



FRANCES TAYLOR

URBAN ECOLOGIST

PUBLICATIONS

2022 - *Basic ecological knowledge left behind in the urban greening rush*, in: Biodivercities by 2030 eds. Mejía, M A & Amaya-Espinel, J D

2021 - *Fynbos Corridor Strategy*, Van Zyl, N. and Taylor, F. Fynbos Corridor Collaboration

2020 - *The Untraceable City*, Taylor, F. and Hoekman, P. Book chapter in: *Urban Infrastructure: Reflections for 2100* edited by Derrible S. and Chester M.V.

EDUCATION

2019 - Science, Nature & Democracy, Anthropology Dept., University of Cape Town

2015 - MPhil Environment, Sustainability and Society, University of Cape Town

2008 - BSc Hons Ecology, University of Witwatersrand

PROFILE

I am a driven self-starter who has learned a lot from founding and leading a grassroots non-profit over the past 7 years. I have focussed primarily on combining collaborative ecological restoration with social justice. My set of skills is well suited to translate grassroots restoration action into strategic collaboration and policy. I am very passionate about piecing together existing projects into a holistic vision, so as to repair our socio-ecological landscapes entirely.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Co-Founder, Untraceable University, Colombia and South Africa

JUL 2022 - PRESENT (PART-TIME)

- Project conceptualisation, design, partner network building, and pilot preparation

Co-Founder and Director, Communitree, South Africa

JAN 2016 - JUN 2022 (FULL-TIME)

- I started and grew this organisation from scratch
- We created a network of 18 community urban restoration gardens along two urban riverine corridors
- I trained diverse community groups in scientifically-sound ecological restoration principles, skills and care
- We successfully reintroduced 2 endangered species through community-run restoration
- I managed, trained and mentored a team of four full-time staff
- Our work was featured on CNN and Deutsch Welle

CONFERENCES

2022 - **Nature of Cities**, virtual, presenter

2021 - **Nature of Cities**, virtual - attendee

2020 - **Nature of Cities**, Paris - attendee

2020 - **Society for Ecological Restoration**, Cape Town - presenter

2019 - **Fynbos Forum**, Western Cape - presenter

LANGUAGES

English Mother tongue: fluent

Afrikaans 1994 - 2004: school

Spanish 2021 - present: level B1

Dutch 2022 - present: beginners

Zulu 2023 - present: beginners

TRAVEL

*South Africa, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Namibia, Zambia, Tanzania, Kenya, Zanzibar, Ghana, Senegal, Thailand, Cambodia, India, Czech Republic, Netherlands, Sweden, Spain, Portugal, Morocco, *Colombia, Peru, *Panama

* > 6 months

Co-Founder, Fynbos Corridor Collaboration, Cape Town
JAN 2019 - JUN 2022

- I initiated and co-founded a city-wide collaborative effort to:
 - co-ordinate existing greening efforts across the city,
 - build access to high quality green spaces for all income brackets,
 - raise the standard of greening to fall in line with international ecological principles of the Society of Ecological Restoration.
- I co-authored a city-wide greening strategy
- I co-developed online tools to make key ecological knowledge accessible to the public.

VOLUNTEER ACTIVISM

Observatory River Club Development Protest (2019-2021)

supported the movement by representing environment matters in the tribunal proceedings


Open Awkward Conversations (2014-2015)


started and led a student departmental working group to uncover and communicate issues around race, gender, class, and sexuality


SKILLS

- ability for collaborate and work across social divides
- ability to translate scientific and complex social ideas for highly diverse audiences
- knowledge of, and experience applying the international standards of ecological restoration
- team coordination, leadership and mentorship
- network building between disciplines
- environmental education content creation and training

CONTACT

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