



South African National Networking Meeting on Climate Change Adaptation

The Airport Grand Hotel, Johannesburg, 18 June 2009



INDIGO DEVELOPMENT & CHANGE – ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING GROUP

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Many thanks to the Department of Water and Environmental Affairs for sponsoring the venue for the initial workshop

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Background

Researchers and practitioners who work with communities that are consciously adapting to climatic change have unique opportunities to gain insights into the challenges experienced by people on the grass-roots level, as well as the emerging strategies that people have evolved and put into practice. All too often these insights are not widely shared, and we lack opportunities to explore their complexity in a free yet rigorous way. In response to these experienced shortcomings, many of those present at the 2009 National Climate Change Summit expressed the view that there would be value in networking to link up those engaged in and working on issues relating to climate change adaptation. The conference further emphasized the importance of focused coordination for national climate change adaptation work. Many delegates expressed the need for a platform where those involved in adaptation work can share experiences and practical approaches, and explore the relative value of theoretical frameworks and methodologies that can add value to national and international policy processes. Thus, the concept of a creative adaptation platform emerged.

The Environmental Monitoring Group (EMG), in its role as host of Drynet, South Africa, and Indigo development & change, took on this challenge and invited individuals from a range of sectors (including civil society organisations, academic institutions, government and the private sector) who are working practically in climate change adaptation research and practice.

Through a process that was facilitated by EMG and Indigo-dc, the participants started exploring how we, as adaptation practitioners in South Africa, might collectively share our experiences, successes, challenges and expertise so as to improve our ability to support affected communities (including our own!!) to respond effectively to climate change. The workshop aimed to explore the need for a specific structure to facilitate this process of sharing experiences and improving practice and synergies by improved communication and co-ordination.

This initial knowledge sharing and visioning workshop was sponsored by the Department of Water Affairs and Environment (DWEA).



B. The Meeting Process and its Outputs

Governmental Context

Xolisa Ngwadla from the Department of Water Affairs and Environment (DWEA) provided participants with an overview of adaptation activities currently being undertaken by his department. He informed participants of the DWEA's approach and thinking in facilitating the integration of climate change adaptation (both resilience and acclimation-type adaptation) into South Africa's industries, people and resources.



The Department has recently restructured its climate change activities, including the formation of a new climate change adaptation unit. He noted the need for a forum or network to contribute adaptation inputs to national policy process and for the development of adaptation sector plans or programmes. The adaptation unit aims to interact with a range of stakeholders either through the National Climate Change Committee or a new structure or forum with a focus on climate change adaptation.

(Presentation available upon request)

Adaptation Mapping

In order to get a 'big picture' overview of current activities in South Africa, participants were taken through a process in which they explored their own involvement in climate change adaptation, as a start to producing a 'map' of activities, an idea of the methods and tools being used within these activities, and started to look at the gaps and shortcomings in the status quo on climate change adaptation in South Africa.



Participants draw the map and locate their activities





The map with local climate change adaptation activities of participants in South Africa

The following is a list of national and provincial activities that were shared by the workshop participants. Please note that this list is merely indicative of those present at the workshop and is by no means exhaustive. In order to facilitate the establishment of a more comprehensive list of activities, participants and others are encouraged to fill in the attached form.

Projects and Activities at National and Provincial Scale

National

- Advocacy
- Rain water harvesting, supply & provision (Limpopo, NW, E Cape)
- Research – impacts & solutions
- Research on adaptation strategies used by other utilities – both developed and developing
- National multi-sectoral discussions with government, business and civil society
- Agroecology – incorporating climate change. SIVA programme – around SA (WC, GP, Lim & KZN)
- Research towards developing an adaptation strategy for Eskom (Industry) Sustainability Department
- Sustainable farming practices shaped on adaptation
- Grassroots farmer support (Limpopo, W Cape, NW)
- Risk & vulnerability map of South Africa
- Climate Change risk insurance research and business and climate change
- Submission of chapter for UNFCCC on climate change; systematic observation, monitoring and research (GP and national project)
- Ecoschools project support – integrating climate change and adaptation tools into curricula



