# National Climate Change Information System

Integrating Data and Decision-Support









#### CONTEXT





- In South Africa, climate-related disasters over the last four decades have resulted in approximately US\$5 billion in economic damages (Davis-Reddy et al., 2019 GreenBook)
- The country is projected to face a higher frequency of climate related disasters that are increasing in intensity, and these events are likely to be associated with impacts that are on par with, if not worse than those already experienced (Engelbrecht et al. 2018 Third National Communication to UNFCCC)
- Creating an enabling environment for both climate change adaptation and disaster risk management is critical to ensure future resilience

#### **BACKGROUND**

- Proper monitoring and reporting of climate change mitigation and adaptation data requires a coherent system of data collection within the National, Provincial and Municipal administrative structures.
- NDP: "the government needs to build capacity to effectively administer the monitoring, reporting and verification systems, supported by the participation of industry and other stakeholders" (RSA, 2012: p208).
- NCCRP: "South Africa needs a country-wide monitoring system to measure climate variables at scales appropriate to the institutions that must implement climate change responses" (DEA, 2011: p.6).

#### BACKGROUND

- In partnership with the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA), the South African Environmental Observation Network (SAEON) is developing a series of decision support tools for climate change adaptation, monitoring and reporting.
- The work done to date by SAEON fits into a wider framework aimed at systematically transforming a wide variety of systems and initiatives into an integrated, modular system of systems.

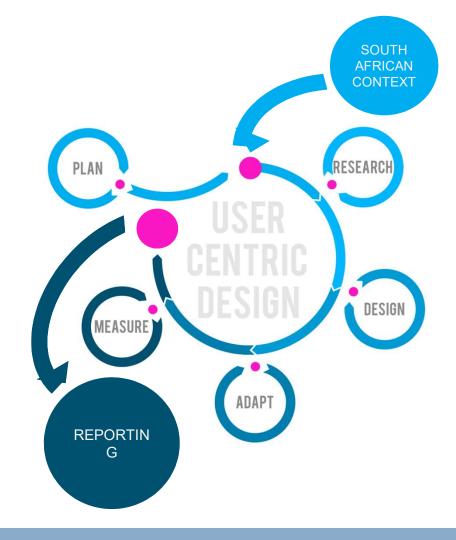
#### **SOLUTION DESIGN**

SAEON is building the Climate Change Information System. A web-based platform that:

- collates data from a range of sources for the purpose of specific reporting formats; and
- integrates systems commissioned by Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA), from SAEON, and from other stakeholders, locally and abroad.

The information will be used to populate the national Climate Change Report, UNFCCC reporting, GHG Inventory and others.

A user centered design approach - an iterative **design** process in which designers **focus** on the **users** and their needs in each phase of the **design** process



# National Climate Change Information System

#### **About**

The NCCIS is a first step towards development of an open source, standards-based, and integrated portfolio of systems that aims to eliminate duplication of effort, limits multiplication of data sources, and is re-usable on many levels of government in South Africa.

#### Purpose

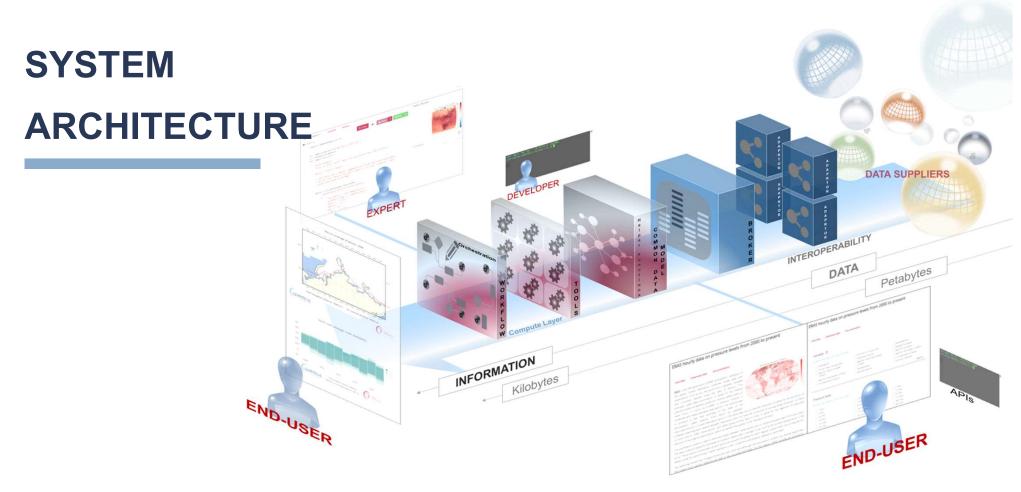
The system monitors and evaluates climate change drivers, events, links to national objectives, targets and strategies in respect of climate change mitigation and adaptation monitoring and assessment of actions taken by stakeholders.

