MASIFUNDISE DEVELOPMENT TRUST

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Our Vision

We have a vision of empowered fishing communities with sustainable livelihoods, where all live in a democratic and socially just environment.

Our Mission

Our mission is to facilitate mobilisation and organisation of fishing communities at the grass roots level, in order for communities to become empowered and capable of taking part in political and economic decision making processes. This will facilitate good governance and enable fishing communities to secure their social, economic and political rights.

Furthermore, our mission is to continue lobbying for and advocating coherent governmental policies that build on the principles of social, economic and environmental justice.
We have the pleasure of presenting the Masifundise annual report for 2012. It reflects on the work of Masifundise and its community wing Coastal Links. Significant strides have been achieved, which include:

- The adoption by Cabinet of the Small-Scale Fisheries policy, following a Masifundise and CL campaign that ran for over six years.
- The establishment of Coastal Links South Africa, incorporating KwaZulu Natal, Western, Northern and Eastern Cape provinces.
- The establishment and growth of organisational structures in the Eastern Cape and KwaZulu Natal.
- The consolidation of international links and the growth of a Pan African small-scale fisheries network.
- The systematic growth of internal and external information systems and programmes that incorporate a quarterly newsletter in four languages, a website, a mass SMS system, video clips and social media such as Facebook.

We remain focused on our vision of empowered fishing communities with sustainable livelihoods, where all live in a democratic and socially just environment.

We work each day to strengthen our mission which is to facilitate the mobilisation and organisation of fishing communities with sustainable livelihoods, where all live in a democratic and socially just environment.

Many past challenges remain with us. These relate to the crippling effects of centuries of colonialism and apartheid that created huge inequalities, a lack of confidence and self-esteem and low levels of skills and education among marginalised communities.

Factors such as the global economic crisis, global warming, declining fish stocks, the enduring monopoly ownership and control of marine resources and government bureaucracy are among the factors that militate against more rapid progress in our work.

Against these odds, thousands of small-scale fishers are steadily building organisational structures that empower them with new knowledge and skills and through which they are able to wield their collective power in their common interests.

The adoption of the SSF policy represented a major step forward. In the second half of 2012, we began to focus our energies on its implementation, a challenge that remains with us.

We maintained our relatively stable financial and staffing situations and strengthened our relationships with a range of organisational formations.

Our report outlines details of our three main areas of work: Advocacy and Research, Organisation Building and Information and Awareness. We trust it will give you greater insight into the work of Masifundise and Coastal Links.

We wish to thank the members of the Board, our staff, the funders, our partners and the small-scale fishers and their community leaders who all contribute to the work we do.

We are most grateful. Ons is dankbaar, Siyabulela.

Monelo George Bongo, Chairperson
Naseegh Jaffer, Director

Masifundise is an NGO which was founded in 1980 to provide adult educational opportunities for oppressed people in the Western Cape. When apartheid ended, this role became redundant. Over time Masifundise developed into an organisation dedicated to the immense task of protecting and advancing sustainable livelihoods for small-scale fishers. It helped set up a mass based organisation called Coastal Links, which provides the organisational platform through which small-scale fishers pursue their aspirations.

Masifundise is an affiliate of the Trust For Community Outreach on Education.

b) Structure

Masifundise is a registered NGO with a Board of Trustees and 12 members of staff. Twelve of the 18 board members are directly elected by Coastal Links. The staff team is headed by a Director and includes a senior programme manager, a finance manager, programme managers for Organisation and Community Building and Research and Advocacy, two finance and administrative support staff members, four field workers and a communication consultant. All local area work is done by Coastal Links leadership who are supported by a dedicated staff member located in each province. The Board of Trust Members are Mr Monelo George Bongo, Mr Peter Cyril Jones, Ms Bulelwia Juta-Leeuw, Mr Thembeleki Joe Ndlazi, Ms Nomthulelo Mohoto, Mr Shakespeare Z Myeki, Preston Goliath, Christian John Adams, Neville Theron, Luyt, Rosetta Shoshola, Florina Albertyn, Mary Hull, Dawie Phillips, Johannes Walter Steenkamp, Nozuko Mnyomzolo, Beatrice Yon, Mr Mogamad Naseegh Jaffer. Close to 50% of Board members are women, in line with policy on gender equity.
c) Relationship with Coastal Links

