

South Africa: Algoa Water Fund



Algoa Water Fund: Replenishing the Impofu Dam through ecological infrastructure rehabilitation in the Diep River

🔥 Eastern Cape - South Africa

Program: Replenish Africa Initiative (RAIN)
Principal Partner: Global Environment & Technology Foundation (GETF)



Project Quick Facts

Project Name:	Algoa Water Fund: Replenishing the Impofu Dam through ecological infrastructure rehabilitation in the Diep River
Location:	Eastern Cape, South Africa
Funding:	RAIN: \$203,750 Department of Environmental Affairs: \$350,000
Project Duration:	February 2019 - August 2020
Beneficiaries:	Number of Beneficiaries: 13 individuals economically empowered Expected Replenish Amounts: TBD million Liters per year; 120 hectares under improved management
Key Partners:	Living Lands Department of Environmental Affairs: Natural Resource Management (DEA:NRM) The Nature Conservancy (TNC)
Activities Summary:	This project is undertaking an ecological rehabilitation in the valley surrounding Diep River to increase water flow rates and reduce sedimentation in the Impofu Dam. This will be accomplished, by clearing invasive alien plant species and restoring indigenous plants to the valley slopes.

Project Description

Port Elizabeth is the largest city in the Eastern Cape province, with 1 million inhabitants. Seventy percent (70%) of the water supply to Port Elizabeth comes from the Kouga, Baviaans- and Kromme catchments. The Baviaans and Kouga feed into the Kouga dam. This dam services Port Elizabeth and the Gamtoos valley, which is one of South Africa's prime citrus production regions. The catchments, however, suffer from the impacts of climate change, leading to increased flood and drought events, effects of which are intensified by overgrazing, alien invasive trees, wetland degradation, erosion, and bad spatial planning. These effects have led to decreased retention capacity of the soil and increased runoff.

Through this project, RAIN is working with Living Lands, DEA:NRM and TNC to restore these catchment areas by planting indigenous vegetation to repair the landscape and reduce soil erosion. This project co-creates with local stakeholders, solution-based rehabilitation interventions to address invasive alien species (IAS), including long-term management plans. The team will work on 150ha of land previously cleared of IAS species, rehabilitating the areas by clearing secondary invasions and, where required, regenerating the soil with indigenous vegetation and commercial species. The work follows clearing by the Department of Environmental Affairs. They are working at refining planting protocols to maximize survivorship and minimize costs in different soil types as well by training local communities, restoration practitioners, and land users on restoration and planting, as well as other land use.

South Africa: Algoa Water Fund



Algoa Water Fund: Replenishing the Impofu Dam through ecological infrastructure rehabilitation in the Diep River

 Eastern Cape - South Africa

Program: Replenish Africa Initiative (RAIN)
Principal Partner: Global Environment & Technology Foundation (GETF)



RAIN Program Overview

Launched by TCCF in 2010 in response to the severe health challenges faced by millions of Africans living without access to safe drinking water, RAIN aims to improve access to safe water for 6 million people in Africa by the end of 2020. In addition, RAIN aims to create employment opportunities for women, youth and families through water project activities as well as improve children's learning environment through WASH in schools. RAIN is backed by an 11-year, \$65 million dollar commitment by TCCAF and made possible through the support of more than 140 partners.

Grant period: 2010-2020 (11 years)

Program Description: RAIN supports a wide range of water-related projects in response to Africa's significant challenges in meeting the SDGs on water. Projects are designed to meet specific community needs including water supply, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH); productive use of water; and watershed protection.