#### National Reporting on Climate Change

The NCCIS is part of the national effort to track South Africa's overall transition to a low carbon and climate resilient economy as required by the National Development Plan (Vision 2030) and the National Climate Change Response Policy (2011) as well as the South Africa's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC 2015) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Climate change transparency is at the heart of the Paris Agreement and as such South Africa, along with other countries will need to enhance reporting on climate actions and their effects.

### SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

- The system should be able to collect data in a standardised way that is typical for the climate change field and the South African context
- Using that common frame of reference, global change resources –
  including datasets and services, static content, references to documentation
  and reports, and other digital objects, with specific collections (e.g. LRT)
  should be easy to search and discover
- It should be capable of being modified by DEA and relevant parties as the context changes and new information is added
- It should contain a portfolio of online Atlases, including thematic atlases such as the Climate Change Atlas and the Carbon Sinks Atlas
- It should integrate systems that assist with gathering data needed for reporting (e.g. GHG emissions), hazardous events (NHEDB), and mitigation and adaptation actions (e.g. NCCRD).



CDS Toolbox concept (credit: Copernicus Climate Change Service)

### SYSTEM ARCHITECTURE

#### **Vision**

- Distributed, federated system of systems based on agreed data and metadata standards and specifications.
- Broadening of the concept of the National Framework for Climate Services (NFCS).
- Multiple-level implementation with re-usable code, embeddable components, and configurable services or applications.
- Large variety of data sources distributed as required by data providers and formal sources.
- Scalable, extensible, single source of truth

### SYSTEM ARCHITECTURE

 Data-level integration: Province/ Local Authority develops its own system, but exchanges data with DEA via interoperable services and using specified vocabularies.

### The following levels of external integration are possible:

Code-level integration: Province/ Local Authority develops its own fork of
 DEA open source components, by definition these exchange data via interoperability services and uses the designated vocabularies.

- Component-level integration: Province/ Local Authority embeds components hosted by DEA into their own systems. Interoperability and vocabulary implementation is implicit.
- **1. Configured instances:** A subset of data and resources is configured and branded for a Province/ Local Authority, with systems hosted by DEA.

#### **DATA SOURCES**

### Public and Private Databases and Services, systems, and web-based resources



GHG/ Pollutants Budgets, Monitoring, Targets

Hazardous and Disastrous Events Monitoring and Impact Assessments

Climate Change Impact, Risk and Vulnerability

Mitigation and Adaptation Options, Projects, Funding

Technology Needs and Climate Finance

**Indicators** 

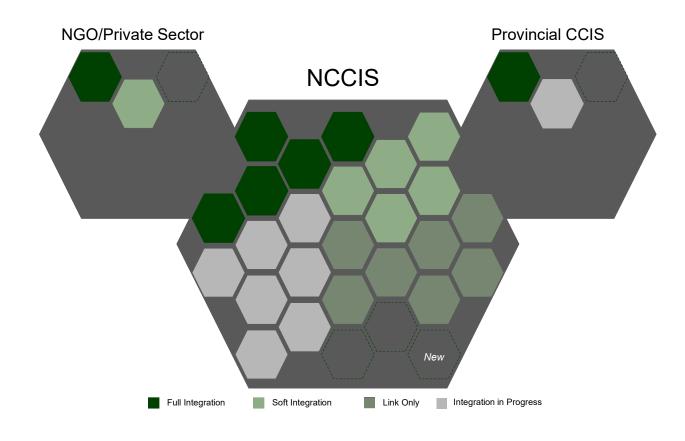
Resources - Reports, Policies, Studies, Research

