

## V-LED AFRICA WORKSHOP REPORT – “LOCALISING CLIMATE FINANCE AND ACTION”

*April 23rd - 25th 2018, Irene, Pretoria, South Africa*



The workshop was hosted by:

adelphi research, the Institute for Law and Environmental Governance (ILEG), OneWorld Sustainable Investments and Sustainable Energy Africa (SEA)



Facilitator:

Ruth Beukman

Organized in the framework of the

**V-LED** project: Vertical Integration and Learning for Low Emission Development.

Supported by:



based on a decision of the Parliament  
of the Federal Republic of Germany

## Introduction

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On 23 – 25 April 2018, adelphi, the Institute for Law and Environmental Governance (ILEG), One-World (OW) and Sustainable Energy Africa (SEA) co-hosted an interactive exchange and learning workshop in Irene, South Africa.

The workshop was held in the framework of the **V-LED project** (Vertical Integration and Learning for Low-Emission Development in Africa and Southeast Asia) that is funded by the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU), as part of its International Climate Initiative (IKI).

V-LED is a four year project that is implemented in Kenya, South Africa, Philippines and Viet Nam where it aims to strengthen multi-level coordination for local climate action as well as knowledge sharing and learning among local governments.

The main theme of the workshop was **localising climate finance and action**, and the goal was to bring together different levels of government, civil society, academia and other stakeholders from certain African countries to discuss concrete experiences with local climate action and finance and to initiate a network of climate action practitioners.

The sections below summarise the inputs and discussions at the workshop, followed by an overview of the participants.

As a starting point for discussion, the organisers prepared 2 input papers:

- **Climate Finance in South Africa:** [bit.ly/2LI4M87](http://bit.ly/2LI4M87)
- **Climate Governance in Kenya:** [bit.ly/2keBIs9](http://bit.ly/2keBIs9)



## DAY 1 – MONDAY, 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2018: Let’s begin the Conversation!

### SESSION 1: Setting the Scene

*The objective was to welcome the participants and introduce the purpose and spirit of the workshop; to dive into global and national climate change governance and to get to know each other to increase networking opportunities and mutual learning among participants.*

#### Opening and Welcome

The three-day workshop commenced with a welcome by the workshop facilitator **Ruth Beukman**, with opening remarks from Tlou Ramaru, Chief Director of Climate Change Adaptation at the South African Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) and Tom Nguli, Chair Person of the County Climate Change Board & Fund of Makueni County, Kenya.



**Tlou Ramaru, DEA**, emphasized that South Africa has recently set up a comprehensive climate change governance structure with several climate change related policies and tools in place, now a shift in focus towards implementing climate action is crucial. DEA is looking into working in partnership with international actors to implement the plans in place. At the same time the National Planning Commission is overseeing the implementation (by all South Africans) of the National Development Plan that also stresses sustainable development. Implementation processes are being backed by research on modelling the mitigation potential of the country and its cities. Mr Ramaru moreover stressed that local governments play a critical role in implementing national level climate change ambitions.



**Tom Nguli, Makueni County**, highlighted that local governments in Kenya, while being increasingly confronted with the impact of climate change, are already developing plans and working to attain funds to implement climate actions. Grassroots organisations are equally mobilising communities to respond to climate change. Mr Nguli however stressed, that climate change is often not fully understood at community level and called for further information and awareness raising among affected communities.



## Contextualizing: Introduction to Climate Change Governance

Benson Ochieng, Executive Director of ILEG Kenya, contextualized the workshop by highlighting the **role of local governments in global climate governance**. In keeping with the slogan “think globally, act locally” – the global climate change commitments need to be translated from global over national and municipal to community and individual level action. The crucial role of local governments in this process is increasingly acknowledged internationally through key agreements such as Agenda 21 and the Paris Agreement.



Presentation by **Benson Ochieng, ILEG:** [bit.ly/2kek9mE](http://bit.ly/2kek9mE)

As an introduction to the **South African** and **Kenyan climate policy landscape**, Peta Wolpe, Managing Director of Sustainable Energy Africa (SEA), and Francis Omero, Programme Manager at ILEG, pitched the “5 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW” about the countries’ climate landscapes.

### 5 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW about the South African Climate Landscape

<p><b>1)</b> Energy-intensive economy, high dependency on coal.</p>	<p><b>2)</b> 64% urbanised. Cities emit half of the country's emissions.</p>	<p><b>3)</b> Climate change policies are in place at all levels, <i>but...</i></p>	<p><b>4)</b> Lack of policy alignment, financial and human resources, capacity gaps and non-conducive legislation hinder implementation.</p>	<p><b>5)</b> Triple challenge: poverty, inequality, unemployment. <i>Climate action needs to be part of the solution!</i></p>
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Presentation by **Peta Wolpe, SEA:** [bit.ly/2KH1DON](http://bit.ly/2KH1DON)

### 5 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW about the Kenyan Climate Landscape

<p><b>1)</b> Climate impacts: \$ 1-3 billion per year.</p>	<p><b>2)</b> Devolution created 47 county governments. Climate action is a shared responsibility between national &amp; county governments.</p>	<p><b>3)</b> There is a sound climate governance framework in place plus a plurality of actors engaged in climate action.</p>	<p><b>4)</b> Finance gap of approx. \$ 2 B hinders implementation.</p>	<p><b>5)</b> Inadequate coordination among actors and capacity gaps.</p>
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Presentation by **Francis Oremo, ILEG:** <https://bit.ly/2IXIaMB>

### The Journey

- 3 year in country
- 4 countries
- 5 partners
- 27 people
- Vertical Climate Dialogues
- Horizontal Learning
- Capacity Development
- Applied Research
- Outreach

Presentation by **Johara Bellali & Marcus Andreas, adelphi**: [bit.ly/2wXafic](https://bit.ly/2wXafic)

### The Spirit

Climate change is complex – we need to engage our own diversity to tackle this challenge, tap into our potential and achieve transformation. Effective climate action starts with dialogue, in the spirit of collaboration.

