

Dear friends, partners and associates

In this newsletter, we are sharing exciting developments from two of our projects. As lock-down continues, we are making great strides in adapting our stakeholder engagement and capacity development approaches for online modalities.

Our engagements and research are revealing striking insights about emerging views on the relationship between climate change responses and mine rehabilitation in South Africa, and innovative approaches to groundwater investments as an integral part of regional water security.

We hope you find these insights useful towards building social, economic, and institutional resilience in the context of climate and resource constraints.

We wish everyone good health.

Belynda and the OneWorld team

Project news

➤ Climate Change Impacts on Mining in South Africa



MINING INDUSTRY REVEALS COLLABORATION KEY IN APPROACHING MINE CLOSURE

We held four very successful workshops with mining sector industry players in April. These were central to the climate change risk and vulnerability assessment for the mining sector in South Africa undertaken for the IISD on behalf of DEFF and DMRE. Stakeholders said they found the engagement lively and highly interactive, as well as timely. We had great success with using innovative and interactive apps (such as Mural) to simulate face-to-face workshop conditions. A key lesson was that thorough preparation and clear communication throughout the process of engagement is essential in facilitating a productive session.

A remarkable workshop finding was a consensus on the need for industry collaboration around strategies for approaching mine closure and rehabilitation in the face of climate change impacts. Industry representatives now see collaboration and pooling resources as the most efficient, cost effective and impactful process for mine closures. Some expressed strong interest in effecting rehabilitation strategies that provide livelihoods for nearby communities and see collective action as the way forward. This represents a paradigm shift for industry. We look forward to sharing our full findings in the final report - soon to be submitted.

Project news

➤ Sustainable Ground Water Management in SADC Member States



GROUND-BREAKING APPROACH TO GROUNDWATER INVESTMENTS

OneWorld is moving forward with facilitating the establishment of [Groundwater Management National Focal Groups in SADC member states](#). The five countries selected for the project have been finalised and we are looking forward to SADC Groundwater Management Institute's (GMI) formal announcement on these.

The purpose of these focal groups is advocacy for sustainable groundwater investments in Southern Africa. The groups will drive development and oversee pilot projects in the region, as well as lobby national governments. Similar relatively unsuccessful initiatives have been attempted before, but only at national level. This approach is ground-breaking in that it is driven at the regional level by the SADC-GMI, and initiated by the SADC Secretariat. Moreover, this progressive institutional approach will engage the private sector as well as governmental bodies.

We are developing the terms of reference for these focal groups. Key to the project success is building a robust relationship with the identified focal person for each country, developing terms of engagement and institutional arrangements that are progressive, while being flexible enough to accommodate the different contexts at play in the region.

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