- National climate change policy development
- UNFCCC and Kyoto Protocol negotiations, negotiating adaptation issues e.g. response measures affecting energy sector
- Botanical Society work and Treasury for incentives for landowners to put land under conservation
- Change in species distribution and the development of conservation corridors
- Inputs into the UNFCCC adaptation position paper fro South Africa
- Climate change adaptation unit approach for programme implementation
- Working for Water
- Water efficiency (urban) – national
- Policy work for UN organizations (Sudan, Ghana, limited SA case study)

Some Methods and Tools being used within the Current List of Activities

- Storytelling as a facilitation tool
- Experiential learning
- Systems thinking
- Ecosystem function models (GIS)
- Collaboration/networking across the economic spectrum
- Research-based policy interventions
- LOCATE methodology (SSN Network)
- Action research and learning (national)
- User workshops
- Would like to learn more about Cristal and such adaptation vulnerability assessment tools
- Regional climate models
- Global climate models
- Statistical downscaled models
- Practicalities – how to cope – with what?
- UNFCCC and international best practice
- Risk & vulnerability mapping
- Observation for farming practices
- Economic modeling
- Method: sustainable livelihoods framework
- Rudolph Steiner work
- Rhizome theory (botanical systems)
- Using data from South Africa weather stations
- Indigenous people's rights framework
- Thicket restoration
- Alien plant clearing
- Systems thinking/complexity/frameworks
- Pamphlets and brochures as communication
- Action Research Approach



Provincial / Local Scale

Western Cape	Gauteng	KZN
Adaptation workshops – feedback iterative approach	Amajobjob – employment, products from recycled waste (Pretoria)	Promoting broader discussion including trade unions, community based groups
Limited involvement in adaptation. Primary focus is mitigation	Educational programme at botanical gardens focusing on climate change adaptation	KZN – women farmers food security and biofuels
Adaptation research study in Swartland region, W. Cape, with small scale farmers	Water programmes with schools (competitions)	Floods and adaptation KZN – interaction and foc group
Food security adaptive capacity	Outreach greening project which gets under-resourced schools to plant trees	Rights-based and justice focused debate (KZN)
Associate involved in research of adaptation tools currently being used – will provide overview	West Rand schools to develop indigenous gardens, plant trees, conserve natural resources etc. to fight against climate change. Use the gardens as learning and teaching resources	Project support for adaptation corridors linking PAs in KZN
CC adaptation workshops in succulent Karoo – building adaptation solutions with communities	Jhb urban greening: food security, waste recycling, renewable energy, awareness raising, water, buildings	Adaptation for rural water and sanitation – modeling of long-term economic impacts (compare technologies e.g. dry sanitation vs. conventional etc.)
Weather observation activities	Limpopo	North West
Alternative crops	Limpopo food security, farmers and biofuels	Rainwater harvesting (household food security) (NW greater Taung)
Increase climate change adaptation knowledge	Rainwater harvesting (household food security) Limpopo, Tzaneen, Skhukhuza	UCT Climate System Analysis Group to look into local effects. Moving from GCM to RCM, empirical downscaling
Farmer adaptation workshops		Group and individual discussion with women farmers biofuels
Would like to use more of action research in projects		
Northern Cape	Eastern Cape	Mpumalanga
Community Based Adaptation in Africa Project (Southern and Eastern Africa) – local South African project located in Nieuwoudtville, N Cape	Thicket restoration and carbon farming (E and W Cape)	Water security for coal-fired power stations
Conservation International as partner of Climate Action Partnership (CAP) working with farmers in Northern Cape sustainable biodiverse farming best practices and grazing guidelines	Rainwater harvesting (household food security) (EC – Umtata)	Working with grassroots communities on issues around water management and food security in Mpumalanga
	Agricultural modelling	Kruger to Canyons stakeholder project
Increasing resilience to climate change: small scale farmers climate change adaptation (Mechal project – Indigo development & change, UCT, CSIR, University of Hamburg, EMG and other partners)	Agricultural modelling of biofuels (synergy with food cropping) (EC area)	Management strategies in Kruger Park need to include climate change (veg change)
	Payments for ecosystem services (Kouga and Baviaankloof (method: alien plant clearing)	Impacts climate change on vector-borne diseases (e.g. malaria)
	Research in droughts and adaptation – risk and vulnerability assessments in RSA E Cape	Communities, farmers, levels of government (trying), Catchment Management Agency, - adaptive management/complex systems – water and food security - AWARD (Mpumalanga Bushbuckridge, Sand River)

