

Curriculum Vitae: Luke Borain

Nationality	South African
Education	<p>MPhil PPE (2020-2022) (awarded with Distinction) Specialising in Political Conflict and State Fragility University of Cape Town</p> <p>Honours PPE (2019-2020) Specialising in Climate Security University of Cape Town</p> <p>BSocSci Philosophy, Politics and Economics (PPE) (2015-2017) University of Cape Town</p>
Languages	English (fluent), Afrikaans (fair), isiXhosa (basic)

Employment record

April 2025 – Present	<p>Technical Analyst OneWorld Sustainable Investments, Cape Town, South Africa</p>
May 2023 – April 2025	<p>Research Analyst and Project Coordinator OneWorld Sustainable Investments, Cape Town, South Africa</p>
November 2022 – May 2023	<p>Project Coordinator OneWorld Sustainable Investments, Cape Town, South Africa</p>
May – November 2022	<p>Project Assistant OneWorld Sustainable Investments, Cape Town, South Africa</p>
June 2021 – March 2022	<p>Policy Analyst, Report Writer Michel International Relations and Services</p>
Jan 2019 – Jan 2021	<p>Academic Editor – Economics, political economy, and statistical sciences Cactus Communications</p>
March 2016 – May 2021	<p>Research and Risk Analyst Nic Borain Advisory, Cape Town, South Africa</p>
Feb 2014 – Jan 2022	<p>Editor Freelance</p>

Relevant professional experience

September 2024 – current	<p>Development of the full Green Climate Fund Simplified Approval Process (SAP) Funding Proposal and Annexes for the project ‘Ecosystem-based Adaptation for Water Security in South Africa (EbA-Water)’</p> <p>South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI) / Green Climate Fund (GCF)</p> <p>Project coordinator and technical analyst</p> <p>Collaborative development of the full SAP Funding Proposal (FP) and Annexes for the GCF, which intends to build the resilience of a selection of South Africa’s priority Strategic Water Source Areas (SWSA) using a participatory, action-learning, ecosystem-based adaptation approach.</p>
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<p>Responsible for: coordinating and writing the Stakeholder Engagement Plan; planning and assisting with the facilitation of stakeholder consultations, conducted at national, provincial, and site-level throughout the project, and; research, writing, consolidation of expert inputs, and addressing client feedback for the inception report and the FP and Annexes (i.e. a high-level Baseline and Climate Risk Assessment of 11 priority SWSAs in South Africa and detailed Baseline and Climate Risk Assessment for 4-6 targeted SWSAs, Pre-feasibility Study, Detailed Project Design and Implementation Budget, Environmental and Social Action Plan, Gender Action Plan, Grievance Redress Mechanism, and Risk Assessment and Management Plan).</p>
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<p>January 2024 - Present</p>	<p>Development of a Resource Mobilisation Plan for the SADC Regional Strategic Action Plan on Water Resources Management and Development (RSAP)</p> <p>GIZ / Southern African Development Community (SADC)</p> <p>Political Economy Analyst and Reports</p> <p>Supporting the SADC water sector by identifying and mobilising additional financial resources for activities identified in the RSAP. This includes delivering a mapping of potential funding sources as well as a resource mobilisation plan. Stakeholder consultations have been conducted in the form of document sharing, interviews, focus group discussions and workshops.</p> <p>Responsibilities: political economy analysis, investor scoping and matching, stakeholder engagement mapping and analysis, development of mapping and resource mobilisation strategies</p>
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<p>May 2023 - March 2025</p>	<p>Provision of Project Preparation Services to the South African National Biodiversity Institute through the Green Climate Fund Project Preparation Facility (PPF)</p> <p>South African National Biodiversity Institute/ Green Climate Fund (GCF), under contract to Oxford Policy Management (OPM)</p> <p>Technical analyst and coordinator</p> <p>Collaborative development of the full Simplified Approval Process (SAP) Funding Proposal and Annexes for the GCF, for the project: <i>Ecosystem-based Approaches for transforming smallholder farming systems that are vulnerable to the impacts of climate change in South Africa (EbA-Farm)</i>.</p> <p>Tasks include review of the baseline study and climate risk and vulnerability assessment, and supporting stakeholder engagement analysis</p>
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<p>September 2023 - June 2024</p>	<p>Development of a Climate Landscape Analysis for Children (CLAC) in Ethiopia</p> <p>UNICEF Ethiopia</p> <p>Technical reviewer and publication editor</p> <p>The objective of the CLAC is to assess the baseline situation of climate, energy, environment and disaster-related (CEED) issues affecting children and provide recommendations on how coordinated responses to these issues can be integrated in the programmes supported by UNICEF, particularly in child protection, education, health, nutrition, and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) sectors.</p> <p>Tasks included conducting a thorough review of the draft and final CLAC and the associated Policy Brief, including addressing a range of client feedback in the report, in collaboration with the authors, clients and publication designer.</p>
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<p>June 2023 to April 2024</p>	<p>Conducting sectoral climate change vulnerability assessments for Tanzania Mainland and Zanzibar</p> <p>United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)</p> <p>Research Analyst and Editor</p> <p>Conduct climate vulnerability assessments across nine sectors in Tanzania and Zanzibar, as well as the development of a methodological tool to enable the development of future climate change vulnerability assessment.</p> <p>Responsible for assisting in the development of reports for a climate change vulnerability assessment for Tanzania and Zanzibar.</p>
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May 2023 to December 2024 Allocation of Sectoral Emissions Targets (SETs), Improvement of the Integrated Socio-economic Model and Update of the Pathways Scenarios of the Integrated Mitigation Model