Masifundise and Coastal Links are two separate entities, each with its own constitution, reporting lines and leadership structures. The one is an NGO and the other a mass-based organisation. Masifundise was central to the establishment of Coastal Links in 2003. Since then the two entities have developed a mutually dependent relationship. Masifundise provides the technical capacity, staff and networks critical for the survival and growth of Coastal Links while the latter brings to the table life experiences and the voice of fishing communities, without which Masifundise’s work would be greatly diminished. Programmatically the two entities operate as one - which requires new and innovative operational approaches.

d) Strategy and Goals

The very basis of our work is rooted in the educational philosophy, which builds on our long history of facilitating empowerment through awareness and consciousness raising at individual and community level. It is centred in a human rights-based approach to development, which has evolved from South Africa’s long history of struggle for democracy. Dialogue with the community –through which we develop insight into cultural practices, challenges and their histories – enable us to plan programmes and shape policy.

Research and Advocacy

Research and advocacy are key elements of Masifundise’s work.

We partner with a range of organisations with research capacity and which are capable of providing reliable data on fishing resources, environmental factors and socio-economic issues. These help us to plan programmes and shape policy.

We work with the University of Western Cape’s Institute for Poverty, Land and Agrarian Studies (PLAAS), the Environmental and Evaluation Unit (EEU) and the Legal Resources Centre. They have supported the struggles of small-scale fishers for many years.

In the Eastern Cape, the EEU has been doing research around customary rights in the Dwesa Cwebe areas. The LRC has supported three fishers who were arrested for asserting their customary rights to fish in a Marine Protected Area (MPA). The case was lost at local court level but the Magistrate’s ruling opened the door for us to pursue further constitutional court challenges.

In August the EEU and LRC also did some research in KZN Kosi Bay community which is also an MPA area. Fishers in this community have been restricted from fishing for many years and are being harassed whenever they try to harvest in the protected area.

International research networks

In 2012 we pursued our partnership with the EEU on a joint research and exchange project between India, Sri Lanka and South Africa. The primary focus of this project is on how to reincorporate fishers who have been left out. Other partners include the University of Ruhana (Sri Lanka), the SIFFS (India) and the University of Amsterdam.

We also formally share our policy making approach and experience with another international research project called Too Big To Ignore. This project links researchers from Asia, Latin and North America, Africa, The Caribbean and Europe. Our local partner is PLAAS. The project is Coordinated by the Memorial University in Newfoundland, Canada.

Advocacy work

Much of our advocacy work revolved around the Small-Scale Fisheries policy (SSF), gender equity and environmental sustainability.

Small-Scale Fisheries Policy

In 2002 small scale fishers gathered at the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) to discuss fishing policy. The discussions that ensued triggered off an unprecedented civil society process to address small-scale fishing in South Africa.

In 2005 when the government adopted long-term fishing policies that made no provision for small-scale fishers, Masifundise took the matter to the Equality Court in 2006. By 2007 the court ruled that a new policy must be developed and an interim relief package for small-scale fishers be formulated and implemented. Due to a delay in adopting a policy, the interim relief has been in place since 2007. We have been eager that it ends and the policy is implemented. Each year Masifundise has been securing better interim relief deals and negotiating higher volumes of fish over longer periods.

Advocacy around the development and implementation of this policy has been key to Masifundise’s relentless and ongoing pursuit of economic and environmental justice for small-scale fishers.

In 2012, it was finally adopted, by the Cabinet, following years of advocacy and building organization of small-scale fishers.
Much of the focus of Masifundise’s work is on building organisation.

The overall aim is to empower small-scale fishers with knowledge, skills and capacity that enable them to advance the ideal of sustainable livelihoods. In the process, we work together to achieve gender equity, youth development, a healthy community and the protection of our environment.

Masifundise works hand in hand with Coastal Links in order to achieve these objectives. Coastal Links has been growing steadily in the last few years. Coastal Links now has branches in 85 coastal fishing communities in Kwazulu Natal, Western, Eastern and Northern Cape. Fifteen branches were formally established during 2012, in the Eastern Cape and Kwazulu Natal. Several existing branches were strengthened during this period.