TABLE 1: PROVINCIAL ADAPTATION-RELATED ACTIVITIES OUTLINED BY WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS

Gaps and Shortcomings in Adaptation in South Africa, as Identified by Workshop Participants

i) **Location & participation**

- Rural bias in projects
- Focus on national level – gap action c/c
- Strong and balanced stakeholder engagement
- We need more citizen participation in NCCC
- Voice for average men and women



ii) **Approaches**

- A landscape level approach. Linking PAs with sustainable corridors (incl. matrix, agric, cons, forestry, even to marine – longitudinal and latitudinal)
- The ecosystem approach to adaptation, seeing linkages with sustainable development and livelihoods and energy (community based)
- Economic value to natural resources (lack of incentives)(ecosystem resources)
- Co-operation and integration
- Climate change needs to be more crosscutting
- We need to promote mainstreaming of climate change
- Lack of mainstreaming climate change adaptation into different sectors (e.g.) rural, small biz etc.)
- Focus on adaptive management needed with local government
- Separation of mitigation and adaptation; lack of long-term policy – leaves a gap for potential abuse
- How to integrate adaptation into development policy
- CDM unknown for adaptation
- No mention of vulnerability assessments
- Differentiation between types of adaptation (planned vs. autonomous) – as a starting point. What is possible
- Vulnerable systems identification and putting proper adaptation measures in place for SA and how this can influence policy

iii) **Communication & education**

- Explain local impacts. Make science accessible
- Sufficiently precise information
- Credibility at local level
- *Understandable* information and language
- Expression of information is needed (networking, synthesis)
- Education on adaptation not done – not enough. Little is known about it by regular people on the street.
- Communication – need to know who is who, working on what where
- Capacity building and transfer of knowledge
- Enough information for those hardest hit
- Drawing knowledge from poor, vulnerable communities? Cross-community learning in sharing solutions?
- Lack of one voice from civil society – encourages “silos”

iv) Institutional problems

- Double talk from Finance. WB: 93% carbon emission
- Institutional disharmony around climate change
- Government failure to integrate activities counterproductive – mainstreaming
- Centralised decision-making may make mainstreaming difficult
- Lack of detail and depth on addressing climate change at a political level
- Learnings shared between government departments
- Harmonise climate change and disaster management at national level
- Accountability of government
- Take adaptation into the IDP – how?
- Sovereignty vs. security and safety
- Capacity to implement policy
- NFSD totally ignored
- Limited implementation of UN's charter for Indigenous people's rights
- Improving co-operative governance such that it supports implementation
- Non-compliance by Private sector on UN signed treaties: Montreal/Cartegena/Stockholm
- Global narratives dictate national agenda (no focus on adaptation)
- SMME mainstreaming into climate change and lack of research

v) Data gaps

- Availability of good sub-national climate projections
- Impact on migration and geopolitics
- Minimal contribution from research on adaptation issues
- Lack of pinpointed data for adaptation
- Health impacts of climate change



C. Suggested Future Activities in Dealing with Identified Gaps

The next step in the process was to look at what realistically could be done to address the climate change adaptation gaps identified. The workshop participants identified the following initiatives that could assist in addressing some of these gaps:

- Form a **network** with a neutral secretariat to respond to policy documents, lobby, advocate and contribute to the NCCC. Ensure there is a follow-up process for the network (e.g. another meeting)
- Link to other existing networks/forums/structures e.g. BD network, SANGOCO, Water Caucus, Chamber of Commerce, AgriSA, NCCC, NSDF, DEWA, NEEP
- Form study groups on key topics, taking a cluster approach
- Consider how existing work can draw on and contribute to the network (Brenda Martin, Adele Arendse, Mbedzi Maluta, Mokibelo Segabetla)
- Network members should contribute to the DEAT database on climate change projects, and this information should be made available to network members.
- Ask for feedback on Second National Communication process
- Share workshop findings with others, including donors, and possibly build coherence between funders
- Adaptation map (digital) – who is doing what (Claire Davis - CSIR, 90 by 2030)

