



LEAVE A LIVING LEGACY

A guide to leaving a bequest to WESSA (the Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa)



INVESTING IN THE FUTURE

WESSA (the Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa) was established in 1926 and is one of South Africa's oldest membership-based, non-governmental organisations. As such, WESSA has played a key role in the conservation of our country's natural heritage. Our mission is to implement high-impact environmental and conservation projects, which promote public participation in caring for the Earth. As an NGO, we depend on funding from individuals and businesses to make possible the work we do.

WESSA works in the critical areas of biodiversity and water, while also addressing climate change as a cross-cutting issue. Environmental initiatives in these areas focus on schools, community and youth development. Our approach is to provide holistic learning and understanding of our interconnectedness with the Earth, thus demonstrating that humans are not separate from nature and that by confronting and solving our environmental problems, we will also be dealing with our social and economic challenges. WESSA therefore actively empowers people and communities to make sustainable choices through environmental education and human capacity development. In addition to the many projects and programmes run by WESSA staff, further environmental action is initiated by the many committed WESSA Branches and Friends Groups around the country.

WESSA's decades of involvement in conservation and environmental issues have been made possible by concerned people who have supported WESSA financially as well giving of their time and expertise to help create a better future for all of us. Making a bequest to WESSA requires no special skills, very little time and no upfront payments. Even small bequests play a vital role in helping us to continue 'Caring for the Earth' and are very much appreciated.

Please consult your attorney, accountant, or financial advisor to draw up a plan that takes your personal wishes, tax situation and estate details into consideration.

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Unrestricted gifts allow us more flexibility in dealing with environmental priorities. Below are some examples of options you might like to consider.

- **A Specific Sum:** This is the simplest form of bequest. However, it does not allow for inflation or charges within your estate.
- **A Residual:** After making provision for your family and friends, you may wish to leave the unallocated portion of your estate to WESSA.
- **A Percentage:** Often it is difficult to predict the final value of your estate. By giving a percentage of the total, rather than a fixed amount, you can be sure that all your beneficiaries will receive the stipulated share.
- **A Gift of Real Estate or Property:** This may be made outright, or you can arrange for the property to pass on to WESSA after the death of another beneficiary, such as your spouse.
- **An Assurance or Endowment Policy:** Often an insurance policy taken out years ago loses its relevance as you get older. Such a policy may be ceded to WESSA as the beneficiary.

If you already have a will it is easy to add a codicil (see opposite page) which names WESSA (the Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa) as a beneficiary.

COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBERS
Reg No. 1933/004658/08 (Incorporated Association not for gain)
Registration Number in Terms of the
Non Profit Organisation Act 1997: 000-716NPO
Tax Exemption Number: 18/11/13/1903





All of us would like to leave this world knowing we're passing on a healthy and thriving planet to our children and others.

One of the most significant ways to show your support and passion for the conservation of the Earth, and all that lives upon it, is to leave a bequest to WESSA in your will.

Making a will ensures that everything you have worked hard for in your life is passed on to your loved ones and the causes you care about. A bequest is a personal gift of great importance and a lasting legacy to your beliefs and values.

It is thanks to bequests made that WESSA is able to run hundreds of conservation projects, protect many species and improve the quality of people's lives – today and into the future.



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SUGGESTED CODICIL

This codicil forms an integral part of the will of

_____ and

_____ \we the undersigned:

_____ (Testator)

_____ and/or

_____ (Testatrix)

do hereby bequeath the following to WESSA (the Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa).

This done and signed

at _____ on this _____

day of _____ 20_____

in the presence of undersigned witnesses.

WITNESSES:

1. _____

2. _____



WESSA'S VISION, MISSION AND AIM

VISION

To be a highly effective and well-supported champion of the environment.

MISSION

To implement high impact environmental and conservation projects, which promote public participation in caring for the Earth.

AIM

To contribute to conserving the Earth's vitality and diversity by:

- Promoting sound environmental values and sustainable lifestyles
- Integrating conservation and development
- Encouraging and generating individual and community action
- Enabling and growing a vibrant and active broad-based membership
- Securing the protection and wise use of natural resources
- Acting as an environmental watchdog
- Influencing policy and decision-making
- Responding to changing needs
- Fostering collaborative partnerships