*"If we do not achieve building a shared understanding across the borders of stakeholders and sectors working on different aspects of essentially the same issues, we will remain in the silos that work in isolation, being weaker, or even undermining each other's efforts".*

– Minu Hemmati & Francois Roger, 2015

Participants previously involved in the V-LED project also contributed with their experiences:

*"The [South African] climate change course was an **eye-opener**"*  
– Simon Madi

*"V-LED helped with **coordinating climate actions** between different levels of government [in Kenya]."*  
– Alfred Omenya

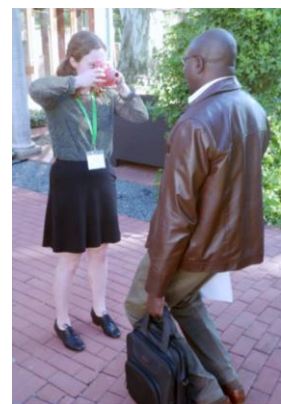
*"The project provided opportunities to interact with one another and **demystify climate change.**"*  
– Mohammed Ali Salim



Watch the **V-LED video**: <https://bit.ly/2xeZ2dl>



The last session of the day gave participants the chance to get to know each other in an interactive exercise facilitated by **Ruth Beukman**. Participants interviewed each other to complete a personal portfolio. All portfolios were then stuck on the walls to promote networking throughout the workshop.



## DAY 2 – TUESDAY 24<sup>th</sup> April 2018 – Deep Dive 1: Climate Change Governance for Local Climate Action

### SESSION 2: Bringing Climate Change Home

The objective was to explore individual and systemic angles of climate change and to introduce the theme of multi-level climate governance (MLCG).

#### Relating to climate change

Individual and collective sharing exercise with **Johara Bellali, adelphi**.

- Silent meditation
- Individual reflection on climate change: “What does it mean for your home, your region, your nation, your continent?”
- Sharing with neighbour:
  - Insights from the individual reflection
  - “What is currently on your desk? What are you doing in terms of climate action?”
- Sharing in plenary:



“Climate change action will need a **deep transformation**: a complete change in how we operate.”

“Climate action requires **behavioural changes** – at individual level but also in the different spheres of government to avoid maladaptation.”

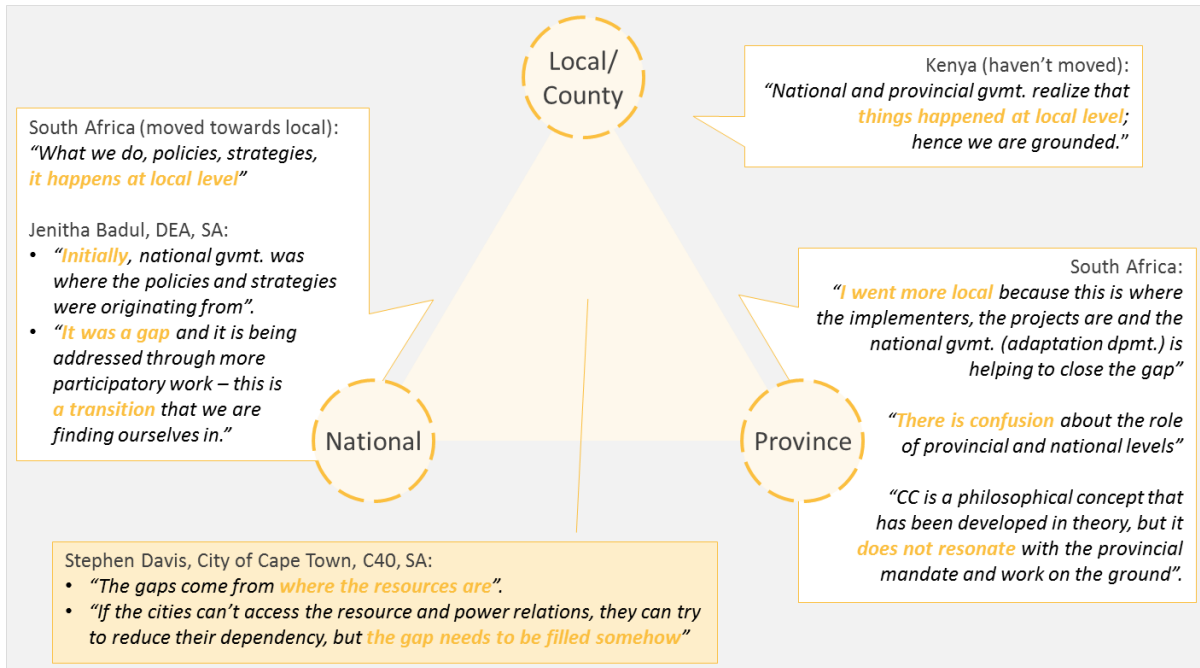
#### Identifying gaps & potentials in the multi-level climate governance system

Constellation facilitated by **Marcus Andreas, adelphi**:

- **Warm-up:**  
Participants positioned themselves according to country of origin (North – East – South – West)
  - **Political constellation**, starting with government actors:
    - Positioning in a triangle, according to level (national – provincial/ county – local);
    - Approaching the other levels according to the intensity of your interaction
- Afterwards, non-government actors positioned themselves.



The following graphic summarizes the basic setup and illustrates the movements with a number of quotes:



According to an observer, especially the provincial governments lacked clarity of their mandates. They maintained stronger ties with the national level in the field of adaptation, less in mitigation. At one point the provincial governments asked the national representatives not to interfere in their relationship with local governments. A local representative expected the national government to “bridge the gap” and interact directly with them on climate change – whereas national representatives expected the local government to approach them with clear ideas and requests. The NGOs worked closely with municipalities, not so much with the provincial level.

### Multi-level climate governance (MLCG) to support local climate action

Presentation and discussion with Lisa Strauch and Marcus Andreas, adelphi, focussing on the “what” and “how” of multi-level climate governance and transformative climate action.

