

Kalahari Conservation Society Receives Funds for Rhino Conservation

21st September 2016



At an event that attracted extensive media attention, Barclays Bank Botswana cemented a long-term relationship with Kalahari Conservation Society (KCS) for the conservation of Botswana's natural resources by handing over an initial tranche of P60,000 for the Rhino Conservation Fund. On this memorable 20th day of September 2016, the General Manager of the Barclays Bank Botswana assured KCS of a long-term commitment to the

conservation of Botswana's natural resources and support to youth development so they benefit optimally from the country's resources. As she presented the cheque to KCS at Barclays Bank Head Office in Gaborone, Ms Reinette van der Merwe challenged other banks to invest in the conservation of Botswana's natural resources and its youth.

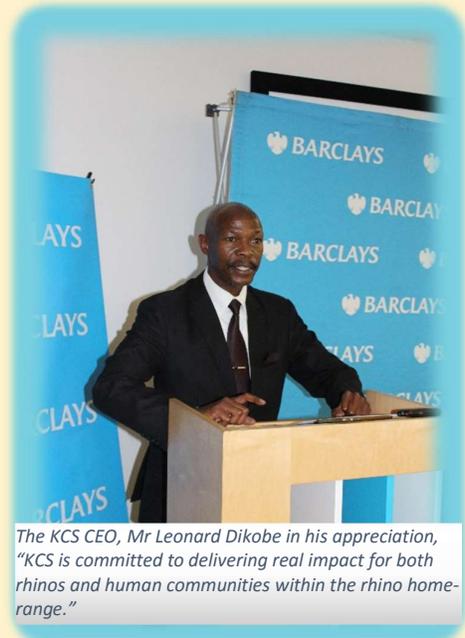


General Manager of Barclays Bank Botswana sharing the bank's positive experience working with KCS and the genesis of the Barclays Rhino Debit Card.

KCS, a non-governmental organisation premised to advance nature conservation in Botswana, collaborated with Barclays Bank Botswana in 2014 to implement a project called Youth

Development and Rhino Conservation which sought to address the problem of youth unemployment as well as promoting conservation of both the black and white rhino in Botswana. Through this project, Barclays Bank Botswana in conjunction with KCS designed a special debit card in which an amount was set aside for rhino conservation from each card transaction charge. This card was named the Barclays Rhino Debit Card. The funds accrued are then transferred into a Rhino Conservation Fund managed by KCS in tranches. To-date 6,000 cards have been distributed and more are still in store with the bank's marketing team working round the clock to attract its customers to register for the card.

Accepting the funds at the Handover ceremony, KCS Chief Executive Officer, Leonard Dikobe commended the partnership and added that "the overall objective of the KCS-Barclays Rhino Conservation Fund



The KCS CEO, Mr Leonard Dikobe in his appreciation, "KCS is committed to delivering real impact for both rhinos and human communities within the rhino home-range."

is to bolster the rhino conservation efforts in Botswana thus, the Fund will complement the Government of Botswana's concerted efforts in rhino conservation initiatives”.

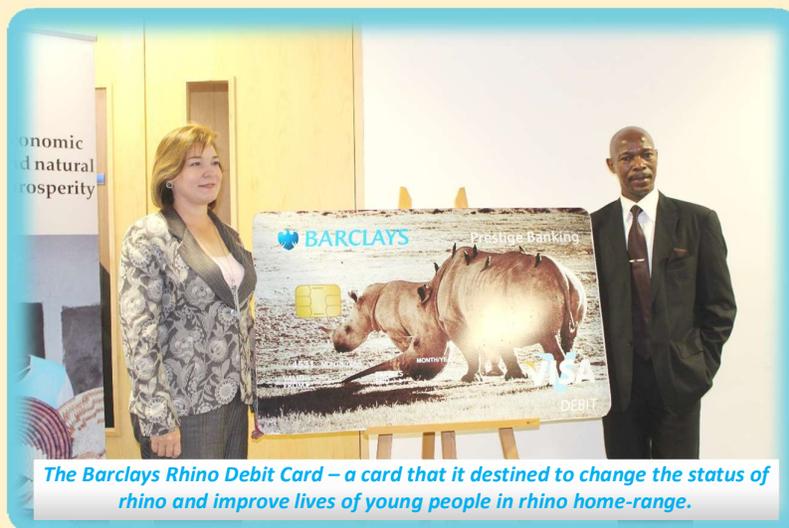
The KCS CEO announced that through this Fund, KCS intend to invest in (i) increasing the home ranges of rhino by 20% and (ii) raise incomes of communities leaving adjacent to rhino home ranges by 15% for the next 5 years. He added, “These are bold targets and we intend to meet them”.



Part of the audience witnessing the handing over of the funds for rhino conservation.

Handing over the funds, the Barclays Bank Botswana, Reinette van de Merwe, remarked that “Rhinos are an endangered species and it is our duty as Batswana to protect them, so that our future generations can see them instead of just reading about them.”

In moving forward, KCS is setting up fund management processes, a Fund Results Score Card and a fund publicity strategy. These will be part of the new KCS Strategy 2017-2022.



The Barclays Rhino Debit Card – a card that it destined to change the status of rhino and improve lives of young people in rhino home-range.

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