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) and South African Department of Forestry, Fisheries, and the Environment (DFFE)

Research Analyst Project Coordinator

The objective of the project is to update and improve the integrated socio-economic model, update the pathways scenarios of the integrated model, and allocate sectoral emissions targets.

Tasks include conducting and managing stakeholder engagement and consultation, training, and the development of narratives to support the development of SETs, and development pathways.

April 2023 – March 2025 Analysing the Climate Adaptation Needs and State of Readiness in Three Primary Sectors – Agriculture, The Built Environment and Water

National Economic & Development Labour Council (NEDLAC)/Presidential Climate Commission (PCC)

Research Analyst and Project Coordinator

Analysis of three primary sectors (water, built environment, agriculture) to assess adaptation needs and sector readiness.

Tasks include institutional and sectoral reviews; a synthesised report to develop priority recommendations to accelerate climate adaptation interventions in each sector; and stakeholder consultations, centred around continuous socialisation processes to gain consensus on adaptation actions for each sector.

January – June 2023 Climate Landscape Analysis for Children (Lesotho)

UNICEF Lesotho

Project Coordinator

Production of a Climate landscape analysis for children (CLAC) for Lesotho; providing direction and recommendations on how to improve inclusion of climate, energy, and environment (CEE) actions into country office programming. Collected, compiled, and reviewed key resources, gathering in-country information, and undertaking a key-stakeholder analysis. Also worked closely with the country office to identify and develop programming options and recommendations for the successful integration of CEE actions into the country programme cycle.

Specific tasks: Research, analysis and reporting; contributing technical inputs to the CLAC

February 2021 – February 2023 Strengthening Lesotho’s national designated authority (GCF) and developing strategic frameworks Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA)

Project and Editorial Assistant

Establishing and strengthening Lesotho’s institutional frameworks to enhance engagement with the GCF and global climate finance landscape. This support will strengthen the ability of the country to participate in different mechanisms directed to facilitate mitigation and adaptation to the effects of climate change and to fulfil its obligations and commitments to the UNFCCC. Project involved undertaking a climate finance baseline analysis, stakeholder engagement and capacity building and awareness raising targeting key stakeholders in the country’s climate finance landscape; developing the country programme and Action Plan to identify and prioritise a pipeline of climate change projects and programmes for GCF funding; outline Concept Notes for some identified projects.

Specific tasks: research and reporting for the climate finance baseline analysis; developing awareness-raising materials on climate change and the role of the GCF as a funding mechanism; assisting in the development of the country programme, which will prioritise a pipeline of climate change programmes and projects for further GCF funding.

October 2022 – Climate, energy, and environment landscape analysis for children in South Africa
July 2023

UNICEF South Africa

Researcher

Production of a CLAC for South Africa; providing direction and recommendations on how to improve the inclusion of climate, energy, and environment actions into country office programming. Project involved collecting, compiling, and reviewing key resources, gathering in-country information, and undertaking a key-stakeholder analysis. In addition, the project team worked closely with the country office to identify and develop programming options and recommendations for the successful integration of CEE actions into the country programme cycle.

Specific tasks: Research, analysis and reporting; contributing technical inputs to the CLAC.

August 2022 – Development of a Climate Landscape Analysis for Children and the UNICEF Rwanda Action Plan
July 2023

UNICEF Rwanda

Project Assistant; Researcher

Conducting a Climate Landscape Analysis for Children and Action Plan, examining the baseline situation of climate, energy and environment-related issues affecting children and how they relate to UNICEF's priorities. Provide recommendations on how UNICEF Rwanda could further incorporate and strengthen work on climate, energy and environment-related issues in its current country programme and make recommendations for the new Country Programme Document 2024–2029.

Specific tasks: Research, analysis and reporting; contributing technical inputs to the CLAC.

