the Ntswaneng area, attached granite plaques to provide tourist information and constructed an enclosure for the cleansing ceremony. The enclosure is adjacent to the burial place of the British soldiers who were slain during the battle of Sekhukhune. Photographs are attached below for illustrative purposes.

Photograph One: Enclosure for the sacred cleansing ceremony



Photograph Two: Granite plaque with a portrait of King Sekhukhune I at the foot of the statue



Photograph Three: Granite plaques illustrating the battle of Sekhukhune



A larger plaque of the entire Tjate Heritage Site is being prepared for installation at the reception area.

### 2.1.3 Development of Festival Site

A site has been developed on the northern side of Ntswaneng for future heritage day festivals. It can also be used by the community for family celebrations. During future phases of the Tjate Heritage Site development process, it is anticipated that a stage can be built on the foundations of an old homestead and that ablutions can be added. Trees and grass will also be planted if the budget permits.

Photograph Four: Proposed Festival Site at Ntswaneng



## 2.2 Development of Mission station

The site has been prepared for excavation by clearing all pioneer plants and by treating the remaining stumps with growth-inhibiting herbicide. Access to the existing road through the site has been blocked and a new parking area has been prepared to the west of the site. Sketches by Wangemann of the Mission Station at Tjate in 1865 and again on the 2<sup>nd</sup> visit in the 1880s suggest that there were at least two different stations. The cleared site and structures to the south of Ntswaneng will be investigated to determine whether the remains are those of 1865 or 1880. It seems that there may be another mission station further south on the mountain. According to Wangemann there was also a mission station just north of Modimolle, but no remains of this could be found as yet.

Photograph Five: View over the cleared mission station



A trail has been created from the reception area at Ntswaneng to the cleared mission station site for tourists to walk and explore the heritage site on foot.

One of the Wangemann mission station sketches have been engraved on a granite plaque and will be displayed at the visitor reception area. It could be moved to the mission station once the archaeologists are able to match the sketch to the site.

### **2.3 Development at Tjate village (Excavated area)**

The material has been purchased to construct corrugated iron roofs over two of the excavated hut floors. Earthwork has been completed and roof construction will commence in October. A granite interpretation plaque will be mounted next to the excavated huts to explain the significance of the rehabilitation from a heritage point of view. This excavated area is now linked by way of a walking trail to the reception area, to the lookout area from where the Sekhukhune Battle was sketched and to the Berlin Mission Station.

### **2.4 Discovery of New Royal Residential Site**

A new archaeological site has been discovered on top of Tjate Mountain. It has all the features of being a royal residence, because of the square stone house structure in the centre of all the other eroded round house structures. It also has a kgoro that appears to meet the classical description of indigenous royalty. These two features are illustrated in the photographs below. The site will be cleared of invasive vegetation during October and November in order to prepare it for excavation and rehabilitation. It is believed that this could be the house where King Sekhukhune lived before the last battle against the British and Swazi armies.

Photograph Six: Remains of a Stone House at the Newly Discovered Site



Photograph Eight: Kgoro close to the remains of the Stone House



## 2.5 Other

The attendance register in table one below reflects the names of employees who have been recruited from villages on the heritage site according to local custom. In addition to these twenty persons, Mr. Orphus Ntjana has been assisting the project team as Site Supervisor for the past two years.

Table One: Attendance Register of Local Employees

Tshate Heritage project; Attendance register for employees				
NO.	NAME		IDENTIFICATION	SIGNATURE
01	<b>Mahlaba, Mohlomphe Phillustus</b>		700320 0491 089	
02	<b>Phala, Maletsiri Lybia</b>		780708 0747 083	
03	<b>Phala, Salome</b>		750217 0590 083	
04	<b>Mojele, Mavis</b>		640204 0871 081	
05	<b>Malatji, Dasha</b>		840605 1468 081	
06	<b>Mashabela, Sebushele</b>		810418 5515 089	
07	<b>Thobejane, Temba</b>		850625 5677 088	
08	<b>Maake, Nasana</b>		830720 0610 088	
09	<b>Chilwane, Wilson</b>		760202 7986 088	
10	<b>Mabokoane, Matswanyago</b>		851208 5830 087	
11	<b>Maepa, Daniel</b>		740117 5532 087	
12	<b>Lewele, Refilwe</b>		820210 0645 088	
13	<b>Mogoba, Cedrick</b>		771115 5507 085	
14	<b>Selala, Alpheus</b>		720201 5325 081	
15	<b>Mokobane, Peter</b>		661214 5441 081	
16	<b>Mojele, Emanuel</b>		850410 1360 082	
17	<b>Phala, Juliet</b>		741030 0702 085	
18	<b>Maake, Mavis</b>		750511 0391 084	
19	<b>Mashabela, Peter</b>		700127 5713 080	
20	<b>Thipe, Nelly</b>		760417 0333 084	

