



WHY NOT YOU? WHY NOT NOW?

# SPARK

CHANGEMAKER NETWORK MAGAZINE

03 What is  
**Climate Change?**

06 What can  
**we do now?**

CHANGE  
MAKER  
NETWORK





#### About TUI Care Foundation

Building on the potential of tourism as a force for good, the TUI Care Foundation supports and initiates projects, which create new opportunities and contribute to thriving communities in tourism destinations all over the world. Connecting holidaymakers to good causes, it supports education and training opportunities for young people; drives the protection of natural habitats and the marine environment; and helps local communities to thrive sustainably and benefit from tourism. The TUI Care Foundation builds on strong partnerships with local and international organisations to create meaningful and long-lasting impact. The independent charitable organisation was founded by TUI, one of the world's leading tourism businesses, and is based in the Netherlands.



#### About TUI Junior Academy

The TUI Junior Academy programme inspires young people to protect nature and wildlife and empowers them to become Eco Champions in their communities. It builds awareness for the fragility of nature by developing these competencies in schools and communities and brings the classroom to life through excursions and nature-based experiences.

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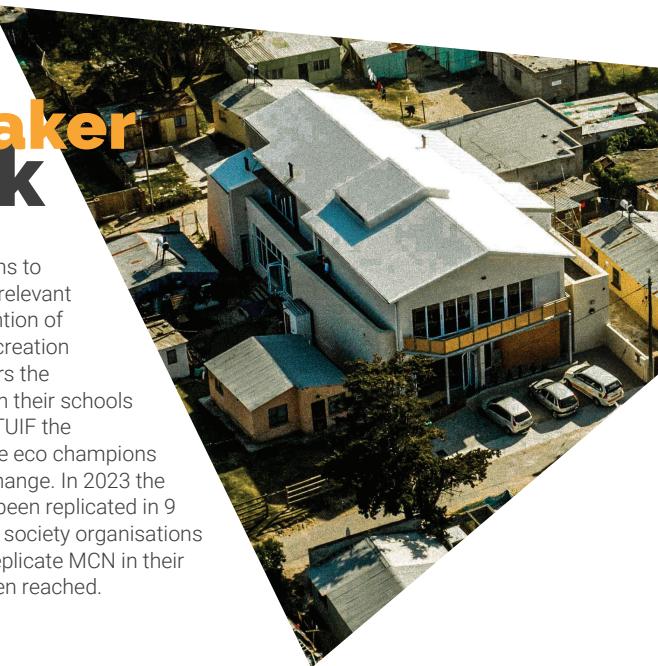


**More on Masifunde**  
[www.masifunde.org](http://www.masifunde.org)

**More on the Changemaker Network**  
[www.Changemaker-Network.org](http://www.Changemaker-Network.org)

## Masifunde's Changemaker Network

masifunde's Changemaker Network aims to capacitate learners with knowledge on relevant social topics such as leadership, prevention of gender-based violence, bullying, or the creation of safer schools. The network empowers the participating learners to spark change in their schools and communities. With the support of TUIF the masifunde changemakers have become eco champions who will drive positive environmental change. In 2023 the masifunde Changemaker network has been replicated in 9 provinces in South Africa where 40 civil society organisations have been capacitated and trained to replicate MCN in their communities and 200 schools have been reached.



# FOREWORD



In this edition of Spark the changemaker focus is on the challenge of climate change. Climate change is about a bunch of things, all interacting, that act to "turn up the volume" on things like rainfall, wind, heat, and currents in the air and the sea. Our planet is a complex mix, a "system" of interacting parts that allow us to live our day-to-day lives through providing us with things like oxygen and food. But this is changing, and changing faster.

But life on the planet is tough, we've evolved and adapted to seasons, we've sailed our boats through storms before, and survived thousands of years. Except in this case we're punching holes into the same boat we're sailing.



**Dr Gary Koekemoer**  
Climate Change Expert



# What is Climate Change?

Climate change refers to the overall changes in the Earth's land and sea temperatures, winds, rainfall, ice coverage, and sea currents over a long period of time. The planet's climate has naturally changed a number of times in the past thousands of years, due to volcanic eruptions, meteor strikes, and changes in the sun's activity. But in the last 200 years, human activity, such as the burning of fossil fuels and how we use the land and sea, has started changing the climate on an accelerating basis – the changes are getting bigger, and faster.

Understanding climate change is crucial for all, especially the younger generation who will inherit the Earth and have to deal with bigger changes than we have now.

To understand Climate Change, let us first define what is "weather" and what is "climate"

- Weather** - Is the state of the atmosphere at a particular place at a particular time or for a limited period of time (for example a Day or a Month). "It's raining today" – that's weather
- Climate** - Is the average state of the weather at a particular place over a long period of time (several decades). "the Earth's land temperature has been increasing on average every year for the last two hundred years" – that's climate change.