July 2022 – Development of a Climate Landscape Analysis for Children (CLAC) including a Climate Financing
March 2023 Strategy for two priority areas

UNICEF Angola

Project Assistant; Researcher

Data collection and analysis. Compiling and reviewing key resources including literature review and stakeholder interviews. Carrying out qualitative and quantitative data analysis. Provided recommendations to UNICEF Angola on how to mainstream climate and energy issues into their programming. Identification of actionable opportunities to integrate climate, environment, and energy development issues into UNICEF's sectoral programmes and cooperation with Angola government agencies, participatory analysis.

Specific tasks: Research, analysis and reporting; contributing technical inputs to the CLAC.

Apr 2022 – C40 Methodology to support cities on measuring their safeguarding from flooding
May 2022

C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group

Editorial Assistant

Development of a methodology for measuring the impact of flooding solutions implemented in African cities (Abidjan, Accra, Addis Ababa, Cape Town, Dakar, Dar es Salaam, Durban, Ekurhuleni, Freetown, Johannesburg, Lagos, Nairobi and Tshwane). Developed an Excel-based risk and vulnerability assessment tool to assist policymakers in identifying the best flood safeguard mechanisms for their cities.

Apr – Financial Sector Credit Facility for SMEs (FSCFS)
November 2022 African Development Bank (AfDB)

Editorial Assistant; Researcher

Project involved developing a green credit facility to scale up SMEs' access to climate finance and to promote green investments in relevant sectors of the economy through mobilising concessional and non-concessional resources to African SMEs and Youth-led businesses.

Specific tasks: Contribution to a comprehensive market assessment for a Green Climate Fund proposal to support the development of the Facility; enabling environment assessment; support the design of the SME Financial Sector credit facility.

April 2022 – Report: DAAD's SDG-Partnership Programme
May 2022 German Academic Exchange Service/ MIRS

Author

Report detailed German-funded programmes to help align Global South Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) agenda. The work explored best practices for conducting research in the context of SDGs, as well as existing projects within the programme which exhibited significant promise in terms of generating high-level, rigorous, scientific data for application in the real world.

Feb 2021 – Feb 2022 Thesis: The Kurds of Syria: Towards Self-Governance
University of Cape Town

Author

Paper presented a historical and socioeconomic analysis of the rise of the Kurdish sub-state entity in Syrian during the Syrian Civil War. The specific analyses included a,

Dec 2021 – Jan 2022 Report: climapAfrica
German Academic Exchange Service/ MIRS

Co-Author

Work focused on the impact of climate change in Africa and the various approaches to mitigation and adaptation currently available to researchers and policymakers. Areas of interest included climate modelling, biodiversity farming, and the communication of evidence to both policymakers and the public.

Oct 2021 – Nov 2021 Report: DAAD's University-Business Partnership Programme
German Academic Exchange Service/ MIRS

Author

Report explored government-funded programmes for expanded cooperation between HEIs and private industry. Key takeaways included an emphasis on the need for practical, context specific academic instruction in order to improve graduate employability.

Jun 2021 – Jul 2021 Conference Report: European Research and Innovation Days
European Commission/ MIRS

Analyst, Contributing Author

Reporting and analysis on R&I policy implementation in Europe. Included an examination of research-to-policy approaches following the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic, digital infrastructure and open-source technology, and sustainable development strategies for climate-resilient futures.

Sept 2019 – Thesis: Climate and Conflict: A Critical Assessment of the Literature on the Syrian Civil War
Jan 2020 University of Cape Town

Author

Paper explored the link between political instability and anthropogenic climate change in the context of the Syrian Civil War. Primary areas of examination included water scarcity, climate shock-induced migration, and increased levels of violence due to climate volatility.

Publications and Conference Papers (selected)

- Borain, J.L. (2022) The Kurds of Syria: Towards Self-Governance. MPHIL dissertation. University of Cape Town. Political Conflict and International Relations.
- Petrie, B. & Borain, L. (2022). “From Research, to Policy, to Water Investment in Africa” Research Brief, September 2022. OneWorld Sustainable Investments. Available online: <https://oneworldgroup.co.za/researchpolicybrief/>
- Petrie, B., Allen, J.A., Fiel, P., Parker, R. & Borain, L. (2022). Climate Landscape Analysis for Children (CLAC) in Angola: Final Report. For UNICEF Angola Country Office. OneWorld Sustainable Investments, Cape Town.
- Petrie, B., Moeti, L. & Borain, L. (2023). Climate Landscape Analysis for Children (CLAC) in Lesotho: Final Report. For UNICEF Lesotho Country Office. OneWorld Sustainable Investments, Cape Town
- Petrie, B., Gisondi, E. & Borain, L. 2024. Policy Brief: The Global Just Transition. OneWorld Sustainable Investments, Cape Town, South Africa. Available online: <https://oneworldgroup.co.za/publications/policy-brief-the-global-just-energy-transition/>
- Petrie, B., Morris, M., McCarthy, D. & Borain, L. Adaptation Readiness in South Africa: Synthesis Report. For the Presidential Climate Commission (PCC).