## 3. SPATIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL

A household survey at Ntswaneng has been completed and a separate report on the findings will be presented to SDM and TLM. An aerial photograph of the site has been purchased to facilitate the planning management process at the stand level.

Spatial planning, LED and community development officials from Tubatse Municipality have been invited to the site on several occasions. They are taking over the responsibility to manage the demarcation of

site and the construction of new facilities in order to protect the most sensitive heritage sites from further damage.

## **4. TOURISM**

### **4.1 Tour Guide Training**

Five tour guides from the local communities were selected and formally trained by an accredited service provider during two one-week sessions in July and August, with practical work assignments in between. The five persons were:

- Orphrus Mokopu Ntjana
- Helling Sebukele Mashabela
- Nape Daniel Maepa
- Salome Moitsoi Phala
- Cedrick Pholoshi Mogoba

Course content included the following aspects:

- Background to guiding and guiding training
- Guiding skills
- Development of a route
- Gathering information on the route
- Practical guiding on the route developed
- First aid.

Certificates of competence have been issued for all five the tour guides. These will be handed over at a ceremony to be arranged by the Sekhukhune District Municipality. The guides are in the process of being registered with LEDET. They have been given uniforms and badges. Reference books on birds and trees have been purchased and are being kept in the site office.

### **4.2 Road Signs**

Two road signs for Tjate have been constructed on each side of the R37 pointing towards the turnoff to Tjate Heritage Site. Arrangements are currently underway for the construction of a road sign pointing towards Tjate at the four-way intersection where the tar road ends. A fourth sign will be erected to indicate that visitors have arrived at the site office. Additional signage to indicate the boundaries of the heritage site and the various attractions on the site will be necessary in subsequent phases of the site development process.

### **4.3 Brochure**

A colour brochure (A4 printed on both sides) has been prepared and copied. Tour guides are handing them to visitors. A booklet on the Tjate Heritage Site (10 pages) is currently being prepared.

Framed portraits of King Sekhukhune I were given to the Executive Mayor and to King Sekhukhune III on Heritage Day and a third one for the Deputy President. Similar portraits are currently being framed for the Premier of Limpopo and for the MEC for Sport, Art and Culture.

## **4.4 Database**

A photographic and video database of the Tjate Project is being compiled, with the LIHRA visit to the site and the heritage day celebrations already having been captured. A database is also being created of everything on site that may be of interest to a visitor. Different fields have been created for the database in order to facilitate searches for special tourist niche markets. The data page that will be completed by project team members, site guides and members of the Heritage Development Committee is attached as Annexure Two. Site guides also keep a register of all visitors.

## **4.5 Tourist Accommodation**

An investigation is currently underway on all the options for accommodation at Tjate, including a rustic camp, bed and breakfast establishments in the houses of local residents and guest houses at local mines. A report on this investigation will be included in the final progress report on phase four of the Tjate Heritage Site development process.

# **5. INSTITUTIONAL**

## **5.1 Steering Committee**

The proposed composition of the TPSC is as follows:

1. Manager Planning & Economic Development for Sekhukhune District Municipality: Chairperson
2. CEO of LIHRA: Deputy Chairperson
3. Representative of Kgoshi KK Sekhukhune
4. Limpopo Dept of Sports, Art & Culture
5. General Manager: Tourism at LEDET
6. General Manager Development and Planning: Local Government and Housing
7. Provincial Manager: Dept Minerals and Energy
8. Director for Economic and Land Development: Tubatse Local Municipality
9. Limpopo Tourism and Parks
10. Manager from Dept of Agriculture in Tubatse
11. Chairperson of the Tjate Technical Co-ordination Committee

The Chairperson will call a meeting after every progress report is received from the Project Management team. The first meeting should be arranged for early November.

