

The Second Annual General Meeting of the Adaptation Network

Development Bank of Southern Africa, Midrand, 01 March 2012

1. Opening and welcome

Noel Oettle from the EMG opened the meeting and welcomed all participants to the Adaptation Network AGM.

Julie Clarke from the Drylands Fund welcomed all the participants. She gave special thanks the Adaptation Network for having nominated a civil society representative for the board of the Drylands Fund, Sandile Ndawonde. By hosting the Adaptation Network AGM the Drylands Fund hoped to show its appreciation and contribute to the Network. Julie noted that an effort has been made to make the meeting a green event through focus on providing organic and vegetarian food options.

Dr. Sylvester Mpandeli from DEA welcomed everyone. He reported that DEA is committed to working with the Adaptation Network in various ways, including through the provision of financial support. DEA is positive about working with the Adaptation Network, and is looking forward to finalising the MOU.

2. Attendance and apologies

Please find the attendance and apologies list attached.

3. Introductions

Through a round of introductions, all the participants introduced themselves by name, explained where they come from and shared something that they had learned about adaptation from someone affected by climate change.

4. Adoption of the agenda

Lucinda Fairhurst proposed the adoption of the agenda, and Sylvester Mpandeli seconded the motion.

5. Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Noel Oettle presented the minutes from the previous AGM, held at Kirstenbosch on 29 October 2010. Sylvester Mpandeli proposed the acceptance of the minutes, and Lucinda Fairhurst seconded the motion.

6. Report Back from Steering Committee

Noel Oettle chaired most Steering Committee meetings, which took place in the form of teleconferences. Noel Oettle commended the Steering Committee for being an effective team, with good attendance rates at the meetings.

Bettina Koelle reported back on activities in the past year: the mailing list is functioning well, the website is regularly updated, the logo has been developed and integrated in the Adaptation Network letterhead and business cards for Steering Committee members have been printed.

Katinka Waagsaether (now employed by Indigo) has served as the Network Co-ordinator, managing the mailing list, updating the website, facilitating information sharing and arranging Steering Committee and other network meetings. The highlight of 2011 was the General Meeting in Limpopo, which was hosted by the Limpopo Department of Agriculture. The Adaptation Network hosted some learning events, including a workshop for farmers and fishers at COP 17. A proposal by Bettina Koelle to revive the newsletter with member contributions in the coming year was endorsed by the meeting. Members were invited to contribute to "Adaptation and Beyond," a series of leaflets focused on learning about methodologies published by Indigo development & change.

Sarshen Marais reported that she appreciated the commitment of the members in the Steering Committee. She has provided comment on policy processes in the past year e.g. combined comments on the National Climate Change Response Green Paper and thanked Sylvester Mpandeli (DEA) specifically during COP17 for being open to sharing policy insights and supporting the inclusion of network inputs into the process.

Sylvester Mpandeli noted that there has been a high level of commitment by all the members of the Steering Committee. The Adaptation Network members provide important guidance for him and DEA, and that it is now important to keep the momentum, and keep harmonising the relationship.

Gabriel Lekalakala said being part of the network has helped him think beyond research and science, and he finds that he has gained a lot of skills, for example through organising the Limpopo meeting.

On behalf of the Network, Noel Oettle expressed special thanks to Katinka Waagsaether for co-ordinating the Network, as well as all others who had volunteered their time and effort.

Katinka Waagsaether noted that the Steering Committee was active in Durban during COP 17. The Adaptation Network took part in organising two events in Durban: a Networking dinner for SADC climate change civil society networks (with financial support from Southern Voices and Drynet) and a workshop facilitated by EMG and Indigo (funded by Drynet and EMG), facilitating a learning process with small-scale farmers, artisanal fishers and practitioners and scientists.

7. Memorandum of Understanding with DEA

Sylvester Mpandeli informed the meeting participants that DEA would like to formalise its relationship with the Network through a MoU with the Secretariat of the Network – currently Indigo development & change. A draft document has been prepared by the Steering Committee, and is currently with the legal department of DEA. Sylvester Mpandeli expects that the process might still take another five to six weeks and that the MoU should be finalised in April 2012. Sylvester Mpandeli noted that DEA would like to give financial support to the Network, for example for hosting meetings, and that if the MoU is in place it will be easier to provide such support. He therefore hopes to finalise the document as soon as possible.

