



THE TABLE MOUNTAIN FUND ("TMF")

Trust No IT890/98 VAT No.: 4220232013

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- CALL FOR CONCEPT PROPOSALS TO THE TABLE MOUNTAIN FUND -

1. INTRODUCTION

The Table Mountain Fund is a capital conservation trust fund that was established in 1998 with funds from local and international sources. Founded by WWF-SA and launched by Sir Edmund Hillary, the fund has to-date invested approximately R110 million into over 350 conservation projects that protect and restore the Cape Floral Region.

The Table Mountain Fund's investment direction is informed by its 2025 - 2030 Conservation Strategy which is available on www.thetablemountainfund.org.za. This strategy identifies four priority programmes, namely: The Pride Programme; The Prosperity Programme; The Care Programme and The Fynbos Forever Programme. The Fund is now calling for concept proposals which align to either The Pride Programme or the Care Programme. The total amount of funding available for all projects within both Programmes over the full programme period is R5 200 000.

The Pride Programme aims to instil a *sense of pride* which results in a deepening of our appreciation of fynbos. The Programme aims to ensure that:

- More people will have meaningful immersive experiences in fynbos and the surrounding marine environment;
- More people value the indigenous and endemic fynbos;
- More quality fynbos spaces are established, especially within an urban context;
- The number of tourists visiting fynbos areas will grow; and
- Youth are educated on the wonders of fynbos.

The Care Programme aims to ensure that there is a growing community who practise inclusive conservation. The programme aims to:

- Increase the capacity, capability, collaboration and networking of the conservation community;
- Empower communities to perform necessary advocacy functions to ensure delivery and compliance regarding policies, legislation and plans;
- Assist already established organisations in becoming more conservation-minded through the implementation of new conservation projects; and
- Grow the conservation community through the start-up and growth of new conservation organisations.

2. WHO CAN APPLY?

Registered organisations in good standing and with a specific interest in environmental education, community conservation or advocacy within the Cape Floristic Region are encouraged to apply. Under exceptional circumstances and only where well motivated for, organisations not yet registered as NPOs may be considered.



TRUSTEES:
L A PLIT (CHAIR), E B MNISI, J SMITH
A M AMIS, R R BUDDLE, J A SLINGSBY, N N WILSON



3. WHAT TYPES OF APPLICATIONS CAN BE CONSIDERED FOR FUNDING?

Projects *must be*:

- based within the Cape Floristic Region and align to either TMFs Pride or Care Programme; and
- feasible in terms of having the required skills and expertise; be based on achievable time frames; have realistic financial resources available to the project and be cost effective.

Projects will be *favourably considered* when:

- jointly supported by both conservation and social development partners;
- they have attracted co-finance; and
- administration costs are below 10%.

Furthermore, the review panel will aim to shortlist one of each of the following types of projects:

- a project which focuses on the fynbos tourism industry (Pride Programme);
- a project which addresses the societal advocacy and watchdog needs of a community (Care Programme); and
- a project that supports scientific and practice-oriented research which directly links to either the Pride or Care Programmes. For such a project specifically, we invite knowledge institutions and societal parties to form consortia of a knowledge-chain-wide¹ composition.

Although not outright *disqualifiers*, the production of videos and films, the publication of books, student loans, bursaries, internships and other skills development options will only be considered when strongly motivated for and well aligned to programme objectives.

4. FUNDING

- a) The TMF offers a maximum grant of R250 000 per annum, for a maximum period of three years, i.e. R750 000 in total per project; and
- b) TMF also offers a small grant of up to R100 000 for a period not exceeding one year.

5. THE CONCEPT PROPOSAL

Concepts are envisaged to outline details of the project at a high level and may not be more than four A4 pages in length. The following headings must be addressed in concept proposals (please note that incomplete concept proposals or concept proposals exceeding the four pages may lead to outright disqualification).

¹ Knowledge-chain-wide implies that proposals connect fundamental, applied and practice-oriented research and that connection is sought with the knowledge needs of societal parties.

- 1: Project Name and location;
- 2: Information about the entity (name, status, registration, etc.), project team members (name, age, gender, role and experience), formal partners and collaborating organisations;
- 3: Duration of project;
- 4: Project summary;
- 5: Project objectives;
- 6: Project outcomes. These should be specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and time-bound e.g. [1] 700 meaningful immersive experiences in fynbos will be provided by (date); [2] 300 youth will be educated by (date).;
- 7: How will the project meet TMFs Pride or Care Programme objectives?;
- 8: How will the project address equity in terms of gender, cultural and ethnical diversity, and/ or disability?;
- 9: Budget (*as per the format reflected below). Please also indicate co-funding secured. Budget should be VAT exclusive if VAT registered;
- 10: A summarised Implementation Schedule with timelines; and
- 11: Potential risks and responses. Responses should be aligned to interim indicators of success and allow for projects to be executed in a phased approach whereby if risks delay/ undermine the project, rapid recognition thereof and early termination should be considered.

Furthermore, in support of the written concept proposal, and as an optional extra only, applicants may submit a short AV of no longer than 3 minutes in length to further introduce the concept.

Please note that all TMF-funded projects will be expected to attend and present at Fynbos Forum at least once during the project term as well as provide a short project video (basic presentation will suffice). These requirements should be appropriately considered in the concept note and accompanying budget.

6. APPLYING FOR A GRANT

Applications should be emailed to the Table Mountain Fund Project Coordinator, Carla Wood (cwood@wwf.org.za), 021 657 6663, before 09:00 am on Monday the 23rd March 2026. Applications received after the closing date and time will not be accepted. Please ensure that you receive acknowledgement of receipt of your proposal.

7. ASSESSMENT OF APPLICATION

Applications will be assessed by the Project Review Panel against the above provided criteria. Applications will also be assessed against the Programme-specific available budgets. Given that the nature of the call is highly competitive, even projects which meet all stipulated criteria may not be awarded funding.

Short-listed applicants will be invited to develop their concepts into full applications for further consideration based upon comments received from the Project Review Panel (which may also ask for the independent review of any application). All applicants, whether successful or not in their application, will be provided with feedback by the 31st July 2026. The Table Mountain Fund reserves the right not to allocate the full R5 200 000 through this call.

*** BUDGET FORMAT**

Line Item with description	Item Details	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	TOTAL
<u>Staff costs</u> : Permanent and temporary staff. Including only that portion of salary directly related to the project.					
<u>Third party fees</u> : Consultant(s) and subcontractors. Include 3 rd party travel & subsistence. Exclude consultants contracted to undertake project evaluation.					
<u>Travel and Subsistence</u> : Travel expenses including air fares, vehicle running expenses, vehicle hire, accommodation, etc. Exclude 3 rd party travel.					
<u>Capital Asset costs</u> – to be strongly motivated for: All assets with a value of R1 000 or more and a useful life of more than one year. Items with a value less than R1 000 should be considered operating expenses.					
<u>Operating expenses</u> : All remaining project expenses such as phone, postage, stationery, administration levies, consumables. Capital Assets with a value less than R1 000.					
<u>Meetings / Education / Training</u> : Include audio-visual material, training manuals, course fees, etc.					
<u>Project Promotion / Communication/ Printing / Publication</u> : Include printing, design and distribution costs. Costs related to Funder / media visits.					
<u>Project Evaluation</u> : Appointment of external and independent reviewers only.					
SUBTOTAL					
<u>Management fee</u> : Although supported, preference will be given to those projects adopting modest and realistic rates.					
TOTAL					