During 2012, we held regional workshops, sub-regional workshops, did field trips, had a road show and established new branches in all provinces. With work being done to strengthen branches, 15 were formally established during 2012 in the Eastern Cape and Kwazulu Natal respectively.

Each branch has a committee with elected officials. The branches are grouped together into regions, also with elected officials. The regional chairpersons and co-ordinators make up the National Executive Committee of Coastal Links.

In 2012, Coastal Links worked on the following;

• Strengthening the institutional capacity of Coastal Links by organising educational exchange programmes between branches and expanding communication systems.
• Strengthening the role of women and youth in small-scale fisheries through empowerment programmes.
• Pressing that fishers have controlled access to marine protected areas (MPAs) and are integrated into processes related to the establishment and management of MPAs.
• Working with other small-scale fisheries organisations to ensure that government’s presentation to the UN – FAO Committee on Fisheries reflects the views of small-scale fishers.

Gender Equity

Masifundise hosted a conference on gender equity during September 2012 in Cape Town. It was attended by women Coastal Links members from around the country. The conference reflected on the long history of discrimination in the sector and focused on what is to be done to advance gender equity in the small-scale fisheries sector.

We also put together short, informal video clips about Masifundise and Coastal Links activity that we upload on our Facebook page and website. We also produced an annual report and have a well designed Website.

The work of Masifundise has appeared in both print and electronic media during the course of the year.

We produced “Pirate fishers” 30 minute video that was screened on national TV in Denmark and Norway. This video captures the plight of SA small-scale fishers who have been forced to fish illegally in order to meet their livelihoods needs.

We also spread information and awareness through our various programmes and our extensive networks at home and abroad.

Information and Awareness

Masifundise produces a quarterly newsletter called Vissers Net which appeared four times in 2012. The publication appears in four languages – English, Afrikaans, Xhosa and Zulu. 15 000 copies are distributed throughout the country. Special editions appeared that focused on the national launch of Coastal Links in November and on Women’s Rights during August.

The drafting and negotiation process had included the DAFF, Department of Trade & Industry (DTI), Commercial Fishing companies and organised labour. The adoption of the draft at Nedlac at the end of 2011 was the product of years of hard work. A significant majority of our policy proposals have been included in the finalized policy.

Benefits of the new policy include the following:

• The formal recognition of artisanal fishing communities.
• A move to collective fishing rights, away from the individual quota system that excluded the majority.
• The demarcation of exclusive fishing zones for small scale fishers, where they will be able to harvest or catch anything throughout the year. The potential for ongoing sustainable income will be considerably enhanced. These zones will be out of bounds for big commercial fishing companies.
• Clear benefits for women, in fishing communities, from both fishing and value change involvement.
• Improved marine resource co-management.

Information

and Awareness
Coastal Links South Africa

Coastal Links was established nationally in November 2012, in the Eastern Cape. The following people were elected to the executive of Coastal Links South Africa, at its launch in November 2012:

- Christiaan Adams- Chairperson, Western Cape
- Dawie Phillips, Secretary, Northern Cape
- Nozuko Mnyombolo, Deputy Secretary, Western Cape
- Lulamile Ponono, National Organiser, Eastern Cape
- Zodwa Langazana, Eastern Cape
- Port St Johns Central

The team visited Bizana, Port St Johns, Elliotdale and Centane where participants shared ideas and challenges. Discussions centred around Marine Protected areas, permits, marketing and climate change.

In Kwazulu Natal, the road show stopped at Nkundusi, Amtikulu, Mnafu/Mthwalume and Port Edward. Similar issues were discussed. Discussions centred around challenges facing fisher people, organising committees or branches of Coastal Links, details of fisheries policy and laying the foundation for a national organisation of small-scale fishers.

There are inequalities between the Northern/Western Cape provinces and the Eastern Cape/Kwazulu-Natal provinces in terms of access to marine resources. In the former region 1,500 small-scale fishers are able to harvest resources for commercial purposes under the Interim Relief dispensation, while in the latter fishers are only granted subsistence permits and are forbidden to sell their catch.

Leadership Development

Continuing to develop the leadership in these two provinces is crucial to ensuring more equitable access to marine resources across the four coastal provinces in the short-term. In the medium-term, it will prove critical for the effective implementation of the small-scale fisheries policy.
Fisheries in the region.