## **5.2 Technical Co-ordinating Committee**

The purpose of the TTCC is to facilitate co-operation among stakeholders and agencies at the operational level on the site. The proposed composition is as follows:

1. Manager LED from Sekhukhune District Municipality: Chairperson
2. Manager LED from Tubatse Local Municipality

3. Chief Town Planner: Tubatse Local Municipality
4. Ward Councillors for the Tjate Project area
5. Representatives from the Departments of Sports, Art & Culture, LEDET, Local Government and Housing, Minerals and energy as well as LTP
6. Representatives of traditional leaders
7. Chairperson of the Tjate Community Heritage Resource Committee

The Ward Councillors may establish subcommittees in the community as required. The first meeting of the TTCC should be arranged immediately after the Steering Committee meeting.

### **5.3 Heritage Resource Development Committee**

The TCHRC was established by participants in the heritage training course that was presented on site by UNISA during October 2008. The purpose of the committee is to facilitate community participation in the Tjate heritage development process. A two day work session was held with the Tjate Development Committee (TDC) at Mosego secondary school on 7 and 8 September. The purpose of the work session was to do basic planning for the TDC, and in the process, provide the members of the committee with information and exercise in planning in general. Specific attention was given to the Site Officer's planning and supervisory role as far as the tourist guides are concerned. A vision and objectives were developed, and goals set for this phase of the project, which ends in November. Constraints that the TDC experience in achieving their objectives were also addressed briefly.

The fact that many of the concepts used in the planning process are new to some of the members, and difficulty to communicate in English, restricted progress and the results of this planning workshops should be seen as a first step in a process of continuous improvement of the work plan of the TDC. Although members were very positive and thankful for being empowered, much more work is needed to ensure an effective operational committee.

At the end of this two day work session, the TDC had a better understanding of their roles and responsibilities, and how they can contribute towards the development of Tjate Heritage Site and their community. They were also introduced to structured planning processes and related methodology. The planning process followed did not have as its purpose a comprehensive strategic plan, but rather a first level work plan within a simple strategic framework. The process is not completed and should be improved over time as the TDC grow in their understanding of the impact they can have in the socio-economic development of their community. Much work is needed to empower this group of enthusiastic people who are willing to act as agents of change within their community.

The notes on the planning session are attached in the annexure to this report.

### **5.4 Arrangements at Reception**

There will always be a site guide available at the site office (reception) during daytime and over weekends. Duties of site guides and their relationship with the site supervisor have been formalised in written service agreements.

## **5.5 Additional Funding Sources**

Additional funding sources for Tjate need to be explored because new sites are being discovered and the work is increasing exponentially. The Expanded Public Works Programme presents one opportunity, because a major component of the budget is being used for labour to remove invasive vegetation from the sites in preparation for archaeological excavation.