Julie Clarke requested that DEA include the Drylands Fund (which falls under DEA) in the MoU, as that means that DEA will not have to go through the process a second time for the Drylands Fund. Sylvester Mpandeli responded that it should be possible to include the Drylands Fund into the current MoU and this could be explored.

It was **agreed** that Sylvester Mpandeli, together with the Steering Committee will work to include the Drylands Fund into the MoU between the Adaptation Network Secretariat and DEA.

It was **agreed** that Sylvester Mpandeli (on behalf of DEA) and Bettina Koelle (on behalf of the Adaptation Network Secretariat) will finalise the MOU over the coming weeks.

8. Discussion on Agriculture and the UNFCCC

Sylvester Mpandeli reported that he only recently became aware that the Department of Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries (DAFF) had made a submission to the UNFCCC. While DEA does not object to DAF making a submission, it is important to understand that DEA is the National Focal Point for all UNFCCC process in South Africa, and such submissions should therefore be forwarded via DEA. DEA is due to meet with DAF to discuss the matter, so as to better co-ordinate future submissions. Sylvester Mpandeli noted that the Department of Water Affairs is also planning to make a submission to the UNFCCC

Noel Oettle emphasised that DEA is the Focal Point of all three Rio conventions, and that it is important to support DEA in creating an integrated approach.

Submissions on Agriculture and climate change in the context of the UNFCCC have been invited by the Secretariat - the deadline for comments is the 5th of March 2012.

It was agreed that a small task team made up of Sarshen Marais, Noel Oettle, Bettina Koelle, Gabriel Lekalakala and Nokutula Mhene will make comments on the current submission and submit these to Sylvester Mpandeli by Monday the 5th of March.

Actions:

- Keep the network informed on the matter (Sylvester Mpandeli and Katinka Waagsaether)
- Make a comment on the current submission before the 5th of March (Sarshen Marais, Noel Oettle, Bettina Koelle, Gabriel Lekalakala and Nokutula Mhene)

9. Presentations by members:

The South African Adaptation Policy Process (Sylvester Mpandeli)

Sylvester Mpandeli reflected the important dates in the history of the South African climate change policy process, including the development of an initial climate change response document in 2004, the first national climate change conference in 2005 and the 2009 climate change summit. After the release of the National Climate Change Response Green Paper in February 2011 there was a long consultation with stakeholders, after which the White Paper process went ahead. The Green Paper saw more than 4 000 comments submitted by stakeholders.

While the Green Paper was a very big document, which set the scene with in-depth analysis, the National Climate Change Response White Paper was a condensed version where DEA brought out the key points. DEA was committed to finishing the White Paper before COP 17 in Durban.

South Africa's response to climate change has two objectives, namely to manage the inevitable climate change impacts, and to make a fair contribution to the global effort to stabilise greenhouse gas concentrations. With regards to adaptation the White Paper outlines a risk-based process to identify and prioritise short-and-medium term adaptation interventions. For the immediate future, water, agriculture and forestry, health, biodiversity and human settlements are sectors that need particular attention.

Sylvester Mpandeli noted that Africa is the most vulnerable continent, and that South Africa needs to increase its capacity level, strengthen its resilience. The White Paper has identified ten flagship programmes, out of which only two focus on adaptation. The two programmes that have been chosen also address national priorities such as job creation, sustainable development and socio-economic development. He noted that the Public Works Programme has been criticised as to whether it creates enough jobs, and for its focus on short-term jobs. However, the programme provides a good start which can be used as a case study and for future monitoring. The Flagship Programmes will be looking for expression of interest to be involved in the programmes, for which there is already funding available, and the Adaptation Network should use this opportunity.