- Create a database of adaptation projects focusing on activities and contact details
- Create a web-based list of resources on adaptation (90 by 2030, Selelo, Adele Arendse – SSN Africa/Indigo)
- Develop and share case studies on coping mechanisms (Wendy Annecke - Energia)
- Education for children – a simple interpretation at their level (SANBI)
- Mainstream climate change into local community processes (using accessible language) and use communication specialists
- Identify adaptation work that does not fall under climate change.
- Identify climate change champions at the local level, and form these into focus groups
- Support civil society demands for effective adaptation initiatives from government
- Promote discussion in civil society about effective self-driven adaptation
- Simplify the jargon and messages, and incorporate “communication” specialists
- Promote and support traditional organic agro-ecology
- Promote and support subsistence and commercial farming that maintains ecosystem health
- Campaign for free basic clean energy
- Demand payback of historical social and ecological debt
- Adaptation manual

D. WAY FORWARD

Formation of a Network on Climate Change Adaptation

Participants agreed on the need to form a network, or network of networks, on climate change adaptation. This network should be able to respond to policy documents such as the Second National Communication, to lobby, advocate and contribute to the National Climate Change Committee (NCCC). The organization *90 by 2030* offered to host the network and was nominated by participants to host the network secretariat in Cape Town.

It was agreed that the secretariat should aim to establish both a list-serve for the network and a social networking site to host content discussions. The organizations CAP, Mvula Trust and Indigo development and change offered their support to the hosts, and the Environmental Monitoring Group offered their support and specific assistance through the use of the Drynet database and newsletter. SANBI also offered to provide a venue at the Roodepoort Botanical Gardens to host the next network meeting, which the participants agreed should be a two-day workshop in August 2009.

Taking the Network Forward: Formation of an Interim Task Team

A task team was formed to take forward the establishment of the network, and this team will play the role of an interim steering committee. Their role will include providing guidance to the secretariat on content issues, discussing funding options and holding the secretariat accountable to its members. The team will help to build a representative network, and establish strategic links to draw in people who are already involved in climate change adaptation work. They will also help to ensure that the workshop themes are addressed and discuss overlaps with other initiatives.

A large number of organizations and individuals offered to serve on the task team, and were elected to ensure a balanced representation of participants, both in terms of content and geographic distribution. This group will be revisited at the next meeting to form a more permanent steering committee. The task team currently consists of the following members as below.

Interim task team

- SANBI (Mandisa Kondlo/ Malusi Natsha)
- CAP (Sarshen Marais)
- EMG/Drynet (Noel Oettle)
- Indigo development & change (Bettina Koelle)
- Energia (Wendy Annecke)
- GREEN Network (Sandile Ndawonde)
- KIB (Nokwazi Dlamini)
- SACODAS (Thierry Alban)
- Katlemo-Moho Assoc
- Rehana Dada
- Sandra Musengi-Ajulu



Evaluation of the workshop

The workshop was closed with an evaluation highlighting some positives about the workshop and some suggestions for improvements for the future. The summarized evaluation noted that participants expressed appreciation for the workshop process, the positive spirit and expressed excitement to have made a start on a South African Adaptation Network.

The participants requested that future workshops should allocate more time for interaction and possibly include a field trip. They suggested considering venues for workshops that are central to an airport, but not necessarily in Johannesburg, in an environmentally friendly venue. Participants also emphasized that at the next meeting CBOs should be more strongly encouraged to attend.

APPENDIX - Resources

National Adaptation Processes

- National Climate Change Response Policy process. Initial input by end June to tdlamini@deat.gov.za and plukey@deat.gov.za. First draft due August. Green Paper early 2010. Act in 2011
- DEAT Climate Change Database: qramavhona@deat.gov.za

Web-based Resources

For status of **science of climate change**: www.ipcc.ch

For global **policymaking on climate change**: www.unfccc.int

For current **science on climate change and development**: www.scidev.net

For updated **information on adaptation**:

- www.weAdapt.org (Incl. Climate change explorer tool)
- Adaptation Learning Mechanism (www.adaptationlearning.net)
- Linking Climate Adaptation (IDS)
- Africa Adapt Network (IDS) (www.africa-adapt.net)
- Tyndall Centre: <http://www.tyndall.ac.uk/>
- Stockholm Environment Institute: <http://www.sei.se/>
- IIED: <http://www.iied.org/>

For regular **information on climate change and development**: www.tiempocyberclimate.org

For regular **video blogs** (by Saleem) on adaptation funding and actions: www.iied.org

For **community based adaptation**: <http://community.eldis.org/cbax/>

- CBA Exchange (www.cba-exchange.org)
- CLACC (IIED) (www.clacc.net)
- CBAA (www.cbaafrica.org)