#### The “WHAT”

We need to raise our ambitions and aim for a “great transformation” towards a decarbonized society. What does **transformative climate action** mean? It is...

- *ambitious*: A paradigm shift away from incremental approaches towards far-reaching systemic changes. It requires strategic choices with a long-term view of humanity’s natural life-support systems.
- *cross-cutting*: planning and action across sectors and departments BUT also cross-generational, based on values of solidarity.
- *inclusive*: engaging with a diversity of actors, building a polycentric shared responsibility governance structure.



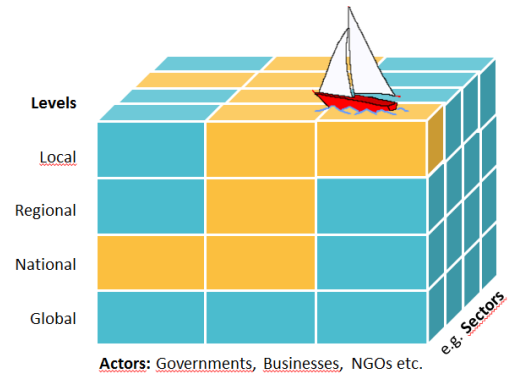


**Multi-level climate governance** can help get us there by resolving blockages, distributing responsibilities and complementing visions and actions.

### The “HOW”

In “navigating the grid” of multi-level governance (see graphic, adapted from Jänicke 2008) a number of **formats** can be usefully employed:

- *horizontal* exchanges (e.g. city-to-city on good practices)
- *vertical* dialogues (e.g. from local to national)
- *linking* the two (e.g. through “key listeners”)



Design a **space** for the partners to meet on “equal footing”.

Mutual respect is paramount, so that understanding, learning and trust can emerge. Such, dialogue may lead to transformative (inter-)action. The ICCA2015 provides an example. At that conference, the (than) German environmental minister Dr. Barbara Hendricks had met Rob Hopkins, founder of the activist Transition Network in such a space. Shortly afterwards, she launched the ministry’s first funding scheme for civic climate action.

“Musically”, **the jam** seems a fitting metaphor for how actors can act in concerto in multi-level governance – in comparison to the orchestra (or “the Clash”, reserved for special occasions).

Presentation by **Lisa Strauch & Marcus Andreas, adelphi**: [bit.ly/2IYVMXS](http://bit.ly/2IYVMXS)

Further reading: Andreas, M. (2015). From WHAT to HOW: Encouraging Dialogue on Municipal Climate Action. In *Huffington Post*. [bit.ly/2x8Qp3B](http://bit.ly/2x8Qp3B)

## SESSION 3: Bridging the Action-Policy Gap

*The objective was to discuss issues of mandate, devolution, planning, accountability, technical solutions and enabling frameworks for climate action.*

### Introduction: climate change governance, mandates and accountability

The session was introduced by Donald Malambo from Governance Links Tanzania, who presented insights from a study looking into how national climate commitments and policies are translated to the local level in Tanzania. In his presentation he emphasized that despite policy frameworks being in place, local climate action remains decoupled and insular, indicating that frameworks have not (yet) delivered necessary action at the local level.



Strengthening multi-level governance is critical to overcome the policy-action gap, especially building reciprocal responsibility, accountability and clear mandates between and across government levels. Mr Malombo further suggested a more pragmatic approach to building resilience, seeing it as a transition process and, rather than starting projects with the unrealistic ambitions of integrating eve-



rything into everything, he proposed to be more pragmatic and flexible Donald concluded that a balance between technical competence and institutional arrangements leads to climate readiness.

The succeeding discussion highlighted the role of research for evidence based decision-making and action but stressed that there was a need to overcome silo thinking in research designs. Discussants further stressed that appropriate technologies already exist but need to be incubated, e.g. at the African level.

Presentation from **Donald Malambo, Governance Links Tanzania:** [bit.ly/2wVbcYq](https://bit.ly/2wVbcYq)

Further reading: Kasongi, D. (2018). Intersecting Policies and Institutions for Localising Climate Finance and Action in the Lake Victoria Basin- Tanzania: [bit.ly/2l6RpKt](https://bit.ly/2l6RpKt)

### Parallel sessions on bridging the policy-action gap

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Following the presentation, workshop participants divided into two parallel sessions to explore how to bridge the policy-action gap in the water and waste sectors.

#### Water

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Presentation by **Paradzayi Tagwireyi, University of Zimbabwe:** <https://bit.ly/2s1CVB5>

Discussion moderated by **Jenitha Badul, DEA, South Africa.**

In his presentation, Dr. Tagwireyi discussed the benefits of rooftop rainwater harvesting. Rainwater harvesting is a worthwhile climate adaptation strategy with multiple co-benefits such as the reduction of water costs and flood prevention. The presentation suggested that including rooftop water harvesting in town planning laws would increase the uptake of the beneficial technology at household level.

#### Waste

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Presentation by **Malcolm Magotsi, Municipal Waste Support, DEA:** <https://bit.ly/2keJlrI>

Discussion moderated by **Dumisani Nxumalo, GIZ South Africa.**

Mr Mogotsi presented insights from the South African waste management flagship programme, which seeks to reduce the sector's GHG emissions and improve municipal waste management. The programme supports municipalities to develop integrated solid waste management practices and to capitalize on the sector's market potential, developing business plans for new waste management strategies with the aim to divert waste from landfills.

### Bridging the gap between policy frameworks and technical solutions

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Fishbowl session with key listeners facilitated by **Yachika Reddy, SEA.**

The two parallel sessions on waste and water were observed by **key listeners**, who shared their insights during the subsequent fishbowl discussion that



addressed the question: how can we bridge the gap between policy frameworks and action/ technical solutions?