Sylvester Mpandeli noted that the White Paper is not meant to be a stand alone strategy, and that it should be aligned with other priorities, such as jobs, the new growth part and so on. It therefore also works to address the other challenges that South Africa is facing. The government is developing many stand-alone policies and strategies, but it is important to focus on mainstreaming climate change into all sectors and plans. Therefore, in order to mainstream climate-resilient development, all Government departments and state-owned enterprises will review their policies, strategies, legislation, regulations and plans to ensure full alignment with the Climate Change Response policy within two years. What is more, policies need to be revised again every five years, as climate change issues keep changing.

On the financing side Sylvester Mpandeli noted that the Government will use existing financial institutions and instruments, and it will help develop new ones including international financial assistance specifically for climate change response actions. As South Africa is transitioning to a climate-resilient and lower-carbon economy and society, the Government will establish an interim climate finance coordination mechanism to secure the necessary resources for priority programmes.

The Green Climate Fund provides an opportunity to access funding. SANBI has been accredited as the national implementing agent. For those who want more information, they can look at the DEA website, which has presentations and supporting documents.

South Africa will design and publish a draft Climate Change Response Monitoring and Evaluation System within two years. The system will be based on South African scientific measurement standards, and will be undertaken through the Presidency's Outcome-Based System, while at the same time evolving with international Measuring, Reporting and Verification requirements.

Sylvester Mpandeli informed the meeting that DEA will organise a meeting on RIO +20, in order to look at how South Africa can showcase its different activities at the meeting.

In the context of the Draft Policy Framework for Biodiversity and Climate Change, Sylvester Mpandeli reported that some comments have already been made, and that there will also be stakeholder workshops within the biodiversity sector, which will provide an opportunity to provide input. The deadline for the submission of comments is Friday the 2nd of March. Sarshen Marais, Noel Oettle, Nokutula Mhene and Gabriel Lekalakala agreed to try and submit some comments on the document by the following day.

Action:

- Try to submit comments on the Draft Policy Framework for Biodiversity and Climate Change by the end of March the 2nd (Sarshen Marais, Noel Oettle, Nokutula Mhene and Gabriel Lekalakala)

- Share the Biodiversity document to the participants present at the meeting and to the Adaptation Network mailing list (Katinka Waagsaether)

Local governments at COP (Lucinda Fairhurst)

Lucinda Fairhurst shared some insights from ICLEI in relation to local governments and the UNFCCC process, and how ICLEI is mirroring the COP process for local governments.

The Local Government Climate Roadmap (LGCR), the coalition for global climate advocacy of local governments and their networks was launched in Bali in 2007, mirroring the UN Roadmap launch. In 2010, the recognition of local and sub-national governments as governmental stakeholders in the agreement of the Cancun climate conference in 2010 (COP16/CMP6) marked a historical opportunity to mobilise the full potential of local and sub-national action on climate mitigation and adaptation. This was driven forward at COP17/CMP7 through a range of local government positions that collectively called upon the UNFCCC Parties to ‘urbanise the climate agenda’.

During COP17 in Durban ICLEI, together with the South African Government, through the South African Local Government Association (SALGA), South African Cities Network (SACN), eThekweni Municipality and the Department of Environmental Affairs, hosted the Durban Local Government Convention: adapting to a changing climate – towards COP17/CMP7 and beyond. This international event focused primarily on the agenda of the local governments from Africa and the global south – with a strong emphasis on climate adaptation and resilience and brought together key stakeholders from a wide range of sectors. The main outcome of the event was the Durban Adaptation Charter, a political commitment to strengthen local resilience to climate change, which was signed by 114 Mayors and other elected local leaders from 28 countries. In the charter, local governments commit to, among other things, mainstream adaptation as a key informant of all local government development planning and ensure that adaptation strategies are aligned with mitigation strategies. There are also commitments related to monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV), and the first step will now be to create a baseline for those that have committed to the charter. ICLEI is looking to develop a mechanism that enables local governments to document and show what they are doing. The public launch of the Durban Adaptation Charter will take place at RIO +20 in June.