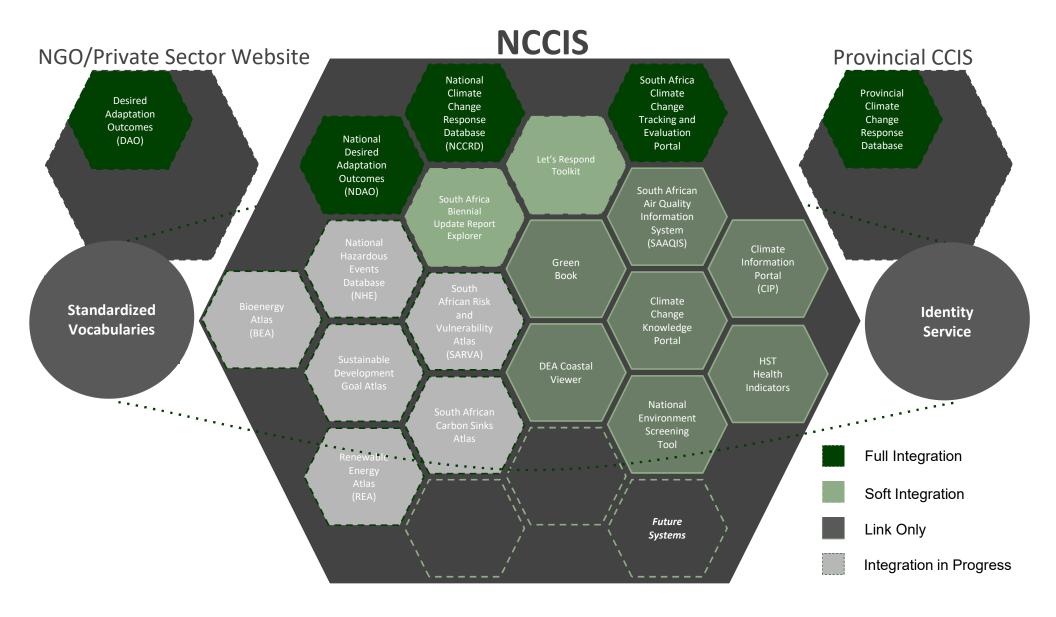
#### **COMPONENTS**

#### **A Data Services Ecosystem**

NCCIS is composed of building blocks and key elements to identify specific aspects of climate resilience for direct monitoring and evaluation.

Each service plays a specific role in the ecosystem with data feeding in at different points from different elements to inform the whole.





#### **Complimentary Systems**



#### **GREENBOOK**

- Vulnerability profiles of settlements of SA
- Adaptation action framework and options



### RENEWABLE ENERGY ATLAS

- Data sources (e.g. fuel wood usage, access to energy, land cover change, rate of urbanisation)
- Feasibility-tested options



#### **NDMC**

The information required on hazardous events is coordinated and managed by the National Disaster Management Centre (NDMC)



#### **SDG ATLAS**

- SDG indicator data and reporting available at a high resolution to municipal planners
- Establishment of an SDG indicator atlas that aligns with national reporting to the UN and thus a single source of truth



#### **SARVA**

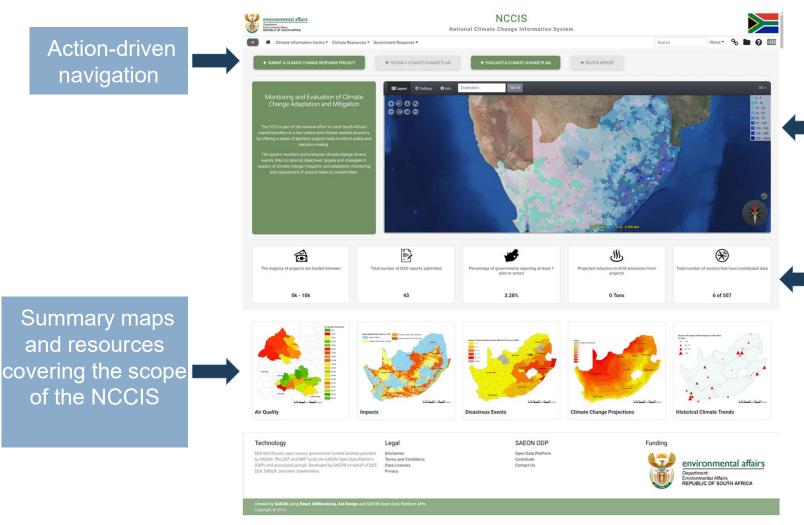
Visualisation of vulnerability and exposure to environmental hazards within a particular location, through spatial and non-spatial data and information.