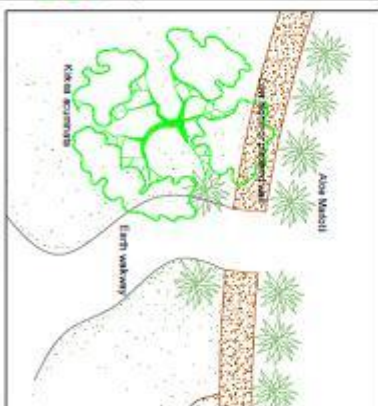
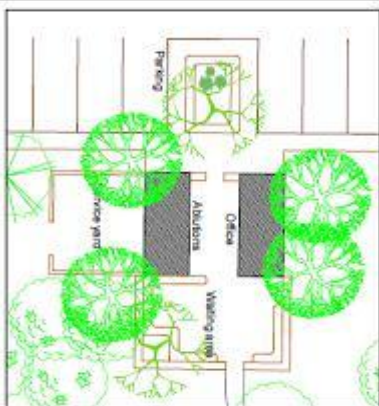
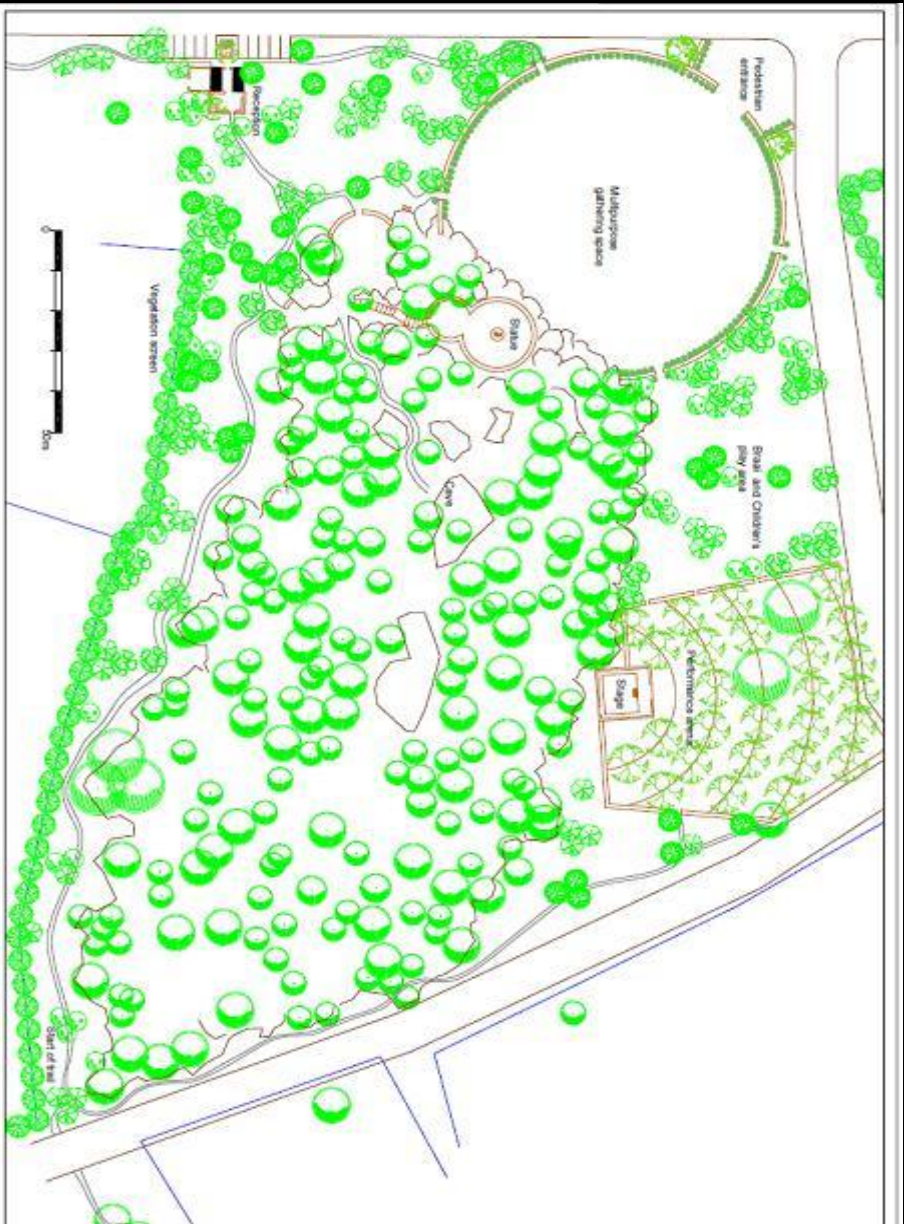
Another opportunity may lie with Limpopo Department of Sport, Art and Culture, who has indicated that a budget is available for the construction of a visitor information centre.

## **6. CONCLUSION**

New discoveries at the Tjate Heritage Site imply that the volume of work is increasing and that additional funding will have to be mobilised to increase the development momentum. Financial commitment from the Sekhukhune District Municipality to date is respectfully acknowledged.

The dispute with Chief Mashabela needs to be resolved in the interest of accelerated heritage development on the site.

The final report on phase four, with recommendations on the priorities for phase five, will be submitted during the first week of December.



**NTSWANENG MASTER DEVELOPMENT PLAN** SCALE: 1:1000



<b>NTSWANENG MASTER PLAN</b> Scale: 1:1000 Date: September 2020		<b>Ecotone</b> Environmental Planning and Design 08 7779 401 info@ecotone.co.za www.ecotone.co.za	

## TJATE HERITAGE SITE – TOURISM DATA FORM

**DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **RECORDER:** \_\_\_\_\_ **CONTACT DETAILS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATA SOURCE:** PUBLICATION ☐ ORAL RECORDING ☐ SITING/SURVEY ☐

If publication, give reference:

If oral recording, give details of person spoken to: \_\_\_\_\_

If siting/survey, give details:      GPS/map reference (                      )

