









# **Southern African Regional Meeting Report**

13 September 2016, Atlantic Imbizo Conference Venue Cape Town, South Africa

The Southern African Regional Meeting focused on bringing together delegates from South Africa and some countries in Southern Africa to share their experiences with adaptation funded projects, but also to share the adaptation funding opportunities for the region. Representative countries from Southern Africa included, Namibia, Malawi, Botswana and Zambia.

The programme of the day highlighted the landscape of adaptation finance that is globally available and how it operates. There were two key presenters who talked about adaptation funding internationally and currently ran projects in South Africa.

## The Programme of the Workshop

10:00	Opening and welcome
10:30	Objectives of this workshop
44.00	TC A

11:00 TEA

11:15 Adaptation ZIP ZOP

11:20 Adaptation Experience Talk Show

12:00 The Funding Landscape – international and regional

13:00 Lunch

14:00 Adaptation Labyrinth

14:30 The South African SGF project15:00 Country priorities in the region

15:30 The way forward

16:00 Reflection

16:30 Closure & Coffee

Bettina Koelle (Indigo development & change) gave a brief overview on the objectives of the workshop and gave an introduction to the AF NGO Network. The AF NGO Network is a network of NGO's that are tracking the work that is done by the Adaptation Fund's funded projects, implemented in developing countries.



Photo 1: Lisa Junghans presenting on the adaptation landscape, globally

Lisa Junghans (Germanwatch) gave an overview of the Adaptation Funding Landscape and the processes associated with it. A lot of emphasis was put on the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and the Adaptation Fund (AF).

The GCF being a financial mechanism that can bear more financial risks and can fund a wide range of entities and the case of the Adaptation Fund gets its funds from the Clean Development Mechanism and is funding tangible adaptation projects in vulnerable countries.

The workshop led into a session where participants were asked to group themselves and discuss the adaptation funding landscape within the Southern African region. The funding opportunities in the region were presented in different categories and shared with the workshop for discussion.



Photo 2: The cards in different categories sorted by the groups in the workshop

Mandy Barnett (South African National Botanical Institute shared (SANBI)) gave a presentation about the currently funded projects in South Africa. As the National Implementing Entity (NIE) for the South African projects, Mandy shared some of the highlights of the initiation of the project. Mandy also gave input to the process of getting accredited as the NIE and stimulated great discussion from the participants.



Photo 4: The 'radio show', facilitated to share adaption stories from different implemented projects

For some interaction, Bettina facilitated the 'Adaptation Experience Talk Show', engaging volunteering participants to share their experience with real adaptation funded projects. The session aimed at having the workshop to share and learn from other adaptation projects. Reflections and questions from the audience stimulated great discussions to support project ideas.

Sarah Correy (ACD) who is a consultant for the South African Adaptation Network, will be responsible for raising funds for the network and she gave a brief introduction about the work that she will be doing in the next few weeks. This will include a survey with the network members to find out what they are struggling with in terms of accessing funding.

Bettina invited the international participants to become members of the Adaptation Network in order to receive some of the information regarding funding and adaption projects.

The workshop was concluded with a round of reflections and the way forward. Participants showed strong interest in establishing a network where funding opportunities are shared amongst members in the region. There was a request from participants to have similar meetings on a more regular basis.

An action on the way forward was to create a regional platform to share Adaptation skills and capacity. Another outcome of the meeting was to explore partnership options in the region and to find linkages between researchers and implementers.

The following actions were discussed:

- Explore: training workshop on proposal development (adaptation and mitigation)
- Possible training by ASSAR for Botswana and Namibia in 2017
- Adaptation Network funding: Sarah Correy in the next week
- Adaptation Network strategy and funding database
- Share summary report with links and resources

Feedback forms were completed to evaluate entire process and content of the workshop.

A facilitated evaluation process took place to give insight into the content, process and planning of the workshop:

### What was good?

- Meeting everyone here and seeing new faces
- Lisa's presentation on AF Network important to monitor
- Adaptation Labyrinth energizer
- Hearing a story from Malawi
- Demand for fundraising strategy of the Adaptation Network
- Learning our Silos as practitioners
- Learning and networking opportunity
- Mandy's presentations: insightful
- Getting hope from meeting amazing people
- Workshop getting together different people
- To see how far different countries have moved ahead
- Informative to learn about NGO
- Theories of change
- Spirit of collaborations
- Getting insights from Adaptation Practitioners
- Dialogue and open spirit
- Coming together around this theme would like to do this again

#### Not so good?

Prepared presentations and did not get a chance to share with the workshop

### Suggestions

- Explore how adaptation projects are cost effective
- Would like to know who is going to be here good to have more updates and confirmations
- Some more time to explore fundraising options and way forward
- One day is not enough
- Training for proposal development on adaptation and mitigation

The Attendance list with contact details of workshop participants:

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