

## Curriculum Vitae: Jessica Laine Allen

Nationality	South African
Education	<p>Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) Zoology (2015) DST-NRF Centre of Excellence for Invasion Biology (C-I-B), Department of Botany and Zoology, Stellenbosch University</p> <p>Bachelor of Science Honours (BSc Hons) (2009) Bachelor of Science (BSc) (2008) Majors: Zoology, Botany, Geography, Geology Department of Zoology, Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University</p>
Professional development	<p>Climate Adaptation in Africa (University of Cape Town)</p> <p>The Biodiversity Finance Initiative (BIOFIN) Massive Online Open Course in Biodiversity Finance</p>
Languages	English (fluent), Afrikaans (fair)

### Employment record

September 2021– Present	<p>Project Manager OneWorld Sustainable Investments</p>
April 2017–August 2021	<p>Climate Change and Environmental Consultant C4 EcoSolutions</p>
September 2016–April 2017	<p>Ecological Researcher C4 EcoSolutions</p>
February 2016– September 2016	<p>Consolidoc Postdoctoral position Dr. Susana Clusella-Trullas, DST-NRF Centre of Excellence for Invasion Biology (C-I-B) Department of Botany and Zoology, Stellenbosch University</p>

### Relevant professional experience

2021 – 2022	<p>Paris Agreement: Gender mainstreaming in NDC enhancement in South Africa South African DFFE, UNDP</p> <p><b>Project Manager</b></p> <p>Ensuring gender equality aspects are factored into the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) processes. This project includes a review of existing climate change and gender related institutional and policy frameworks, a gender analysis of key NDC sectors, an analysis of cost and investment opportunities for gender mainstreaming in NDCs, and development of a five-year action plan for gender mainstreaming in the climate change sector.</p> <p>I coordinated the project and delivered training within the public sector on formulating sector-specific gender action plans and tracking of sex-disaggregated indicators; and developed targeted educational and public awareness materials for rural communities on gender and climate change. Further activities included stakeholder mapping and engagements, conducting research and reporting writing.</p>
2022	<p>Just Transition Framework, South Africa: Community and Stakeholder Engagement Trade &amp; Industrial Policy Strategies (TIPS), Presidential Climate Commission (PCC)</p> <p><b>Project Manager</b></p>



Community and stakeholder engagement and participatory analyses were undertaken to identify and articulate the views of eight vulnerable communities on what would constitute a just transition to a low carbon climate-resilient society in South Africa. These communities, together with other affected parties, identified several key areas that should inform the formulation of the national just transition framework. These and other learnings will contribute to the revision of the national just transition framework.

Activities Scoping and stakeholder mapping; planning and logistical arrangements for site visits and workshops; research and reporting.

May 2021 – May 2022

Midterm Review of the Cubango-Okavango River Basin Strategic Action Programme (SAP)  
The Permanent Okavango River Basin Water Commission (OKACOM)

**Project Manager**

Mid-term review of the SAP, which is a basin-wide policy framework for the sustainable development and management of the Cubango-Okavango Basin (CORB), over a 20-year period. Supported the development of the MTR, which assessed progress towards key objectives since implementation and approval of the SAP in 2011, made recommendations and identification of action points for achieving the required outputs and outcomes for the next 10 years; reviewed programme partner performance and developed a concept note to inform programming for second 10-year phase.

**Specific tasks:** Scheduling stakeholder interviews; progress analysis against project indicators; drafting MTR report; drafting concept note and theory of change; client liaison

September – December 2021

Technical Support in Strengthening Capacities of SADC Member States in Articulating Water Issues in Climate Negotiations

Global Water Partnership of Southern Africa (GWPSA)

**Project Manager**

Technical Support in Strengthening Capacities of SADC Member States in Articulating Water Issues in Climate Negotiations (Global Water Partnership of Southern Africa) (2021).

Identify key entry points in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) mechanism for water-related issues in the SADC region, train the SADC negotiators on these key issues and strengthen their position and voice in the UNFCCC process.

Specific tasks: Technical inputs into design of training materials

2021 – 2022

Strengthening the Participation of African non-Party Stakeholders in the UNFCCC Processes  
Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS)

**Project manager**

Supporting the development of a strengthened African voice in the COP26 climate negotiations and supporting the role of non-Party stakeholders in revising NDCs. Activities included: Scoping and stakeholder mapping; design/development of an online exchange platform; training materials development and capacity building; public outreach.

