

SANBI and Adaptation Fund Project Celebratory Event

Author: Mpfunzeni Tshindane (SANBI)

The South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI), an accredited National Implementing Entity (NIE) of the Adaptation Fund, hosted a “Project Celebratory Event” on the 18th of June 2018. The event brought together different project partners, small grant recipients and community beneficiaries from the Small Grants Facility (SGF) and the uMngeni Resilience Project (URP).

At the event, SANBI’s Board Chair Dr Joseph Matjila noted that the projects are increasing the resilience of vulnerable communities through interventions such as early warning systems, climate smart agriculture and climate proofing settlements. Both projects are showcasing the integration of science and local knowledge in adapting to climate change.

SANBI’s CEO Dr Rampedi presented certificates of appreciation to the 13 Small Grants Recipients of the Small Grant Facility Project. These included the Kamiesberg Heritage Foundation (below left) and Tsogang Water and Sanitation (below right). Dr Rampedi thanked the organizations for their commitment and valuable participation in the Community Adaptation SGF project.



Above right: Dr Joseph Matjila, Mr Clement Cupido, Mr Hendrik Kriel and Mr Corneels Links; Above left Dr Joseph Matjila, Ms Patience Chawane and Ms Modjadji Malatji.

Dr Rampedi also presented appreciation certificates to project implementation partners of the uMngeni Resilience Project (i.e. the uMgungundlovu District Municipality and the University of KwaZulu-Natal) in recognition of their leadership in implementing and executing the project.



Above right: Ms Lungi Ndlovu, Ms Thobile Mhlanga, Councillor Gugu Dladla, Dr Joseph Matjila, Mr Lindokuhle Khanyile and Ms Futhi Vilakazi; Above Left Mr Daouda Ndiaye.

Mr Daouda Ndiaye from the Adaptation Fund Secretariat thanked SANBI for its leadership as the National Implementing Entity in South Africa, and for helping the most vulnerable community members from the Namakwa, Mopani and uMgungundlivu District Municipality to increase their resilience to climate driven impacts.

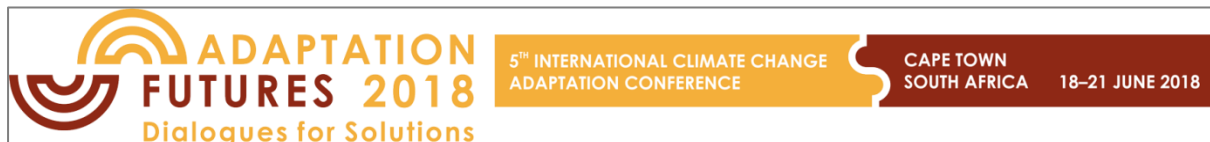
SANBI CEO Welcomes International Delegates at 5th Adaptation Futures Conference

Author: Mpfunzeni Tshindane (SANBI)

The South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI) and the University of Cape Town's African Climate and Development Initiative (ACDI) recently hosted the 5th international [Adaptation Futures](#) conference at the Cape Town International Convention Centre from the 18th to the 21st of June.

On behalf of the conference co-hosts, SANBI's CEO Dr. Moshibudi Rampedi welcomed 1300 delegates from the scientific, policy making, project implementation, business and funding sectors across six continents to facilitate dialogues for solutions in climate change adaptation. *"I hope the conference will bring together collective wisdom to make a real and lasting difference to the planet and society"* mentioned Dr. Rampedi.

Dr Rampedi further indicated that in South Africa, SANBI plays a key role in strengthening the science and policy interface to address adaption needs to climate change. Moreover, SANBI is privileged to be South Africa's National Implementing Entity for the Adaptation Fund and a Direct Access Entity of the Green Climate Fund.



In another plenary session at the conference, SANBI's Climate Funds Lead Dr. Mandy Barnett shared some key insights which the Institute has learnt through its role as South Africa's National Implementing Entity of the Adaptation Fund. Dr. Barnett highlighted the positive impacts that international resources are making on the ground in [the uMngeni Resilience Project](#) and the [Small Grants Facility](#).

SANBI Board visits the uMngeni Resilience Project (URP)

Author: Nokuthula Dubazane (SANBI)

The South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI) Board members visited the URP project on the 16th of July 2018. This site visit was attended by key project partners from uMgungundlovu Municipality and the University of KwaZulu Natal.



Above: SANBI Board members with the UKZN partners and the uMgungundlovu District Municipality, Cllr T.E. Maphumulo

SANBI's Board Chair Dr Joseph Matjila provided a welcome address and thanked the project team for the opportunity to see the work that is currently being piloted in the uMngeni Catchment. URP Project Manager Mrs Lungi Ndlovu provided an overview of the project and the different project components that would be showcased during the site visit.

Professor Albert Modi from UKZN gave an overview of the project components that UKZN is implementing in the Swayimane Area.

The event was also attended by the Mayor of uMgungundlovu District Municipality, Councillor T.E Maphumulo who shared on the value that such projects and partnerships bring to rural areas.



Above left: Dr Mandy Barnett, Dr Joseph Matjila, Cllr T.E. Maphumulo and Ms Carmen Mbivzo. Above right: Professor Albert Modi with SANBI Board members

The SANBI Board was taken for a demonstration of the project's weather station and early warning system. UKZN Component Coordinator, Dr Tafadzwa Mabhaudhi, demonstrated how the Agrometeorological Information Management system was being used by Swayimane High School as a teaching tool. The site visit closed off with a field day where the Board was able to taste and interact with the local farmers who are beneficiaries of this project.



Above left: Professor Albert Modi, SANBI Board members and local farmers celebrate at the farmer field day interaction; Above right: Mr Maano Netshiombo at Swayimane village.