



ECO AFRICA

UPDATED: June 2012

Malinda Gardiner

Community Communication Officer

BIRTH 08 February 1967

CITIZENSHIP South Africa

EDUCATION Grade 12 with exemption, Vanrhynsdorp High School, South Africa , 1985
Secretarial Certificate, Tygerberg Technical College, South Africa, 1986

WORK EXPERIENCE

- 1999 – 2012 Eco-Africa Environmental Consultants, Community Communication Officer
Community officer for Ebenhaeser land acquisition plan and community development plan in South Africa
Poverty Alleviation Project Coordinator for Community-based Tourism Development Projects
Coordinated 6 poverty alleviation projects funded by DEAT in Langa, Vanrhynsdorp, Hondeklipbaai, Stein-kopf, Port Nolloth and Richtersveld
Managed five project offices with a total of 12 staff
Reported to implementing agent on Finances and progress monthly
Wrote and submitted articles on Projects in local media.
- 1986 – 1997 Various firms, Secretary/Receptionist
Filing, correspondence, Reception
Diary
Logistic arrangements for meetings
Minute taking
Appointments
- 1997 - 1999 Vanrhynsdorp Tourism Bureau, Tourism Information Officer
Managed information desk, coordinate development of marketing brochure support for product owners and service providers to develop products and services
Represent Vanrhynsdorp Tourism at Klein Karoo Arts Festival.
Write and submit articles on local tourism attractions to Local media

Conduct three radio interviews RSG to promote and market area as tourism destination.

2002 – 2004

SKEP, Conservation International Sub-regional Coordinator
Coordinated and implemented SKEP strategy in the
Knersvlakte and Namaqualand Coastal sub-regions
Formed advisory committee for the above sub-regions
supported civil society with development of applications
for funding
recommendations to review committee on funding
applications built a network of partners

2006 – 2007

West Coast District Municipality, visitor Centre Manager
Implemented and oversaw equipping of Centre, including craft area,
restaurant and tourism information area
develop community based tourism in the Hardeveld area,
established themed routes, marketed routes and activities,
familiarize tourism operators with products namely: 4 tour operators on
familiarization tour defined tone for marketing materials for Hardeveld
Tourism Route (see www.southnorth.co.za Hardeveld Route for end
result) Marketing materials included brochure, website and banner.
Appointment of appropriate experts and guided them to develop
marketing materials liaised with media on exposure for Hardeveld
Route– resulted in double page and front page spread in “Die Buite
Burger”.

2008- 2010

Conservation International/Conservation South
Africa, NWI Stewardship Coordinator
Promoted sustainable farming practices in the Kamiesberg amongst
small stock farmers signed stewardship agreements with said farmers
(49 agreements) implement stewardship agreements
Built and maintained partnerships with appropriate entities
Leveraged R3 million funding by influencing Working for Wetlands
Program to implement restoration projects in Kamiesberg in 2009 and
2010. Manage Garies office and staff for NWI
support rolling out of communication strategy for the NWI – writing of
articles for 4 editions of Die Veepos, 2 radio interviews with Namakwa
FM, 11 interview with RSG, support communications manager with
material for CI Newsletter and website.

2010 – present

Conservation South Africa, Communication
Coordinator, Namaqualand Green Economy Demonstration
negotiated stewardship contracts with 47 communal and 2 private
farmers in the Kamiesberg Critical Biodiversity Area.
Coordinated biodiversity assessments of the 21000
ha area facilitated training in sustainable farming methods for stewards.
field work assisting with implementation facilitated restoration of wetlands
of Importance with Working for Wetlands
Monitored stewardship agreements

SKILLS

Good knowledge of social and ecological systems of Namaqualand,
13 years experience in engaging with land owners and land users on
conservation and/or community based tourism development and grass
roots conservation initiatives,
Excellent communication and interpersonal skills,

Accredited Participant Facilitator,
10 years experience in managing staff and projects,
Good relationships with a wide network of stakeholders and role players,
in civil society in Namaqualand, as well as with experts across a wide
spectrum of disciplines.