April 2020 – February 2021

Supporting the Development of a Green Climate Fund (GCF) Proposal for Enhancing Adaptive Capacity and Climate Resilience of Vulnerable Smallholder Farming Communities and Agro-pastoral Systems in Semi-Arid Areas of Tanzania

IUCN and Enabel (on behalf of the Ministry of Finance, Government of Tanzania)

**Project Manager**

To support the development of a GCF funding proposal to benefit smallholder farming and rangeland management in Tanzania. This included revising the technical concept note and developing feasibility studies to support the development of and rationale for a full GCF funding proposal. Four key project outcomes were: i) climate resilient landscapes; ii) climate resilient agriculture value chains; iii) climate resilient infrastructure and services; and iv) institutional coordination and collaboration.

Specific tasks: Support on developing the technical feasibility assessments required for this project, including: Climate Change Vulnerability and Adaptation Assessment; Gender Analysis; Economic and Financial Appraisal; Stakeholder Engagement; Site Visits; Agriculture Value Chain Assessments; Environmental and Social Management Systems; Legal and Due Diligence Assessment; Mitigation and Energy Efficiency Assessment.

2019 – 2020 Developing Climate Resilient Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) in Dominica (Green Climate Fund)

C4 EcoSolutions/ Green Climate Fund

**Team member**

The project objective is to reduce the vulnerability of communities on the exposed west coast of Dominica to climate change impacts, particularly major hurricanes. This will be achieved by: i) providing support to the Ocean Governance Committee (OGC) to implement national-level adaptation plans and Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plans (ICZMP); ii) implementing coastal protection measures in vulnerable communities; and iii) implementing Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) measures. These interventions will build the resilience of communities and ecosystems in the coastal zone of Dominica.

My primary responsibilities included liaising with clients and country focal points, development of a Green Climate Fund (GCF) Concept Note and associated annexes.

2021 Strategy for the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration (2021–2030)

C4 EcoSolutions/ UNEP

**Team member**

Anthony Mills, CEO of C4 EcoSolutions, was contracted by UNEP to develop the strategy for the UN Decade of Ecosystem Restoration. The Decade will play an important role in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals by preventing and reversing the degradation of ecosystems over hundreds of millions of hectares between 2021 and 2030.

I developed the Theory of Change diagram for the strategy, prepared presentations and was part of the team supplying and addressing comments on the strategy document.

2017 – 2021 Improving Climate Resilience in Eswatini through the integrated management of Mountain Ecosystems (Green Climate Fund)

C4 EcoSolutions/ UNEP

**Project Lead**

The project will strengthen the climate resilience of mountain catchments in Kingdom of Eswatini by implementing a climate-resilient integrated catchment management approach which incorporates EbA and ecosystem-based businesses for local communities.

I led the development of a GCF Concept Note, Pre-Feasibility Study and Funding Proposal for this GCF-funded project. This included the need for extensive research and the use of GIS and other visual tools to develop the logical framework.

2019 Sustainable Luangwa: Securing Luangwa’s water resources for shared socioeconomic and environmental benefits through integrated catchment management (Global Environment Facility)

C4 EcoSolutions/WWF-Zambia

**Project Lead**

The project will promote integrated management of natural resources in the Luangwa sub-basin through landscape-level catchment management and a natural-resource-based economy for conservation of biodiversity and improved community livelihoods.

I led the development of a Project Identification Form (PIF) for this GEF-funded project in Zambia. Key tasks included research and collation of information to support the climate rationale and logical framework.