## Other terms we will need to know as we delve into this magazine

<b>Global Warming</b>	A gradual increase in the overall temperature of the Earth's atmosphere generally attributed to the greenhouse effect caused by increased levels of carbon dioxide, CFCs, and other pollutants.
<b>Pollution</b>	The introduction of harmful materials into the environment. These harmful materials are called pollutants. Pollutants can be natural, they can also be created by human activity, such as trash or runoff produced by factories. Pollutants damage the quality of air, water, and land
<b>Greenhouse gases</b>	These are gases that contributes to the greenhouse effect by absorbing infrared radiation. Carbon dioxide and chlorofluorocarbons (CFC) are examples of greenhouse gases

# WHAT CAUSES Climate Change?

## The Greenhouse Effect

When we use coal to generate electricity, when we use petrol to drive our cars, when we burn forests to clear land for farming, we release a gas called carbon dioxide into the air. And that gas drifts up into the atmosphere and traps more of the sun's energy, which heats up the "greenhouse" we all live in, and that extra heat begins to change the weather patterns of the planet we're used to. The air gets hotter, icebergs begin to melt, the seas rise and heat up, the wind changes, storms get stronger, it rains less and then it rains a lot (it "bombs" down). And when we change the conditions, other things start to change too, fish move, rivers dry up, wildfires increase, tides get bigger and wash away the shoreline, and floods happen more frequently. Like a spiderweb, touch one part and the whole web feels it.

The re-radiation of heat warms the planet's surface, creating a stable climate necessary for life. But human activity has increased the amount of greenhouse gases, which means the "blanket" keeps more heat in. Basically, we've turned up the heat.

These activities have cause the Earth to warm by approximately 1.1°C already since the 1800's. And we're heading for 1.5°C by 2030. While this might not sound like much, it has significant implications for people and wildlife around the globe, as the temperatures rise at an unusual rate.

Those human activities include things such as:

- Burning fossil fuels
- Industrial factory processes
- Polluting the air, land and sea

# WHAT CAN WE DO NOW?

Mitigation, adaptation and building resilience are three key approaches to addressing climate change

## MITIGATION

Mitigation refers to actions taken to reduce or prevent the drivers of climate change, such as the further emission of greenhouse gases, which are responsible for global warming

## ADAPTATION

Adaptation, on the other hand, focuses on adjusting and preparing for the impacts of climate change that are already occurring or are expected to happen in the future. Adaptation strategies aim to minimize the negative consequences of climate change.

## BUILDING RESILIENCE

Building resilience, because climate change combines with other factors such as pollution, the overall health of our ecosystems declines, and their resilience to change is reduced.

## What is an Eco-Champion?

An Eco-Champion is an individual or entity actively involved in driving positive environmental change. These individuals promoting sustainability, conservation, and eco-friendly practises in different ways.

### Eco-Champion to do list

- Educate those around you about climate change

- Follow the 5R's

- Save waste & keep waste out of water

- Consume responsibly

- Keep plants healthy

- Upcycle and donate your clothes

- Save electricity

- Don't waste food

- Lead by example, Be the Change

# ACTIVITY

On the table below are examples of activities that address climate change, tick the box which the statement refers to.

	Activities	Mitigation	Adaptation
a	Using public transportation or carpooling instead of driving alone to reduce carbon emissions from vehicles.		
b	Installing solar panels on rooftops to generate clean and renewable energy.		
c	Implementing water conservation measures and efficient irrigation techniques in regions experiencing drought.		
d	Modifying agricultural practices to cope with changing growing seasons and shifting weather patterns.		
e	Planting trees and creating green spaces to absorb carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.		

ANSWERS: a-M • b-M • c-A • d-A • e-M

# SUSTAINABLE LIVING



Climate change results from human activity and requires a change in our lifestyle to ensure a sustainable future.

Remembering the 5Rs:

**Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, and Rethink**—is key.

Refuse single-use plastics, reduce waste, reuse items, recycle materials, and rethink consumption habits. This approach minimizes our environmental impact and fosters a partnership with nature, preserving our only home for future generations.

**masifunde's**

# CHANGE MAKER NETWORK

The Changemaker Network aims to capacitate learners with knowledge on various social topics, such as school safety, through activation workshops and changemaker trainings so that they can spark positive change through campaigns and leadership in their respective schools and communities.

**OBJECTIVE:** To encourage young people to take responsible positive actions to find solutions and understand that they have the power to impact and influence their peers and consequently their communities, even those who are said to be from vulnerable groups in our communities. To create an environment that enthuses them to be resilient. *"Why Not You? Why Not Now?"*



This project gets replicated nationwide in all 9 provinces of South Africa in partnership with 40 Civil Society Organizations, 200 SCHOOLS and ultimately training 1000 CHANGEMAKERS.

An initiative by:



**masifunde**  
LEARNER DEVELOPMENT



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