#### **SAWS**

- WMO Extreme climate indices, updated on an annual basis, will become available in 2020 on the SAWS website.
- Publication of an annual State of the Climate report on the SAWS website.

#### **NCCIS DASHBOARD**



Interactive Atlas

Filterable summary of facts and figures from across all systems

### Action-driven navigation



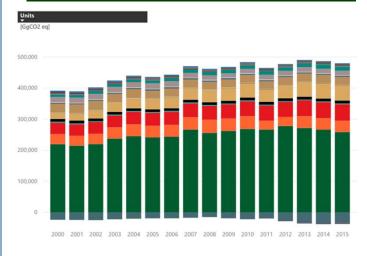
- ▶ Climate Information Centre
- ► Climate Resources
  - Governement Response
- Submit a climate change response project
- ▶ Design a climate change plan
- ▶ Evaluate a climate change plan

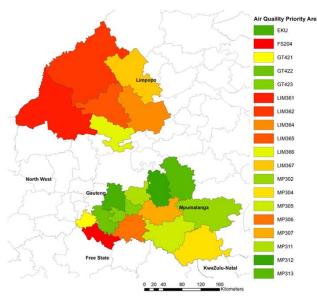
Review Report

Explore GHG and air quality data, historical and projected climate data, climate information by province, and key vulnerabilities and impacts.

## GHG EMISSIONS DATABASE: T&E PORTAL



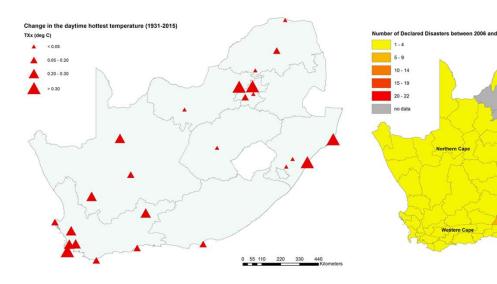




Explore GHG and air quality data, historical and projected climate data, climate information by province, and key vulnerabilities and impacts.

#### HISTORICAL CLIMATE TRENDS: SAWS

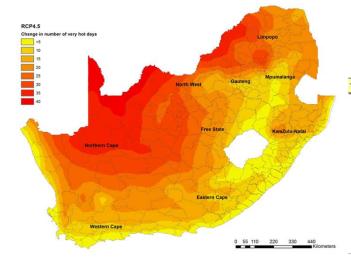
#### HAZARDOUS EVENTS: NDMC

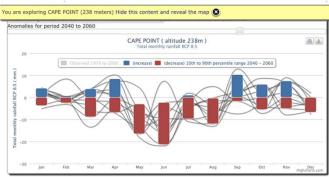


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### CLIMATE CHANGE PROJECTIONS:

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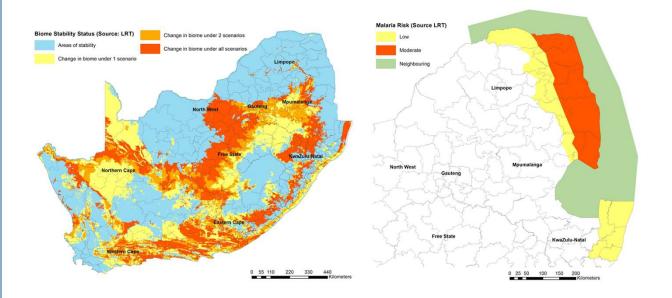




LET'S RESPOND TOOLKIT

### CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS: EXAMPLE LET

### RISK AND VULNERABILITY: EXAMPLE LRT



# CLIMATE CHANGE RESOURCES AND LINKS

Evaluation Documentation





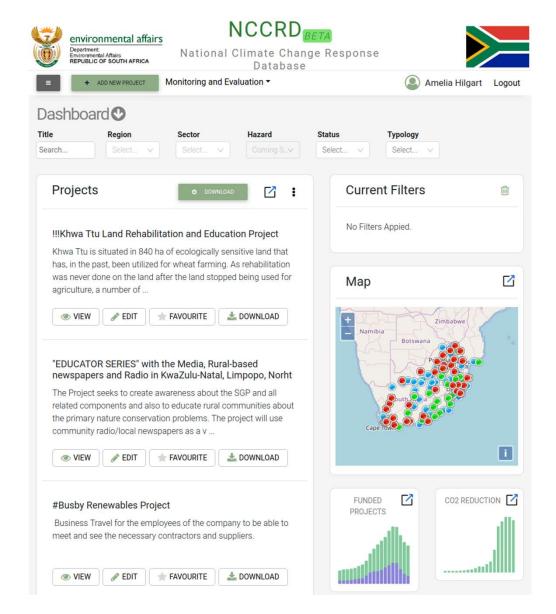
## + SUBMIT A CLIMATE **CHANGE** RESPONSE **PRO**