Pan African Programme

Masifundise built on the foundations laid in 2011, for this programme aimed at uniting fisher organisations across Africa around issues that impact on small-scale fisheries.

One of the key outcomes of the Pan African small-scale fisheries workshop hosted by Masifundise at the end of 2011 was for three theme coordinators (including the chairman of Coastal Links) to initiate conversations and information sharing between partner organisations on the themes of “Gender Equity”, “Illegal and Foreign Fishing” and “Community Mobilisation”. The information exchange took place intermittently throughout the year. Partner organisations didn’t engage on the issues quite as we had hoped.

New partner organisations were added to the programme from East and West Africa and together with the theme co-ordinators began the process of collecting information from new and existing partners. These organisational profiles indicate how organisations are structured and what work they do, giving us a better understanding of the context within which we work.

African Union policy reform process

In 2010 the African Union was given a mandate at the inaugural CAMFA (Conference of African Ministers of Fisheries and Aquaculture) to develop a comprehensive fisheries policy for the continent, a process which commenced in 2012.

We managed to get ourselves invited to the opening Think Tank meeting in June. At this meeting it was quite apparent that there were no real intentions of securing meaningful inputs from small-scale fishers in Africa.

This despite the fact that any reforms to fisheries governance will have the greatest impact on the small-scale sector, Masifundise was appointed on the southern African regional team to prepare a report on the state of fisheries in the region.

Masifundise did extensive work at an international level, during 2012. We have contacts with many organisations worldwide and specifically play a role in the Pan African programme.

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Global Links

Masifundise visited a small-scale fishing community in Sri Lanka. On the right is Masifundise organiser, Kraai.

Workshop on Transferrable Fishing Concessions (TFCs)

Masifundise, together with two Coastal Links leaders, attended a workshop in Denmark focused on understanding the driving forces behind TFCs, known as Individual Transferable Quotas, or ITQs in South Africa. We also had discussions around just how this fisheries management model impacts on small-scale fishers and what the alternatives are. About 40 people attended the workshop, including small-scale fisher representatives from Europe and Africa, researchers and donor organisations. The TFC model, often referred to as Rights Based Fisheries, has been promoted, and even adopted, in numerous countries in Africa with significant negative impacts on small-scale fishers. The workshop therefore provided some very useful insights for our work at the Pan African level.

United Nations

UN Rapporteur on Food Security, Oliver de Scheuter, used the Masifundise/Coastal Links model of policy advocacy work in his first report on food security in fishing communities. This report was presented at the United Nations General Assembly in December 2012. Masifundise and coastal links went to Rio +20 where we made presentations on SSF and food security in fishing communities.

We joined forces with the World Wide Fund (WWF) for nature to develop, a joint programme on Responsible Fishing. This has been tested in Arniston and Langebaan and will be rolled out nationally in the coming year.

Conclusion

2012 was a momentous year for Masifundise with the two biggest achievements being the launching of Coastal Links nationally and the adoption of the new policy by cabinet. The National Footprint project has seen steady progress and our international links have been consolidated.

Our main challenges ahead are to push for the speedy implementation of the new fisheries policy and to build the capacity of our organisational formations, Masifundise and Coastal Links.
## Detailed Income and Expenditure Statement

### [Extract from the Auditors’ Report]

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>2012</th>
<th>2011</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Income</strong></td>
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<td>Trust for Community Outreach and Education</td>
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<td>Other Donors</td>
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<td>Mini project fund - Afrika Kontakt</td>
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<td>Danida</td>
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<td>Youth Project</td>
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<td>Danida</td>
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<td>SSNC - Swedish Society for Nature Conservation</td>
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<td>Reincorpfish</td>
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<td>Commonwealth Foundation</td>
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<td>OSISA</td>
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<td>MAGI - Multi Agency Grants Initiative</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interest received</td>
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<td>Other income</td>
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<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Interest paid</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Total Operating Expenses</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Surplus/(Deficit) for the year</strong></td>
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*Trust for Community Outreach and Education (TCOE) applies for donor funding on behalf of a number of entities which includes Masifundise. On receipt of the funding TCOE allocates the funding to the appropriate entities as agreed in the donor agreement.*