The discussion highlighted that policymakers and practitioners often think, plan and act according to diverging **timeframes** (i.e. of election cycles, weather and climate patterns, municipal planning frameworks, need to respond to immediate needs versus long term planning) and **scales** (rural/ urban, political boundaries or levels of government, ecosystems, or affluent versus poor areas) which may hamper their collaboration. Additionally, **governance issues** (i.e. lack of community participation, overlapping mandates of different government levels, political disincentives and priorities) were identified as obstacles to translating policy into action. Discussants further raised the concern that solutions to issues such as urban water shortages are often confronted by technocratic fixes whereas root causes of unequal water provision are often of socio-political nature.

Identified solutions to address the policy-action gap revolved around working with local municipalities - in the development of technologies, sharing of good practices and supporting governments in their informed decision making. Further, the discussion highlighted that project designs need to resonate with political principles and priorities; these can be harmonized in joint planning workshops and study tours. Governments also need to make an effort to raise awareness amongst communities to encourage their strategic participation in the formulation of local integrated development plans (IDPs), thus ensuring that projects include their priorities. To increase the applicability and the funding of environmentally sound technologies and projects, the discussion also highlighted that these should integrate development-related co-benefits.

## SESSION 4: Country Challenges

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*The objective was to foster collegial coaching and mutual learning on climate action in Kenya and South Africa.*

In session four, workshop participants again divided into two parallel sessions to discuss how climate action is implemented at the local level in Kenya and South Africa. During the session, presenters from Kwale County and KwaDukuza Municipality had the chance to present concrete challenges to the audience to receive advice and guidance. At the same time the audience could learn from the presenters' successes.

### Parallel session on Kenya

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Presentation by **Nathaniel Mwangeka**, Kwale County Natural Resource Network (KCNRN): [bit.ly/2kslJRK](https://bit.ly/2kslJRK)

Discussion moderated by **Robert Muthami**, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, Kenya.

Mr Mwangeka presented how KCNRN has be-

### Parallel session on South Africa

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Presentation by Sikhumbuzo Hlongwane, KwaDukuza Municipality: <https://bit.ly/2LyLKLJ>

Discussion moderated by Peta Wolpe, SEA, South Africa.

KwaDukuza embarked on a low emission de-

come a key grassroots stakeholder in environmental governance in Kwale County. The civil society network has in recent years built a broad membership base throughout the county, partnered with a variety of state and non-state actors and assumed an important role *vis-à-vis* the county government, advocating for the sustainable management of natural resources through the submission of memorandums and petitions and participating in the county's planning, budgeting processes and bill development.

KCNRN has further been involved in one of the world's first blue carbon offset projects: the Mikoko Pamoja Mangrove Forest Project. Currently the network advocates for the establishment of the Kwale County Climate Change Fund (KCCCF) but has to confront a number of challenges – such as convincing elected leaders to prioritise climate action, limited access to finance and information on climate finance.

In the discussion, participants were curious to learn more about the network and shared practical tips, tools and sources of inspiration to support climate action in Kwale.

velopment path since 2013. The secondary city (population about 230 000) has the ambition to become – or already is – a climate change champion.

Mr Hlongwane emphasized the inaccessibility of Green Finance for secondary cities for reasons such as its inability to provide co-funding, the lack of skills and technical capacity to develop bankable proposals for funding but also the focus of funding bodies on metropolitan areas (above 1,5 million). Prior to February 2017, there has been no communication and interaction with other spheres of government. Moreover, there is a lack of Climate Change coordinated structures and there are disagreements between institutional actors.

Using economies of scale, building partnerships (KwaZulu-Natal Central Compact, led by EThekweni Municipality) and reporting on municipal actions on global platforms helped to unlock opportunities. KwaDukuza is a signatory of the compact of mayors and member of ICLEI. It improved its public-private partnership, stakeholder engagement and institutionalisation of climate change and energy efficiency.

Together, the participants explored creating a) an entity composed of researchers and consultants that would be able to assist secondary cities to write proposals, b) pooling of cities with similar needs to attract climate funding.

## Sharing and Feedback on Cases

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Plenary discussion on working through types of coordination, enabling frameworks and drivers of action at local level, moderated by **Alfred Omenya, Eco build Africa**.

The country cases of Kwale and KwaDukuza provided mutual learning experiences on local climate action – in terms of challenges *and* solutions. The plenary discussion confirmed the issues of vested interests, unclear institutional roles, lack of adequate (vertical and horizontal) linkages, poor coordination and the lack of resources (capacity and financial) as well as difficulties in accessing financial resources dedicated to climate action. Even in cases of mainstreaming climate action in planning and budgeting challenges remain to ensure policing and implementation.

The cases also demonstrated, however, encouraging, innovative solutions and enablers. They highlighted the importance of climate action champions, incentives and innovation, mainstreaming climate action in planning and budgeting as well as alignment of local challenges and solutions in local socio-economic, political and national policy and institutional contexts. On climate financing, partnerships to achieve economies of scale emerged as one way to improve access to climate and development finance.

