

## **2011 CAPE Partners Conference themed Conservation and Agriculture: A Common Agenda**

CAPE Action for People and the Environment (CAPE) is a partnership programme uniting government and civil society in a strategy to conserve biodiversity and create biodiversity for the people of the Cape Floristic Region.

CAPE has 23 signatory partners - government departments, municipalities, non-governmental and conservation agencies. All these organisations and a broader base of stakeholders are united in a common strategy around biodiversity conservation. The programme is coordinated through various governance and co-ordination structures.

The 2011 CAPE Partners' Conference will be held on 23 and 24 June 2011 and focuses on the interface between Biodiversity Conservation and Agriculture. This year the conference aims to showcase the successful collaborative interventions that have occurred between Biodiversity Conservation and Agriculture during the first phase of the CAPE programme and is jointly hosted by CAPE Partners: SANBI, the Western Cape Department of Agriculture and WWF-SA through the GreenChoice Alliance. The conference will be held at the Percheron Hall, Elsenburg Agricultural Training College at Elsenburg just outside of Stellenbosch.

The conference presents an exciting opportunity to discuss some of the emerging trends in conservation and agriculture, and also serve as an important moment for the CAPE Partnership to develop and agree on a strategic response to some of the ongoing challenges.

On 23 June, the conference programme will be followed by an evening event at Delvera Farm in Klapmuts starting at 6.30pm. The programme includes addresses by Minister Gerrit van Rensburg, Western Cape MEC for Agriculture and Rural Development and Minister Anton Bredell, Western Cape MEC for Local Government, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning, respectively.

The evening will include the presentation of the annual Fynbos Conservation Awards, which are aimed at recognising individuals' outstanding contributions and achievements to biodiversity conservation in the Cape Floristic Region and showcasing successful and innovative work.

**ALL MEDIA ARE INVITED (AND STRONGLY ENCOURAGED) TO ATTEND THE CONFERENCE OR ANY SESSIONS THERE OF AND/OR THE AWARDS CEREMONY.**

### **For more information please contact:**

Petro Van Rhyn Department of Agriculture, Western Cape <a href="mailto:petrovr@elsenburg.com">petrovr@elsenburg.com</a> 071 231 7576	Marilyn Martin-Vermaak CAPE Programme 021 799 8790 <a href="mailto:m.martin@sanbi.org.za">m.martin@sanbi.org.za</a>
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