



# ECOLOGICAL INFRASTRUCTURE IS KEY FOR SOUTH AFRICA'S WATER SECURITY

Reversing ecological decline will help to safeguard against future water crises


 SOUTH AFRICA RECEIVES HALF THE WORLD'S AVERAGE RAINFALL

 SEVERE DROUGHTS ARE ALREADY BEING EXPERIENCED


 WE FACE AN ESTIMATED 17% DEFICIT BETWEEN WATER SUPPLY & DEMAND BY 2030

 OUR CITIES & COMMUNITIES ARE HEAVILY RELIANT ON SUFFICIENT WATER FLOWS FROM THE NATURAL SYSTEM

 50% OF WETLANDS HAVE BEEN LOST

 ECOLOGICAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROVIDES SIGNIFICANT OPPORTUNITIES TO REDUCE POVERTY & UNEMPLOYMENT

 HEALTHY ECOLOGICAL INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVES FOOD SECURITY & WELLBEING

 INVASIVE ALIEN PLANTS ANNUALLY CONSUME ENOUGH WATER TO PROVIDE FOR A LARGE CITY

 THRIVING CATCHMENTS INCREASE OUR RESILIENCE TO FLOODS, FIRES & DROUGHT

 THERE HAS BEEN A 500% ECOLOGICAL DECLINE IN SOUTH AFRICA'S MAIN RIVERS SINCE 1999

## ABOUT THE PROJECT

The *Ecological Infrastructure for Water Security* project works to enhance South Africa's water security and climate resilience.

\*Ecological infrastructure includes healthy mountain catchments, rivers, wetlands & landscapes

### IMPLEMENTATION FOCUSES ON 2 PILOT CATCHMENTS:

The Greater uMngeni (supporting the Midlands, Pietermaritzburg & Durban)



The Berg Breede (providing for Cape Town and its surrounding areas)



### THE PROJECT IS BASED ON A 3-PRONGED APPROACH, FOCUSING ON:



1 Creating an enabling environment through supportive policies, financing mechanisms & natural capital accounts



2 Strengthening on the ground implementation in the 2 pilot catchments



3 Mobilising further action through knowledge sharing

FUNDED BY THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY (GEF), THIS INITIATIVE IS A COLLABORATION BETWEEN MULTIPLE PARTNERS:

