Feedback:

My name is Lenka Tucek and I am a student at the Johannes-Gutenber University in Mainz (Germany). After I got in touch with the TPARI and Conrad Steenkamp through telephone conferences, which I attended from Germany, and also through e-mail contact, I came to South Africa to do research for my master in Anthropology. When I got to Johannesburg I met Daniel Marnewick, Stuart Miller and Conrad Steenkamp at the TPARI office at Witwatersrand University. They were very helpful with organizing the stay at Wits Rural Facility (WRF) and planning the trip to Limpopo. They also assisted me in getting a library card to do literature research at several libraries on Wits campus. My studies in South Africa included three weeks of literature research at the university (two weeks in the beginning and one week after I finished the field research). The variety of literature at Witwatersrand University provided me with an insight and better understanding of the local settings in Limpopo. At WRF I met Joana Lucas, who works for the TPARI office there. She organized my accommodation in a hut and through the TPARI’s office I had access to more specific literature about the region, internet and a phone line, which I used to organize meetings with people from the local government. I could also rent a car from WRF and use it to go to various cultural villages and places of interest. Joana Lucas helped me to get in touch with people involved in cultural tourism and supported my research and me in many ways.

My research is about cultural tourism in South Africa with a focus on Limpopo Province. Situated on the edge of Kruger National Park, which is a big tourist attraction already and being one of the lesser developed provinces concerning cultural tourism in South Africa, Limpopo has a great potential for cultural tourism/ecotourism and especially for community based tourism projects.

During my stay at WRF (17th of February to 20th of March 2004) I interviewed several people at the Department of Finance & Economic Affairs in Nelspruit, regional municipalities in Bushbuckridge and local entrepreneurs in the Bohlabela district. I also did a case study of one cultural village (Nyani Tribal Village) and visited several other projects in the area.

It was a great opportunity for me to be able to do research through the TBPAR and everybody assisted me in carrying it out. I enjoyed my stay at WRF and think it is a good chance for researchers to do their studies in Limpopo.

Thank you very much, Lenka Tucek.