**NCCRD** 

#### NATIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE RESPONSE

- projects and their details. Each project can have any number of adaptation or mitigation actions, which are the individual actions under the main project.
- The NCCRD also offers modern reporting capabilities with maps, charts, summary views and more to document and describe the technical and financial feasibility of an action, the projected reduction of greenhouse gases for each action, actions to address specific climate change hazards, the amount of funding going into different action types, and how many actions different industrial sectors are contributing to the database.
- The NCCRD is one of the core components of the NCCIS and serves as an entry point for reporting from bottom up and from the top down on South Africa's efforts towards combating climate change and its impacts.
- The NCCRD ties directly into the National Desired Adaptation Outcomes Questionnaire (NDAO). Any climate change plan can be linked to a NDAO entry or vice versa.

# + SUBMIT A CLIMATE CHANGE RESPONSE PROJECT



# + SUBMIT A CLIMATE CHANGE RESPONSE

#### **NCCRD**

Each project in the database is broken down into:

- general project overview
- · description of the funding provided for the project, and
- details of specific adaptation and mitigation actions taken in the project.

Each action is separated into applied or research: research options are studies to test some aspect of action implementation whereas applied projects can be implemented or rolled out directly at a variety of scales.



# + DESIGN A CLIMATE CHANGE PLAN

#### RISK AND VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT

- Updated review and best practise guidelines
- LRT Risk and Vulnerability Framework and Procedure
- Additional tools: SARVA and GreenBook

LET'S RESPOND TOOLKIT

#### STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

- Guidelines on how to conduct stakeholder engagement
- Participatory approaches

#### PLANNING INTEGRATION

- Climate change support checklists
- Guidelines on how to integrate climate change into planning
- Guidelines on how to use climate change projections and deal with uncertainty

COMING SOON TO NCCIS

Part 2 Integration (Dec 2019)

#### International climate change adaptation-related agreements

South Africa is subject to a number of international environmental agreements, some of which require reporting on climate change adaptation, as outlined below.

Paris Agreement and A-NDC goals

**SDG** targets and indicators

**UNCCD** expected impacts and indicators

**UN Habitat focus areas and strategic results** 

Sendai targets

**South African Context** 



COMPLETED SYSTEM

Desired Adaptation
Outcomes (NDAO)

#### FORTHCOMING SYSTEMS AND CONTENT



Desired Mitigation
Outcomes



Indicators



Sustainable
Development Goals



Other policy documentation

#### NATIONAL DESIRED ADAPTATION OUTCOMES

The NDAO questionnaire is a component of the larger NCCIS designed as a monitoring and evaluation framework for climate change resilience by a variety of stakeholders through progress towards a series of goals.

