

# Grootvadersbosch Conservancy

Forest Restoration in Grootvadersbosch



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# About Us

- Established in 1992 by local landowners with support from Cape Nature
- A Registered Non-Profit Trust
- Covers 35 000 Hectares
- Our members are long-standing commercial farmers who care deeply about the lands' agricultural and conservation value



# What we do

- Alien Clearing
- River Monitoring
- Training and Capacity Building
- Fire Management
- Environmental Education
- Trail Management and Ecotourism
- Restoration





## New Forest Restoration Project

- Funded by the International Climate Initiative (IKI) small grant
- Proposal was submitted in April 22 and start date August 23
- Project will overcome the barriers to restoration:
  - Funding for capital investment
  - Increased capacity in restoration techniques
  - Increase demand for restoration activities
- Will have social and environmental outcomes



## Outcome 1 : Capacity Building, Job Creation and Social Community Empowerment

- Build capacity and conduct training to empower 2 teams on Indigenous plant propagation and identification
- Commence ecosystem restoration techniques
- Improve overall lifestyles and skills sets

## Outcome 1 :

- Generate additional income sources for local communities
- Create opportunities to diversify skills



- Provide education and demonstrate the significance of restoration work in an ecological environment
- Improve teamwork and overall functional capacity within the nursery

## Outcome 1 :

- Training and upskilling of team members knowledge in plant identification and propagation within the nursery
- Creating opportunities to diversify skills such in Herbarium Collections and Restoration Techniques



Establish the importance of connecting with nature's heritage and spiritual values.

## Outcome 1 :

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In general, we will:

- Generate job opportunities for local communities
- Form a fundamental team
- Improve local communities' well being
- Teach and upskill team member's knowledge
- Showcase the heritage of nature's values as a whole
- Manifest a spiritual connection with nature - a deeper respect for the value of restoration







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## Outcome 2 : Establish a nursery and implement ecosystem restoration techniques

- Focus on the cultivation of diverse species representative of the area
- Reference sites and monitoring
- Implement restoration at 2 different sites
- Showcase and provide restoration data





## Outcome 2 : Nursery & Propagation

- Develop an endemic/ indigenous nursery
- Train local community:
  - Ecology and ecosystem functioning
  - Plant identification
  - Plant propagation
  - Plant care and maintenance

## Outcome 2: Indigenous Nursery

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- Pioneer, keystone and rare Species
- Interconnections within nature
- Genetic adaptations and ecosystem resilience
- Supply other community initiatives with plants
- Support agro-farming activities



# Outcome 2: Restoration Implementation

- 2 different restoration sites
- 5ha of cleared land restored with Forest, Fynbos & Riparian Species
- 150% increase in species richness in restored areas by end of project
- Highly varied and habitat specific planting ratios
- Increase in abundance of desirable indigenous species
- Support succession towards a self-sustaining plant community





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## Collaborations

- Local schools
- Local community gardens
- Other conservation organisations
- Planning to develop a platform to share experiences and invite collaboration from the Fynbos Forum Community



Thank you

081 858 7225



Corne@gvbconservancy.co.za



www.gvbconservancy.co.za