Type the relevant box below

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FINDING		HISTORICAL INFORMATION		ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION		TRADITIONAL USES, FOOD, MEDICINE		MYTH'S, TALES, MUSIC, DANCES	
		People		Geology		Food		Myth	
		Place		Soils		Beverage		Tale	
		Other		Rock formation		Medicine		Dance	
				Features		Building		Other	
				Climate		Art			
				Plants		Craft			
				Domestic Animal		Instrument			
				Wild Animal		Farming			
				Other		Other			

### NAME & MEANING

Sepedi

English

Afrikaans

### DESCRIPTION

[illegible]

**TŠATE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**  
**RESULTS OF A PLANNING WORKSHOP**  
**7-8 SEPTEMBER 2009**

Compiled by: Lizanne Nel (E J)  
Tourism Development Consultant

**Introduction**

A two day work session was held with the Tšate Development Committee (TDC) at Mosego secondary school. The purpose of the work session was to do basic planning for the TDC, and in the process, provide the members of the committee with information and exercise in planning in general. Specific attention was given to the Site Officer's planning and supervisory role as far as the tourist guides are concerned. A vision and objectives were developed, and goals set for this phase of the project, which ends in November. Constraints that the TDC experience in achieving their objectives were also addressed briefly.

The fact that many of the concepts used in the planning process are new to some of the members, and difficulty to communicate in English, restricted progress and the results of this planning workshops should be seen as a first step in a process of continuous improvement of the work plan of the TDC. Although members were very positive and thankful for being empowered, much more work is needed to ensure an effective operational committee.

**Values**

- Positivity and inspiration
- Cooperation
- Inclusiveness

**Vision of the TDC**

An inspired, empowered and thriving Tšate Community that is proud and protective of their heritage and environment.

**Mission**

To inspire, unify and uplift the Tšate Community by involving them and patrons in understanding, promoting and conserving their art, crafts, traditions, culture, heritage and environment.

**Objectives**

The mission will be achieved through the following objectives:

- Promote the understanding and appreciation of the history of Tšate and its people.

- Promote sustainable development and resource use as well as environmental conservation amongst the community and visitors to Tšate. (Includes environmental aspects, features and impacts such as geology, plants, animals, pollution, etc.)
- Promote a culture of entertaining and storytelling. (Includes myths, folklore, tales and music of the Tšate people.)
- Promote the understanding, appreciation and commercialisation of the traditional food, art, craft, medicine and other items of the Ba-Pedi.
- Empower the community by acting as information and communication agents between the community and consultants, researchers and patrons that promote a collective understanding of the importance of Tšate Heritage Site and its development and conservation.

#### **Key Performance Areas**

- Facilitate and contribute to the accurate recording of relevant *information* using all available sources and innovative methods.
- Contribute to the development of publications, *activities* and experiences that will assist in achieving the objectives of the TDC.

#### **Challenges**

- Lack of commitment and passion in achieving the objectives.
- Poor communication within the TDC, and between the TDC and the Tšate Heritage Site Development Project.
- Lack of capacity and resources to implement objectives.
- Poor understanding of the bigger picture and the role and function of the TDC.
- Time spent on working for the TDC limits the amount of time members have to look for jobs and care for their families.

The above-mentioned challenges have been identified by the TDC as critical for achievement of objectives. It should be realized that although this committee was established as a voluntary structure to further the development of Tšate Heritage Site, spending time and resources on this initiative has an impact on the members who have very little resources as most of them are unemployed. An effort should therefore be made to provide support to their initiatives. In

future, with the correct support and empowerment, this committee can play an important role in acting as a platform for communication with the community and community empowerment initiatives.

Through discussions, it was discovered that the lack of passion identified by some members was a result of the lack of fully understanding their role and responsibilities, poor communication within the committee, and between the committee and the project team. After the two day work session, there was a much clearer understanding of their role in developing Tšate Heritage Site. For the TDC to act as empowerment agent in the community, they have to meet with the project team at least four times a year to improve their understanding of the development process and progress in order to align their activities with that of the project team.

### **Recommendations**

At the end of this two day work session, the TDC had a better understanding of their roles and responsibilities, and how they can contribute towards the development of Tšate Heritage Site and their community. They were also introduced to structured planning processes and related methodology. The planning process followed did not have as its purpose a comprehensive strategic plan, but rather a first level work plan within a simple strategic framework. The process is not completed and should be improved over time as the TDC grow in their understanding of the impact they can have in the socio-economic development of their community. Much work is needed to empower this group of enthusiastic people who are willing to act as agents of change within their community.