New adaptation tool from ICLEI (Lucinda Fairhurst)

Together with ICLEI Canada, US and Oceania ICLEI Africa is developing an adaptation tool which provides local stakeholders with a step by step process by which they can build capacity and resilience. ICLEI in South East Asia Canada and Oceania are already implementing the tool, and the Cape Town office is now working on a South African version. The tool is almost ready to go, all that remains is to include the local climate data. The aim is to have all the climate data in by the end of July this year.

Julie Clarke from DBSA noted that she works a lot with local government, and that they can help ICLEI “test drive” the approach with their municipal partners. She asked whether small towns and rural municipalities are also part of the ICLEI process. In response, Lucinda Fairhurst noted that they can participate if they want to, and that some already are. She also noted that the tool is not available free of charge, and that they are looking at how they can fund it. It was noted that while the big metros often have the capacity and the finance to promote adaptation, the small, rural municipalities do not.

EbA booklet (Sarshen Marais)

Sarshen Marais informed the meeting participants of the Ecosystem based Adaptation (EbA) booklet which was authored by CSA, SANBI and Indigo

Development and Change and launched at COP17 in Durban. The booklet was funded by the World Bank and supported by DEA, and features case studies on EbA in Africa, elaborating on linkages between biodiversity, ecosystems and sustainable development. The document has been good in terms of giving government representatives, donors etc, an understanding of what EbA is. DEA has offered to fund printing of more copies of the booklet. A longer, more technical report which is angled towards practitioners, is also underway. While the draft of the technical report has been completed, some final updates are being made and final version will be sent in the next month.

SADC Networks meetings (Katinka Waagsaether)

Katinka Waagsaether informed the participants about the two SADC climate change Networks gatherings that have taken place over the last year. The initial meeting took place in Johannesburg in August, and was organised by Zero, Indigo development & change and IIED. It brought together stakeholders across the region, working in the climate change sector. As a follow up, a SADC climate change networks networking dinner was organised in Durban during COP17. With COP17 bringing the members of many networks and organisations to Durban, it provided an opportunity to bring representatives together to network and share experiences around COP17. The networks dinner was organised by the South African Adaptation Network, together with Indigo development & change and Zero, with support and funding provided by IIED and the Southern Voices programme. 30 people attended the dinner, which was held at Café 1999 in Durban.

In order to promote further engagement and knowledge sharing between stakeholders across the region, it was decided that an emailing list for SADC climate change networks should be set up. This was done by the Adaptation Network in cooperation with ZERO, and the emailing list is now up and running.

At this point in the proceedings participants broke for lunch

10. Election of Steering Committee

Individuals and organisations that have signed the pledge and are thus full members can be elected onto the Steering Committee, and have the right to vote in the election (only one vote per organisation). It is agreed that, as the process of signing an MoU with DEA and the Limpopo Department of Agriculture is underway, they are also regarded as having the right to vote and to be represented on the Steering Committee. There were thus 9 voters present at the meeting.

The following individuals were nominated:

1. Sarshen Marais (CSA)
2. Sylvester Mpandeli (DEA)
3. Sandile Ndawonde (Green Network)
4. Katinka Waagsaether (Indigo development & change)
5. Gabriel Lekalakala (Limpopo Department of Agriculture)
6. Nokutula Mhene (Fairtrade Africa)
7. Noel Oettle (EMG)
8. Lucinda Fairhurst (ICLEI Africa)

It is noted that SANBI, an important player in the adaptation field, should also be present on the Steering Committee. It is agreed that Katinka will contact the SANBI CEO in this regard, with an invitation to nominate a suitable candidate to join the Steering Committee.

The members present at the AGM **unanimously elected** the nominated Steering Committee by show of hands.

Indigo development & change has been the Network Secretariat since the inception of the Adaptation Network. Bettina Koelle stated that Indigo is willing to house the secretariat for another year. It was **agreed** by all members present that Indigo will continue to serve as the Secretariat of the Adaptation Network for the coming 12 months, until the next AGM.