## SESSION 5: Climate Change Communication

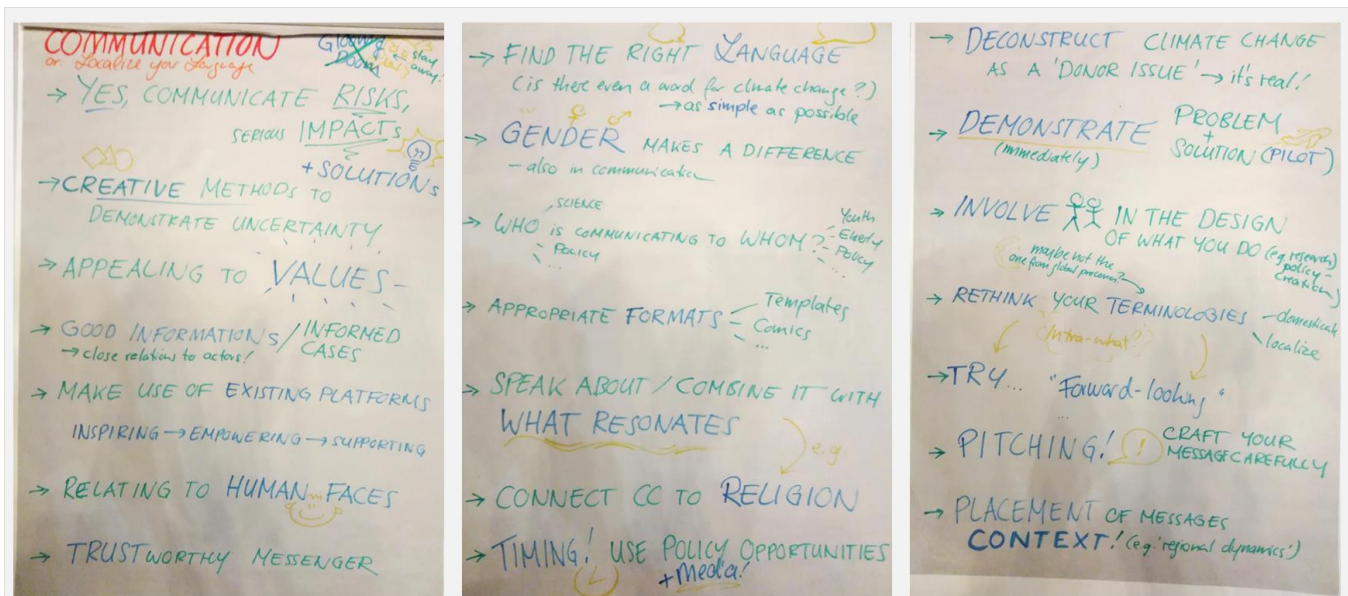
Presentation and discussion facilitated by **Johara Bellali** and **Marcus Andreas, adelphi**.

The last session of day two revolved around the question of how to advocate for climate action. An input presentation by Johara Bellali on climate change communication was followed by an open discussion in plenary that gave everyone the opportunity to learn from each other's experiences.

The presentation emphasised that climate change campaigns need go beyond informing to mobilising citizens and drive large-scale behaviour change. To do that climate campaigns always need to showcase solutions, rather than relying on fear as motivator. Messages of catastrophic climate change make people feel helpless, vulnerable or guilty, which can be strongly demotivating. Information about climate risks needs to be combined with tangible solutions - people will be triggered to act only if they understand the risk and believe that they can contribute to the solution.

Presentation on climate change communication: [bit.ly/2IHcP1y](https://bit.ly/2IHcP1y)

### Tips on climate change communication collected in plenary:



- In South Africa and Kenya, **fear** has often been part of climate change communication. This can be at times an effective strategy to communicate the urgency of climate action; however, it should be used with caution.



- **Creative methods** can be employed e.g. music or drama. Other methods include the use of economic incentives or disincentives.
- Find the **appropriate language** for communicating climate impacts. Different audiences require different messages. We often don't spend enough time 'massaging our messages'.
- Our messages always need to be **customized to our audience**, this involves for example simplifying and translating international climate change language.
- Climate change communication should appeal to peoples' values and social norms.
- Link your message to what resonates with people. Religious leaders for example can be key in raising awareness and mobilizing people.
- It's essential to **put a human face to climate campaigns** and it is important to **link climate change to local challenges**.
- Link global discourse and instruments on climate change to local economic issues e.g. trade, agriculture, etc. For instance, how do the NDCs relate to the implementation of local development priorities?
- Avoid dealing with climate change in isolation. **Solutions need to be address within the framework of local development.**
- Gender issues should be considered in climate campaigns.
- Good, **actionable information** is always important. Climate change **research** should involve policy makers and other "end-users" in the research design to be useful.
- To ensure appropriate communication of scientific results, communication and stakeholder engagement should be part of the research design.
- Capitalise on policy opportunities – researchers are encouraged to provide scenarios to policy makers for consideration.
- It is important to capitalize on existing dialogue platforms for on-going decision-making processes to communicate climate change.
- We can learn from effective communication campaigns and techniques of the health sector (i.e. HIV/Aids campaigns)
- Supporting/**training journalists** on climate change/environmental communication is useful to raise awareness.
- **Deconstruct climate change as "just an issue for donors"** – it is real! We need everyone on board!

## DAY 3 – WEDNESDAY 25<sup>th</sup> April 2018 – Deep Dive 2: Financing Climate Action

### SESSION 6: Multi-Level Climate Finance

The objective was, through a collaborative effort of different countries and governance levels, to find answers to the following questions: “How DO we and how CAN we finance climate action? Which enabling framework would the subnational level need to access climate financing?”

#### Introduction to climate finance

Discussion moderated by **Belynda Petrie, OneWorld** and **Peta Wolpe, SEA**

The discussion unpacked climate finance terminology and concepts and mapped existing global, bilateral and domestic climate funds.



