



PRESENCE IN THE KROMME

PRESENCE is active in the Kromme River Catchment since November 2011. Our goal is to mobilize civil society to create a “Living Landscape”. A living landscape is a variety of healthy ecosystems and land uses and is home to ecological, agricultural, and social systems which are managed so that they can function sustainably

Water scarcity is a growing problem in South Africa. By restoring degraded landscapes, a continuous flow of water in river basins can be achieved. The project partners have chosen the Kromme river catchment, in the Eastern Cape, as a pilot study copy of a previously conducted project by Living Lands in the Baviaanskloof, Eastern Cape, South Africa.

The restoration of the catchment is mainly done on private land, by governmental agencies like “Working for Water” and “Working for Wetlands”. The project aims to increase the collaboration on the landscape between all stakeholders. Without the cooperation of the farmers and landowners, catchment restoration will have a very minimal effect.

The project works to actively with landowners and government agencies. Through a systematic approach in which various workshops, stakeholder visits and other activities, the project hopes to get a better understanding of the problems and strengthen the collaborations between all stakeholders on the landscape.

The project will not implement any restoration work but will be focused on building collaborations between the South African government agencies, landowners and other stakeholders in the area. This proven approach has already been very successful in the Baviaanskloof. One of the results of the project will be a blueprint that will be used as a guideline for river restoration projects in South Africa. The project is supported by the government of the Netherlands through the Partners for Water funding.