Action:

- Write a letter of invitation top SANBI CEO to be represented on the Adaptation Network Steering Committee (Katinka Waagsaether)
- Set up a teleconference for the incoming Steering Committee (Katinka Waagsaether)

11. Key events in the year ahead

The meeting participants compile a list of important meetings and events in the year ahead:

Event	Place	Date	Planning to attend
Workshop on Food and Water	Limpopo	7-8 March	Gabriel
World Water Forum	Marseille	12-16 March	Lucinda, Noel
TEEB	Leipzig	19-23 March	Lucinda
CBA6 conference	Hanoi	16-22 April	Bettina
Resilient Cities	Bonn	12-15 May	Lucinda
Climate Change Conference	Bonn	14-25 May	
Rio +20	Rio, Brazil	20-22 June	Lucinda
Fynbos Forum	Jeffries Bay	16-19. July	Noel
LOCS/ICLEI	Dar es Salaam	20-24 Aug	Lucinda
Stockholm Water Week	Stockholm	26-31Aug	Sarshen, Sylvester
Nairobi Work Programme w/s	Mexico		Sarshen
AZEF	Worcester	8-11 Oct	Bettina, Noel
COP 18	Doha	26 Nov- 7 Dec	Sylvester

Bettina Koelle proposed that the Network compile a list of the events and the members who intend going, and share this with the Network on a regular basis. Members who are interested in hearing more about the events can then contact those who are going. It is noted that there has been a lot of sharing and feedback from events within the Steering Committee, but not so much with the Network as a whole. It is therefore agreed that those who attend events would compile a small summary of the event, which can be added to a Newsletter.

Action:

- Keep a list of events updated throughout the year (Katinka Waagsaether)
- Make sure feedback from events are included in newsletters (all members and Katinka Waagsaether)

12. Brainstorming members' needs that can be met by the Network

Participants formed groups of three to brainstorm Adaptation Network priorities for the coming year. The following proposals were made:

- Identify target groups to impact and/or improve their adaptive capacity
- Skills development
- More focus on collated policy position, factsheets
- Input on policy and reports at national level
- Circulate minutes of steering committee meetings
- Increase, strengthen publicity
- Regular, energised newsletter
- Keep circulating new info

- SC teleconferences
- Help us all understand who is doing what
- Info sharing (list serve and website)
- Recruitment
- Membership drive
- Engage private sector
- Fundraising and marketing
- Support sharing/development of adaptation methodologies
- Capacity development for planning in highly sensitive areas
- Contribute to achieving zero land degradation
- One-stop shop (resource pool)
- Provide training to willing small organisations
- Skills transfer
- Capacity development for community based adaptation
- Empower stakeholders
- Setting up/supporting peer support and learning
- Training and empowerment of farmers
- Site visits
- Hands-on learning for practitioners from farmers
- Monitoring of/for adaptation
- Source and create funding for under resourced organisations to participate at meetings
- Improve time management
- Keep the Government connections
- Self-assessment
- Develop annual programme of action

13. Introduction to the Dryland Fund

Julie Clarke of the Drylands Fund, and the host of this year's AGM, gave a presentation outlining the Drylands Fund. The Fund, which is still in its early stages, is housed as an independent agency in DBSA, and falls under the auspices of DEA. It is designed as an effective vehicle to promote a variety of funding mechanisms, and to mobilize local and international finance. The Fund has developed a business plan, and Julie would like the Adaptation Network to comment on the plan. The Fund belongs to communities, NGOs, Government and business, and their input is therefore important.

The fund is for the poor, by the poor and with the poor, for the environment and for partnerships. The steering committee of the Fund is made up of representatives from Government, NGOs and business. Sandile Ndawonde, represents the Adaptation Network on the steering committee. The essence of the fund is to create a legal platform for everyone to engage and mobilize money. The initial focus of the Drylands fund has been on supporting the deaf community and on those dying from mining waste products. The fund has also been involved in raising money for the spekboom project in Baviaanskloof and various other projects. Julie highlighted how attending the COP17 SADC Climate Change Networks dinner in Durban was a great opportunity for her to engage with stakeholders across the region, and she thanked the Adaptation Network for organising the event.

Bettina Koelle reported how at the SADC climate change networks meeting, which was organised in Pretoria in August last year, the networks wrote a mandate supporting the Drylands Fund.