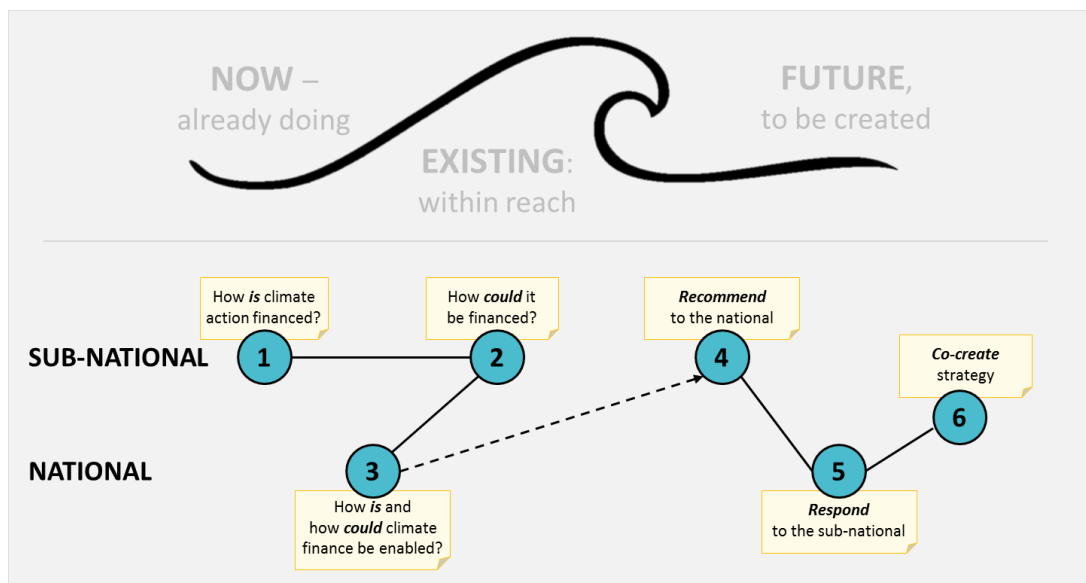
## Multi-Level Climate Finance: Working with the “Wave”

Session facilitated by **Johara Bellali & Marcus Andreas, adelphi.**

The “wave” introduced as a basic analogy ...



... and how it played out in the session:



### 1. How *is* (sub-national) climate action financed?

The “wave” discussion started with a stock-take of the sources of funding that sub-national governments in Kenya and South Africa are currently accessing to finance climate actions. These included **domestic funds** such as the Green Fund (South Africa) and the Ending Droughts Emergency Fund (Kenya), private sector funding (i.e. Safaricom in Kenya), Carbon Credits and Green Bonds (for metros in South Africa). **Bilateral and multilateral development partners** play an important role in financing climate change programmes in both countries. **Global funds** including the Global Environment Facility (GEF), Green Climate Fund (GCF), and the Adaption Fund (AF) are being accessed through the respective National Designated Authorities.

The discussion further highlighted a number of challenges for financing local climate action, including the following:

- the **conditionality** of funding streams,
- **difficult access** for smaller municipalities due to complex application procedures
- the demand for **greater transparency** as funds are often allocated to the same cities.

On the other hand, instruments such as clean audits, accounting modalities and tracking climate finance can enable sub-national governments to access climate funds.



Results of the joint mapping session are clustered on the left side of the chart under the title “NOW accessing” – the green cards show the results for South Africa, the pink cards for Kenya.

## 2. How could it be financed?

Presentation by **Belynda Petrie, OneWorld**: [bit.ly/2GHeVbO](https://bit.ly/2GHeVbO);

comments from Kenya by **Tom Nguli, Climate Change Fund Makueni County**

**Belynda Petrie’s** presentation revolved around the question of what climate finance opportunities local South African governments could harness for enhanced climate action. After giving an overview of South Africa’s institutional framework for climate finance and the existing challenges for local climate finance, the presentation suggested various concrete entry points for improved access for local governments. These extended from improved climate planning and accountability structures at all government levels, towards finding new ways of interpreting regulatory frameworks, the intergovernmental grants system and the municipal revenue models.



**Tom Nguli** gave a brief overview of Kenya’s climate finance architecture. He highlighted that national institutions are accessing international climate finance and that Kenya is in the process of setting up a domestic climate change fund that will be essential in funding local actions. A challenge however is that funds are often accessible to support the ‘enabling environment’ but not for concrete implementation *per se*. Another challenge is that the climate finance architecture is complex and there has been poor coordination of bilaterally funded projects – a gap the National Treasury now aims to close.



### 3. How is and how could climate finance be enabled?

Input from the national level by **Judy Nkosi (Mboweni), National Treasury, South Africa** and **Elizabeth Ouma, Ministry of Devolution, Kenya**.

Following the issues raised from the perspective of the local government, national level representatives had the chance to present their perspectives regarding the role of the national government in creating an enabling framework for local climate finance.

**Elizabeth Ouma**, pointed out that devolution has restructured the sub-nation governance system, local municipalities have been replaced with county governments who actually do not consider themselves as local but regional governments. The main sources of finance for county governments are national transfers. A minimum of 15 % of the national revenue is allocated to county governments, based on an equitable share formula that takes into consideration the size, population and infrastructure development of the county (based on National Appropriation Bill and County Allocation of Revenue Act). Additionally, conditional grants finance programmes that support specific county functions.

Counties are also beginning to realise that in order to attract financing they need to join regional blocks. For example in the North, ten poor and marginalized counties established a joint development council to attract funding from development partners (i.e. World Bank) and proposed specific development programmes.

**Judy Nkosi (Mboweni)** stressed the importance of cooperative governance highlighted in the South African Constitution. She further raised the concern that many South African local governments perceive climate change as an unfunded mandate. Climate change however cuts across sectors and levels of governance. Adequate institutional capacity to provide relevant services and effective climate action is critical. At national level, there needs to be further consideration of how to support local climate action through existing grants, funding streams and levies.



#### 4. *The subnational level recommends to the national.*

Parallel session for participants from the sub-national level with **Telly Chauke, SALGA**, and **Robert Muthami, FES**, as spokespersons for South Africa and Kenya.

Following the statements made by national government representatives, participants from the sub-national level came together to craft needs-based recommendations on how the national level should support local climate finance.