For NGOs on global policy (Climate Action Network): www.can.org

For Adaptation Fund: <http://www.adaptation-fund.org/>

For summaries of climate change meetings: www.iisd.ca

For information on NAPAs: <http://tinyurl.com/qp3666>

For products from Stockholm Environment Institute: www.sei.org

Tools

- **CRiSTAL** tool for adaptation additions to livelihoods: <http://www.cristaltool.org>
- **CEDRA**: <http://tilz.tearfund.org/Topics/Environmental+Sustainability/CEDRA.htm>
- CARE – CVCA – Community Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment
- ICRA – Integrated Climate Risk Assessment
- VCA – Vulnerability Capacity Assessment

Books & booklets

- Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment booklets:
<http://www.ifrc.org/what/disasters/resources/publications.asp#vca>
- Understanding CC Adaptation (book) Ensor and Berger. www.practicalsolutions.org to order

Initiatives

- Global Initiative on CBA (GICBA) launched in 2009
- International Conference on CBA (1st, 2nd, 3rd - Bangladesh)
- 4th International Conference on CBA – Tanzania, Feb, 2010
- Development & Climate Days at UNFCCC COPs (IIED)
- UNDP GEF-SGP proposes a CBA Fund Facility
- World Bank's Pilot Programme for Climate Resilience
- World Bank's Development Marketplace 2009 – (innovation, sustainability, potential for scaling up and replication)
- Regional initiatives: e.g. Regional Climate Adaptation Knowledge Platform for Asia (SENSA & UNEP, SEI)
- Climate Change Adaptation in Africa (CCAA) (IDRC & DFID)
- DFID – Climate Change and Development Centre, etc.
- GEF – Special Climate Change Fund
- GEF - Strategic Priority on Adaptation
- GEF – LDC Fund



Attendance List: National Networking Meeting on Climate Change Adaptation, 18 June 2009

SURNAME	NAME	ORGANISATION	CELL	TEL	FAX	E-MAIL	SECTOR/ INTEREST
Annecke	Wendy	GVEP International	084 4473977	021 7023622	021 7023625	wendya@sustainable.org.za	
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Chikozho	Claudious	CSIR	071 565 9876			cchikozho@csir.co.za	adaptation
Chiloane	Kgaugelo	Eskom	076 790 6667	011 629 5631	086 668 9541	kgaugelo.chiloane@eskom.co.za	adaptation
Cousins	Tessa	AWARD	084 5858330	021 424 1795	021 424 1787	tessa@mail.nqo.za	water & ecosystems
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Dlamini	Nokwazi	KIB	073 120 6232			-	
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Goldberg	Karen	EMG / Drynet	072 6347515	021 448 2881		karengoldberg@telkomsa.net	
Harris	Alistar	Project 90x2030		021 674 5095	086 565 5099	alistar@90x2030.org.za	adaptation & mitigation
Hochman	Geraldine	The Mvula Trust	074 103 5626	011 403 3425	011 403 1260	geraldine@mvula.co.za	water & sanitation, bottom-up adaptation
Koelle	Bettina	Indigo Development & Change	079 5243916	027 2181148	027 218 1148	bettina@indigo-dc.org	adaptation, water, livelihoods
Kondlo	Mandisa	SANBI	073 422 2903	011 958 1750	011 958 1752	kondlo@sanbi.org.za	research
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Lebelo	Dorah	The Greenhouse Project/SACAN	083 765 8199	011 720 3773	011 720 3532	dorahl@ghouse.org.za	energy, livelihoods
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Magugu	Abby Taka	Women's Land and Water Rights in Southern Africa		263 4 783335/783333		director@wlwrsa.org	IKS, water, sanitation, food security
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Matsitsi	Ralehloa	Katleho Moho Association				-	
Mgquba	Smangele	Department of Minerals & Energy		012 317 8532	012 317 8511	smangele.mgquba@dme.gov.za	(Adaptation researcher)
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Muchira	Beulah	British High Commission	083 301 7286	012 421 7558	012 421 7660	beulah.muchira@fco.gov.uk	adaptation & mitigation
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Williams	Lesley	Africa ++	071 502 7138			lesley@africaplusplus.org	sustainable development & participation
Worthington	Richard	WWF-SA	082 4466392	011 262 9475	086 631 6268	rworthington@wwf.org.za	international & national policy

Apologies

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