

Mr Chris Schalkwyk

Qualifications:

- BA HONS (GEOGRAPHY) University of Pretoria
- Diploma in Public Management University of Pretoria
- Diploma in Environmental Management University of Potchefstroom
- Higher Education Diploma University of Pretoria
- Diploma in Diversity Management University of Stellenbosch

Relevant Experience

Highly regarded in Southern Africa for designing integrated models successfully combining environmental, land management, rural community, and public/private partnership structures.

Leader in eco-tourism and the establishment of community-government-private sector-owned land / wildlife resorts.

Chris is an ex Director of Public Land Support Services in the National Department of Rural Development and Land Reform and developed several policy and procedure documents, policies and development programs in that capacity. He still serves as Consultant and land administration and rural development specialist, advising relevant ministries and government leaders and the private sector companies.

Chris is passionate about tourism and community tourism development as the most successful economic sector to make a positive contribution towards creation of employment in poor rural communities bordering the Kruger National Park and other nature reserves.

Have proven in a relevant short period as General Manager of Nkambeni Safari Camp that community tourism projects can work if all relevant parties are committed to success and work together respecting each other.

Honorary Ranger and active conservationist

Chris has subsequently designed and developed an extremely successful wildlife resort utilising an integrated model, combining the South African National Parks, private / tour operator ownership, as well as the local community as shareholders

Chris has extensive and successful experience in combining land reform, wildlife resort management, public and private partnerships, local community development and advanced marketing and technology-based tools and techniques for maximising client attraction and optimising occupancy rates while running highly efficient operational facilities.

He is regarded as a leader in the community development field in South Africa.