##### ***South African sub-national level spokesperson Telly Chauke:***

- There is a need for enhanced communication across the three spheres of government.
- Local governments need to be part of **intergovernmental bodies**. Their voice needs to be heard at the policy-making level. Municipalities' forums and indabas are not enough. Municipalities should participate in intergovernmental sector forums and climate change should be part of these forums. Functioning multi-stakeholder platforms can harmonize agenda setting across and between government levels.
- We need to look at the national **fiscal architecture** and innovations in place such as the national carbon tax, to understand how transfers get devised and how they flow. How can local governments influence the conditions attached to these instruments and how can they access related resources?
- We need to clarify what role the **provinces** play between national and local spheres of government: How can we strengthen their role to channel financial flows? They have a strong relationship with municipalities and are better positioned to articulate the needs of the lowest government sphere to national policy making and fiscal institutions. We need to strengthen their role in building an enabling framework for municipalities.
- We need to create finance streams to support climate related functions at provincial level, such as the protection of wetlands.
- **Regulatory instruments should allow for greater innovation.** We need to look at the fiscal architecture for service delivery and unravel the limitations: revenue that is generated at the municipal level goes into a general revenue fund, how can we put in mechanisms and instruments that help us **'soft lock'** funds for climate solutions and for investing in innovation in service delivery? Existing regulations don't allow for innovations around local government mandates.
- We need to advocate for climate change to become part and parcel of service delivery. We can learn from the successful mainstreaming of HIV/ AIDS and gender policies at local, provincial and national level.
- We need to review the conditional grants system that does not take into consideration climate change and establish an informed lobby group to reform the grant architecture.
- National governments should build structures to enable local governments to get accreditation for international climate funds. At the same time there need to be clear modalities for accessibility to access national climate funding.

***Kenyan sub-national level spokesperson Robert Muthami:***

- National governments should support county governments to gain direct **access to international climate funds** (GCF & AF). This includes capacity building at county level: on GCF readiness, reporting, monitoring & evaluation. There is also a need to clarify the modalities of how county governments can **access the National Climate Change Fund**.
- **Alignment of policies of national and county governments:** county integrated development plans need to be aligned with national plans. County government struggle to translate national climate change plans and legislation into local plans, laws, budgets and projects.
- Clarify the role of **regional bodies** (i.e. National Drought Management Authority) whose mandate is – according to the constitution – at the national level, nevertheless the agency is working at the county level and is attracting financing for local climate initiatives. This duplication of functions creates confusion and needs to be resolved.
- Enhanced **recognition of civil society organisations:** they play an important role in raising awareness and facilitating the participation of local communities. The national government should provide space and build capacity of CSO's to engage at county level.

**5. Respond to the sub-national.** Session for the participants from the national level with **Judy Nkosi (Mboweni)**, National Treasury, South Africa; **Elizabeth Ouma**, Ministry of Devolution, Kenya & **Alfred Omenya**, Eco build Africa.

- **Allocation of climate change functions:** climate change should not be seen as a function per se - it is not a standalone issue but a concept that pervades every area of development; every facet of development planning needs to look at it and incorporate it. The national level needs to emphasize in its communication that climate response action needs to be mainstreamed across government levels and functions. The national government can provide supporting guidelines, standards and indicators.
- We need to be more precise about the climate issues, impacts and response that need to be considered in every sector as we do development planning.
- **Alignment of plans:** national and local plans indeed need to be better aligned. At national level, we come up with national priorities, however sometimes the IDPs and national priorities don't talk to each other. If the national priorities are not talking to local priorities, there is a mismatch. On the other hand there are municipalities that come up with long wish-lists in their IDPs. We need improve collaboration between spheres of government to get value out of these plans.
- **Flexibility and innovation:** The regulatory environment i.e. the MMFMA in South Africa already does provide for innovation, the national government could provide more guidance on HOW to do that, i.e. by providing more guidance on how to use existing policy instruments and raise awareness on the power local governments have vested in them through the South African constitution and various legislations. Concerning the use of own revenues for innovation – it is really up to the municipal council to decide on how to spend the funds.

- **Governance:** We need to work with existing climate change structures, laws and regulations instead of creating new ones. Local governments already indicated the issue of overregulation – creating new structures is not going to help. We rather need to review what is not working well with the current regulations, what can we do better to assure implementation?
- **Intergovernmental negotiation platforms** should be strengthened to support alignment and joint planning of national and subnational government and raise awareness that joint planning and action is not an infringement to either level of government. Intergovernmental relations need to go beyond consultation and really stress collaboration. By strengthening coordination mechanisms we do not need extra structures and institutions.
- In Kenya, **joint planning between national and subnational levels** should become an imperative, it should not be seen as an infringement to either level but rather as a considered and deliberate approach to guarantee that none of the issues fall through the cracks and that appropriate funding flows through the system. The economic council can function as a negotiation platform and the intergovernmental budget can facilitate joint planning.
- In Kenya we cannot continue to pay lip service to the **intergovernmental relations** structures. It is not just about consultation, it is about working together. It is one system of government, it is two or three tiers, but it is one system serving one single electorate, we need to move a step further than mere consultation, into joint collaboration, if we do that we don't need extra structures, we just strengthen coordination mechanisms, the more laws we pass the more institutions we create, the landscape becomes murkier, it gets more complicated and more expensive.
- National governments should support sub-national capacities to raise and manage revenues to enable enhanced local action.
- We also need to look into innovative ways of financing **research** that can inform national and sub-national climate friendly solutions through guidelines, norms and indicators.

## 6. Co-create strategy

Concluding session of the “wave” to look into the future and develop recommendations on financing local climate action.

- ✓ Support scientific research and the establishment of baseline information on climate change for decision making at the sub-national levels.
- ✓ Develop guidelines on how to access international and domestic climate finance.
- ✓ Support the establishment of regional blocks as platforms for climate financing. Sub-national entities (e.g. counties, municipalities, secondary and small cities, etc.) can pool to benefit from economies of scale to source funding.
- ✓ Establish a framework for promoting collaboration with and among state agencies and non-state actors. Greater inter-agency collaboration and private-public partnerships, and cooperation with non-state actors, particularly at the sub-national levels would improve coordination and accountability among different agencies.