2017 – 2021	<p>National Adaptation Plan Readiness Programme (Green Climate Fund) C4 EcoSolutions/Green Climate Fund</p> <p><b>Team member</b></p> <p>Part of a team which undertook the development of nine GCF-funded National Adaptation Plan Readiness Proposals for countries across Africa, Eurasia, Oceania, South Asia and the Middle East.</p> <p>I led the development of full GCF Funding Proposals for Yemen, The Gambia, Nigeria and Zimbabwe.</p>
2017 – 2018	<p>Natural Soil Infrastructure and Ecosystem Services Assessment C4 EcoSolutions/The Government of South Africa’s Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA)</p> <p><b>Team member</b></p> <p>The objectives of the work were to: i) monitor and evaluate the effect of Natural Resource Management interventions on vegetation dynamics, soil erodibility, rates of soil erosion, soil water content and ecosystem carbon stocks; ii) to generate an income stream from verified carbon credits in subtropical thicket; and iii) build capacity of graduate students in the field of natural resource management and restoration ecology. Collaborated in field work, undertook data analysis and scientific writing in preparing several publications.</p>
2018	<p>Bukit Tigapuluh Sustainable Landscape Project (Green Climate Fund) C4 EcoSolutions/Green Climate Fund (GCF)</p> <p><b>Team member</b></p> <p>Feasibility Study and Funding Proposal for this GCF-funded project in Indonesia. The project is pioneering sustainable rubber plantation in Indonesia and will mitigate carbon emissions by: i) planting rubber as well as indigenous forest trees in degraded landscapes; and ii) reducing deforestation of high-carbon stock forests adjacent to the rubber plantations.</p> <p>My primary responsibilities included liaising with clients and country focal points, as well as the development of two paired GCF Funding Proposals, a Feasibility Study and assorted annexes.</p>
2017 – 2018	<p>Building climate resilience through ecosystem-based adaptation and natural resource- based businesses in South Africa (Green Climate Fund) C4 EcoSolutions/Green Climate Fund</p> <p><b>Team member</b></p> <p>Development of a GCF Concept Note, Feasibility Study and Funding Proposal for this GCF-funded project. The project will support the Government of South Africa to enhance the resilience of vulnerable rural communities to climate change and extreme events.</p> <p>Developed in collaboration with South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI) and the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA). My primary responsibilities included the development of the Funding Proposal, Feasibility Study and assorted annexes.</p>
2016	<p>Enhancing climate resilience of India’s coastal communities (Green Climate Fund) Funder/employer</p> <p><b>Team member</b></p> <p>Part of a team which developed a Feasibility Study and Funding Proposal which were submitted to the GCF and approved in October 2018. Combining GCF grant finance with leveraged co-finance, the project will support the Government of India to enhance the resilience of vulnerable coastal communities, particularly women, in the coastal areas of India to climate change and extreme events. The project will shift the coastal development paradigm such that ecosystem-</p>

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centred and community-based approaches to adaptation are integrated into coastal management and planning by the public sector, private sector and civil society.

My primary responsibilities included research to support proposal development, writing discrete sections of the proposal and associated annexes.

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## Publications and Conference Papers (selected)

### Publications

- Mills, A.J., Strydom, T., **Allen, J.L.**, Baum, J. (2021). The chemistry of the pedoderm – part 3: *Colophospermum mopane* shrublands and woodlands in the central Kruger National Park, South Africa. African Journal of Range and Forage Science, DOI: 10.2989/10220119.2021.1938224
- Mills, A.J., Strydom, T., **Allen, J.L.** (2021). The chemistry of the pedoderm – part 2: *Dichrostachys cinerea* patches and adjacent grassland in the southern Kruger National Park, South Africa. African Journal of Range and Forage Science, DOI: 10.2989/10220119.2021.1938223
- Mills, A.J., Strydom, T., **Allen, J.L.**, Baum, J. (2021). The chemistry of the pedoderm – part 1: grasslands and savannas in the central Kruger National Park, South Africa. African Journal of Range and Forage Science, DOI: 10.2989/10220119.2021.1938222
- Mills, A.J., Strydom, T., **Allen, J.L.**, Baum, J. (2021). Pedoderm chemistry in sodic patches on savannah hillslopes in the southern Kruger National Park, South Africa. African Journal of Ecology, <https://doi.org/10.1111/aje.12898>
- Mills, A.J., **Allen, J.L.**, le Roux, Z.M. (2020). Small ratios of anabolic to catabolic soil nutrients constrain invasive alien trees in the Western Cape, South Africa. South African Journal of Botany, 132, 196–203. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.sajb.2020.03.035>
- Garcia, R.A., **Allen, J.L.**, Clusella-Trullas, S. (2019). Rethinking the scale and formulation of indices assessing organism vulnerability to warmer habitats. Ecography, 42(5), 1024–1036.
- Mills, A.J., Allen, J.L. (2018). Searching for David within the Goliath of alien woody plant invasions in the Western Cape Province. South African Journal of Science, 114(9/10), #a0285.
- Mills, A.J., Milton, S.J., Taplin, D.B., Allen, J.L. (2018). Viability of watering *Portulacaria afra* truncheons to facilitate restoration of subtropical thicket: Results from a nursery experiment and cost model. South African Journal of Botany 115, 58–64.
- Allen, J.L., Chown, S.L., Clusella-Trullas, S. (2016). Interactions between rates of temperature change and acclimation affect latitudinal patterns of warming tolerance. Conservation Physiology, 4: cow053.
- Allen, J.L., Clusella-Trullas, S., Chown, S.L. (2012). The effects of acclimation and rates of temperature change on critical thermal limits in *Tenebrio molitor* (Tenebrionidae) and *Cyrtobagous salviniae* (Curculionidae). Journal of insect physiology, 58(5), 669–678.
- Allen, J.L., Clusella-Trullas, S., Chown, S.L. (2014). Thermal tolerance of *Cyrtobagous salviniae*: a biocontrol agent in a changing world. BioControl, 59(3), 357–366.