

### Ancois de Villiers

**Position:** Researcher

Working Group "Environmental Justice in Agricultural Landscapes"



### Academic education and scientific degrees

- 01/2020 – 12/2024      PhD Conservation Ecology, Stellenbosch University and Leiden University  
Title *Psycho-social dimensions for transformation and resilience: Exploring inspiration, social capital, and learning in landscape-based initiatives in South Africa*
- 09/2014 – 09/2015      MSc Environmental Anthropology, University of Kent (Distinction)  
Title *"What is the life story of your meat?": Emergence of the conscientious cattle discourse in support of food sovereignty*
- 01/2011 – 03/2013      MSc Conservation Ecology, Stellenbosch University (Cum Laude)  
Title *Towards resilience: Differences in management practices between land managers adopting conventional approaches and Holistic Management*
- 01/2007 – 12/2010      BSc Conservation Ecology, Stellenbosch University (Cum Laude)  
Title *Conservation opportunity for alien clearing following fire: Participation willingness of farm managers in the Western Cape, South Africa*

### Professional experience

- Since 03/2024              Researcher, Leibniz Centre for Agricultural Landscape  
Research (ZALF), Müncheberg, Germany
- 10/2015 – 12/2019      Researcher (Climate change adaptation), Association for Water and Rural  
Development (AWARD), Hoedspruit, South Africa
- 12/2013 – 09/2014      Environmental Consultant (intern), C4 EcoSolutions, Cape Town, South Africa
- 03/2013 – 12/2013      Researcher, Conservation South Africa, Cape Town, South Africa
- 01/2008 – 12/2008      Student Mentor in physics and mathematics, Stellenbosch University,  
Stellenbosch, South Africa

## Research Profile

### Background

- Landscape ecology and regenerative agriculture
- Climate change adaptation and ecosystem-based adaptation
- Project management and change management
- Design / implementation of social learning processes incl. workshop / group facilitation and science communication
- Quantitative and qualitative data collection and analysis

### Research Activities

- Research in South Africa for Biodiversa+ project "'Just' conservation? Bridging values for equitable biodiversity governance (BridgingVALUES)"

## Websites

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