- ✓ Institute a framework that can enhance the coordination of all donors channelling resources for climate action.
- ✓ Establish a Disaster Relief fund that will consider both short term and long term scenarios. For this to happen, however, specific indicators and reporting evidence to support vulnerability assessment need to be mandated and institutionalized.
- ✓ Develop a transparent and accountable monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV) framework to track progress in financing and implementation of local climate actions.
- ✓ Integrate climate change in development designs.
- ✓ Involve end-users (e.g. policy makers, vulnerable communities, etc.) in the design of climate change related scientific research. This will enhance ownership of research findings.
- ✓ Support climate change actions that will have greatest human/development impact. It is important to have effective governance mechanism that will improve resilience of most vulnerable population and sectors.
- ✓ Apply traditional, alternative and social media to communicate climate change and target wide audiences. Participatory approaches such as creative arts (drama and music), and traditional knowledge and folk cultures that respected Mother Nature can be employed to enhance understanding of climate change and support appropriate attitudes and practices. Moreover, a capacity building programme on effective communication of climate change should be instituted at all levels.



## Wrap up and next steps nationally, regionally and internationally

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Closing session moderated by Ruth Beukman.

In the closing session of the workshop, the moderator recapped the three day workshop objectives, activities and outcomes.

- Overall climate change was internalised at individual and institutional level and participants understood the 3D elements of 'navigating the grid' (horizontal & vertical integration) for multi-level governance and local climate action.
- Participants identified and unpacked climate governance issues and gaps, the involvement of stakeholders and the critical importance of communication and relevant and appropriate knowledge products.
- The country cases on local climate action (Kwale & Kwadukuza) demonstrated effective mutual learning for both challenges & solutions.
- Understanding the various governance frameworks, institutional roles and mandates at local, provincial and national level was important but so too were the interlinkages and types of coordination.
- Climate financing and architecture at the global, bilateral and domestic levels was better understood and a call for creativity and innovation and support of national level to local level was critical to increase access, to release funds for sustainable climate action, budget allocations, catalytic donor funds & co-funding, economies of scale.

In closing, Ms Beukman urged participants to think about what they learnt and ensure they use that knowledge when they return to their offices as well as try and maintain some of the links and newly established relationships – forging collaboration into the future. Ms Beukman highlighted the importance of 'connectors' or facilitators of process in bringing diverse, multilevel stakeholder groups together – such as V-LED and other platforms. The challenge is to sustain such networks and connector roles beyond a specific funded project.

A vote of thanks was given acknowledging all participants, moderators, presenters, IKI partners, V-LED partners and the adelphi team and German government for the tremendous effort and support to make the learning exchange a great success.





*Impressions*

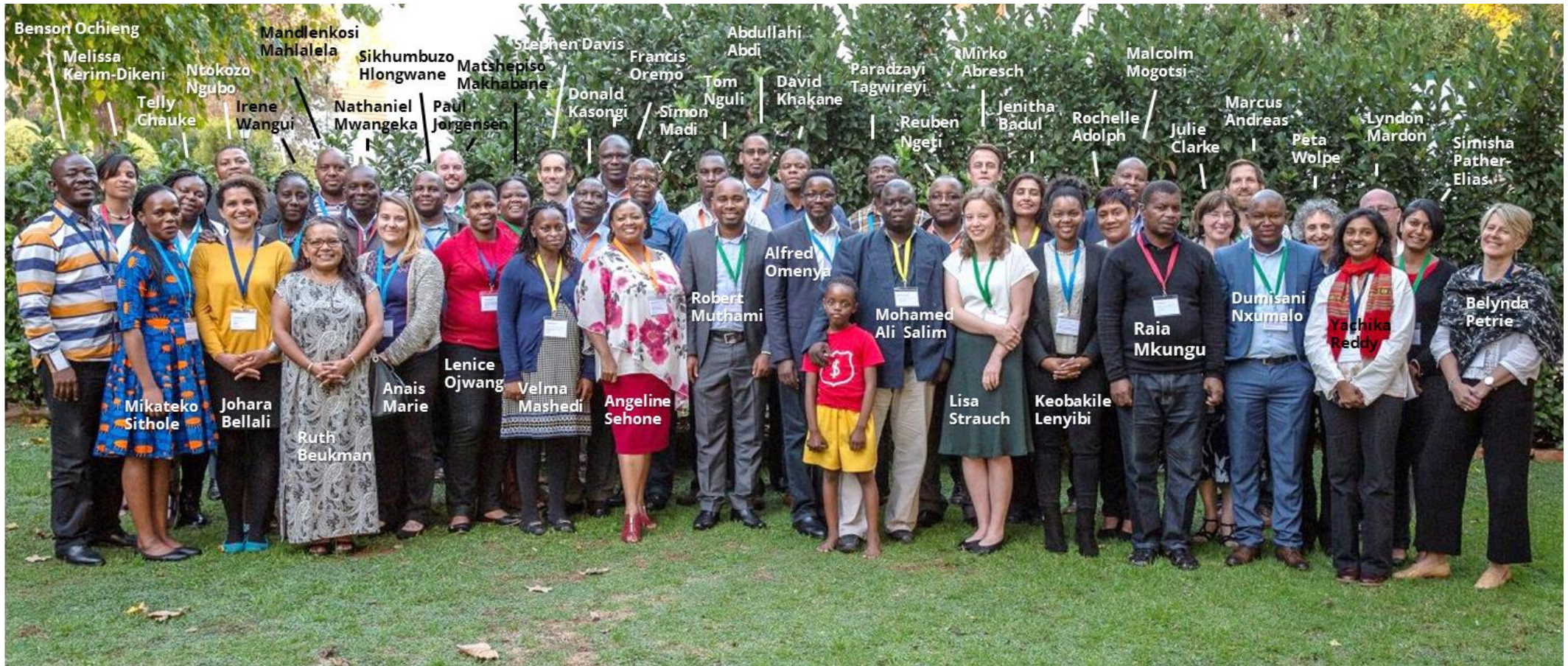
To access all **photos of the V-LED workshop**, please follow this link: [bit.ly/2LIIN1U](https://bit.ly/2LIIN1U)

Photos by Mpho Mokgadi,  
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