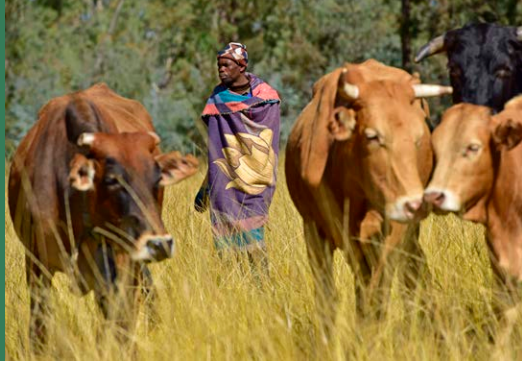
# KRUGER-TO-CANYON RANGELANDS

South Africa



**ECOSYSTEM TYPE:**
Dry savannah woodland

**PROJECT SIZE:**
14,878 hectares

**RESTORATION METHODS:**
Assisted natural regeneration through overgrowth clearing and controlled grazing

**PROJECT DATES:**
2017 – ongoing

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

The exclusion of natural grazers (mainly elephants) from savannah rangelands has led to the proliferation of woody trees in areas that used to be relatively open savannah grasslands. This increase in tree coverage threatens the native biodiversity, decreases the water supply in a water limited ecosystem, and kills native grasses. Restoration in this context requires thinning the trees, encouraging grass regrowth, and reintroducing grazing regimes that maintain the ecosystem in order to provide a maximum of ecosystem services and biodiversity habitat. To do this, Conservation International uses conservation agreements (incentives to land managers in exchange for their help improving land management) to mobilize application of ecologically sound rangeland practices within communal rangelands of the landscape.

**PROJECT OUTCOMES, AS OF 2018:**

### Climate:

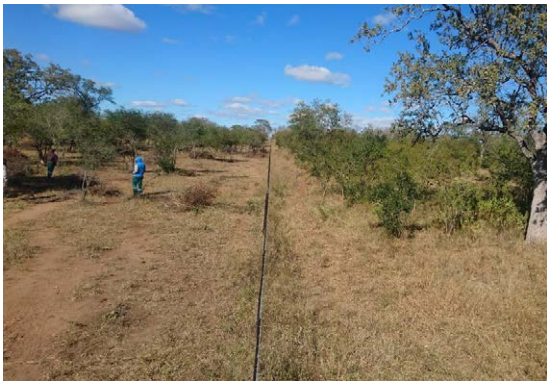
Approximately 50,000 tons of $CO_2$ sequestered in healthier rangelands.

### People:

18 permanent jobs created for youth, 75 livestock farmers trained and engaged in conservation agreements, 30% increase in income (in line with market value) generated from sustainable livestock production.

### Biodiversity:

Grass and tree species numbers improved in restored areas (15% increase in ecologically beneficial vegetation cover).



**before – pre restoration;**
**on other side of fence – during restoration**

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