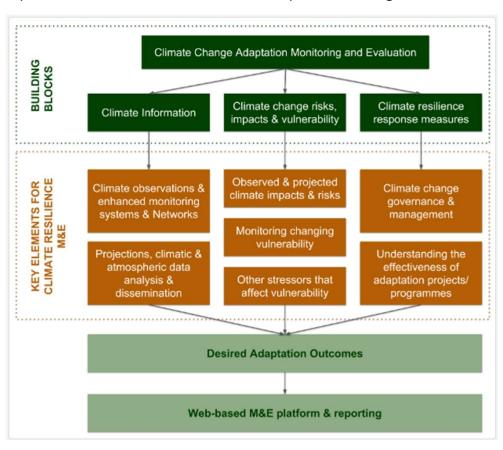
#### **GOALS**

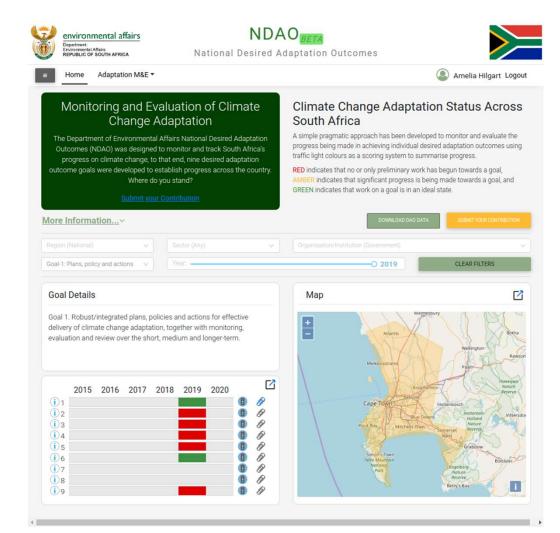
G1-G6: monitor and evaluate the *inputs needed* (e.g. processes, resources and capacities) to enable effective climate change adaptation.

G7-G9: monitor and evaluate the *key impacts* desired of adaptation interventions and associated measures (e.g. reductions in vulnerability of human- and natural-systems).

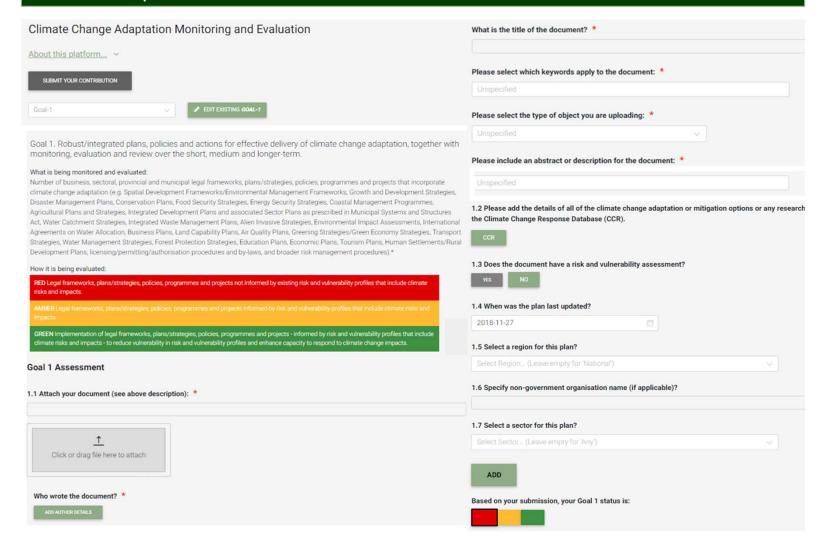
#### NDAO

Inputs considered to inform the NDAO questionnaire goals

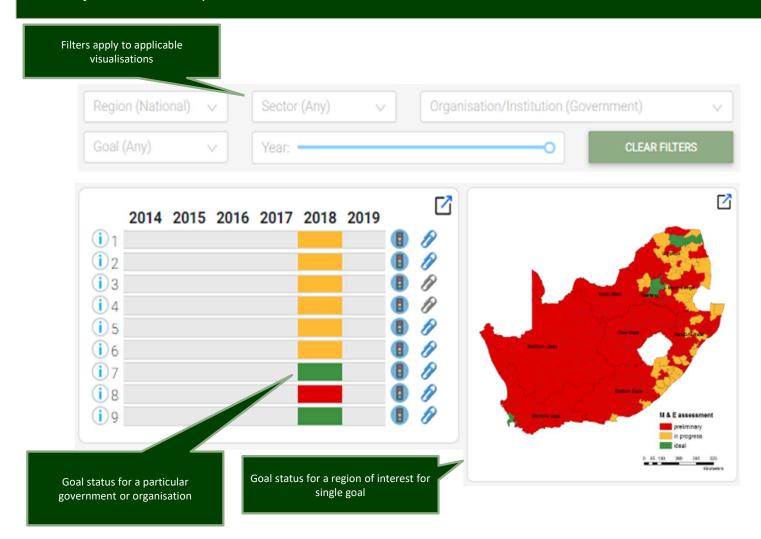




#### Desired Adaptation Outcome Questionnaire



#### Summary of Desired Adaptation Outcome Questionnaire



## COMING SOON FEATURES



FINANCING
CLIMATE CHANGE
ACTION

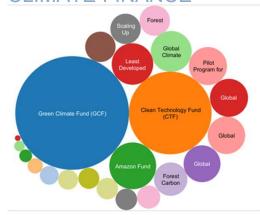
#### TECHNOLOGY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

The aim of South Africa's Climate Change Technology Needs Assessment (DST, 2007) was to identify and assess environmentally sound technologies that may, within national development objectives, reduce the impact of climate change and greenhouse gas emissions in South Africa. Subsequent desired outcomes of the assessment include its potential to open up access to funds, create an enabling environment for the transfer and uptake of technologies, and highlight opportunities for research and development cooperation. The Department of Science and Technology is currently in the process of updating the Technology Needs Assessment (Chapter 5, Section 5.1).

#### TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

South Africa's NDE will set out to accelerate climate technology transfer in the country and has established operational processes, including advisory committee comprising representations from relevant departments, operational government organisation structure and tools, such as periodic technical assistance project calls and project assessment procedures.

#### **CLIMATE FINANCE**



Dec 2019

#### **RESOURCES**



**COMING SOON** 

Dec 2019

#### **NATIONAL**

- The National Climate Change Response White Paper
- The National Development Plan
- Long Term Mitigation Scenarios, and the
- Long Term Adaptation Scenarios
- South Africa's Intended Nationally Determined Contribution
- South Africa's Third National Communication
- Annual Climate Change Reports
- Biennial Update Reports

#### **PROVINCIAL**

#### **Provincial Climate Change Summary**

The province has a draft Climate Change Response Strategy (2011), which covers both mitigation and adaptation. The strategy is detailed in coverand priority response options. The strategy also includes a long list of Climate Change Adaptation Programmes, with proposed budgets and responsibilities.

During the development of the strategy, a climate change forum was established, but this forum is currently not meeting. The province convenes quarterly Environmental Quality Management (EQM) meetings, where Climate Change and in particular Air Quality issues are raised.

Current climate change specific programs that are taking place appear to be mitigation focused, namely the Eastern Cape Provincial Sustainable Energy Forum and a draft greenhouse gas inventory.

#### **SECTORAL**

- Long Term Adaptation Scenarios
- South Africa's Third National Communication
- Sector Plans

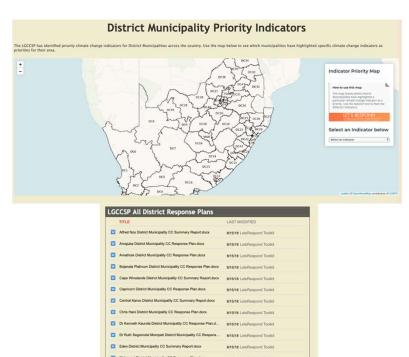


#### **TOOLS**

#### MUNICIPAL CLIMATE CHANGE RESPONSE

- PLANS Summary of CCRP
- Indicators
- Spatial Plan Checklist

LET'S RESPOND TOOLKIT



COMING SOON TO NCCIS

Part 2 Integration LRT (Dec 2019)

### + REVIEW REPORT



**COMING SOON** 

- Any resources, infographics or maps with a ##### symbol can be added to this report directly to be used for reporting purposes. When you are satisfied with the content, the report can be printed or downloaded for further use.
- This feature allows for reporting that is required at local, district, provincial and national scale.
- This feature can be tailored to suit the different reporting requirements, e.g. section headings.

# MOODLE LEARNING PLATFORM

#### TRAINING MATERIAL

The training content will be updated as new component and systems are added.

#### National Climate Change Response Database

#### Training Manual V1

South Africa is projected to face a higher frequency of climate related disasters that are increasing in intensity, and these events are likely to be associated with impacts that are on par with, if not worse than those already experienced (Engelbrecht et al. 2018 Third National Communication to UNFCCC).

This user manual was designed to walk users through the National Climate Change Response Database and was intended as a resource to inform anyone currently working on climate change adaptation or mitigation on how to add these projects to the NCCRD.

## National Desired Adaptation Outcome Questionnaire

#### Training Manual V1

South Africa is projected to face a higher frequency of climate related disasters that are increasing in intensity, and these events are likely to be associated with impacts that are on par with, if not worse than those already experienced (Engelbrecht et al. 2018 Third National Communication to UNFCCC).

This user manual was designed to walk users through the National Climate Change Information System and is intended as a resource to inform anyone interested in climate change information, responses or legislation.

### FINAL RELEASE SYSTEM: MARCH 2020

https://ccis.environment.gov.za/#/

https://ccis.environment.gov.za/nccrd/#/

https://ccis.environment.gov.za/ndao/#/