14. Funding

Bettina Koelle informed the meeting participants that Gabriella Demergasso, who works with fundraising for Indigo development & change, had also compiled a list of potential donors for the Adaptation Network. She proposed circulating the list for those who would like to be part of a Fundraising Task Team. It was **agreed** that the set up of a new Fundraising Task Team for will be discussed at the next Steering Committee meeting.

15. Dates and venues of the next meeting

It was **agreed** that the Adaptation Network will aim to organise one general meeting, combined with a learning event, in the coming year, and that the next AGM will be organised for early February next year.

16. Evaluation

The meeting participants were asked to share what they liked about the AGM. Comments included:

- ✓ Enjoyable presentations, learned new things
- ✓ Impressed by the Drylands Fund
- ✓ Enjoyed the interactive discussions and brainstorming
- ✓ Enjoyed the Information sharing and presentations
- ✓ Enjoyed the day, and the sharing of annual events, was very useful.
- ✓ An inspiring day
- ✓ Loved meeting everyone
- ✓ Enjoyed the spirit and enthusiasm, the good food and the ICLEI presentation. The participation from Government was good
- ✓ It was a great venue, and a good variety of people present

For things that could be improved for the next meeting, comments included:

- There could be more time for getting to know each other
- Might be good to separate procedural issues and presentations, so maybe do two days rather than one.
- Would be good to create summaries from presentations
- Would be good to be more strict on time, start on time as per schedule
- Important to make sure that all participants receive the agenda before the meeting
- It would be good to raise funding for more people to participate

Lucinda Fairhurst highlighted how it is difficult to get two days out of the office for meetings, and proposed combining the meeting with presentations and inputs from members, as knowing what happening is crucial.

Action:

- Get the presenters to do a summary of their presentations (Katinka Waagsaether)

17. Closure

Noel Oettle closed the meeting by thanking everyone for being there. He thanked Julie Clarke and the Drylands Fund and DEA, for providing funding and the venue, and Katinka Waagsaether and Bettina Koelle for organising the meeting logistics. He concluded by congratulating the incoming Steering Committee, and thanking them for their willingness to serve.

Appendix A:

Attendance register AGM of the Adaptation Network – 01 March 2012

Surname	First name	Organisation	Email
Clarke	Julie	Drylands Fund	JulieC@dbsa.org
Fairhurst	Lucinda	ICLEI	lucinda.fairhurst@iclei.org
Hani	Zukiswa	EMG	zukiswa@emg.org.za
Koelle	Bettina	Indigo development & change	bettina@indigo-dc.org
Lekalalala	Gabriel	Limpopo Department of Agriculture	lekalakala@gmail.com
Marais	Sarshen	Conservation South Africa	s.marais@conservation.org
Mhene	Nokutula	Fairtrade Africa	n.mhene@fairtradeafrica.net
Mkhize	Ntando	DEA	Ncmkhize@environment.gov.za
Mpandeli	Sylvester	DEA	smpandeli@environment.gov.za
Munnik	Victor	Mvula Trust	Victor@mvula.co.za
Nightingale	Candice	Environmental studies graduate	RosN@dbsa.org
Ntseki	Ntseki	Ecohope	nntseki@msn.com
Oettle	Noel	EMG	dryland@global.co.za
Ramavhona	Nkoniseni Collins	DEA	NRamavhona@environment.gov.za
Ramugondo	Rendani R.	Limpopo Department of Agriculture	-
Ratuambo	Christopher	Gauteng Department of Agriculture	-
Rollin	Christina	DBSA	CRollin@gmx.net
Waagsaether	Katinka	Indigo development & change	katinka@indigo-dc.org

Apologies

Apologies were received from:

Huyser, Onno (SANBI), Bragg, Christy (EWT), Davis, Claire (CSIR), Malgas, Rhoda (University of Stellenbosch), Letty, Brigid (Institute of Natural Resources), Mistry, Rashmi (Oxfam), Urquhart, Penny (Independent analyst), Annecke, Wendy (SANParks), Ndawonde, Sandile (The Green Network), Liphadzi, Konani (Gauteng Department of Agriculture), Mandivenyi, Wadzi (DEA).