



## **Climate adaptation through the learning lens of South Africa's Blue Deal projects: an opportunity for cross-country collaborative education**

**Date:** 19 March 2024  
**Time:** 10:00 -12:00  
**Venue:** Online via Zoom (see registration link in the invitation email)

### **Context**

Climate change stands as a critical and urgent global challenge, holding profound implications for both South Africa and the Netherlands. A collaborative learning opportunity arises through the Blue Deal program. The Blue Deal's global ambition is to support water management worldwide by exchanging knowledge and experience. Aligned to the Blue Deal is the KIWI program, in which young experts from Dutch water boards work on international water management projects, focusing on global water challenges through engaging with mature practitioners within the Blue Deal initiative.

This exciting webinar, powered by a comprehensive climate scan performed by the KIWI water specialists aligned to Blue Deal South Africa projects, will share with you their insights in exploring local scale adaption to the impact of climate change on water resources. Through engaging discussions, we will connect these insights to the potential consequences for water management, urban landscapes, agriculture, nature, and the economy.

In this collaborative endeavor, we aim to introduce a Blue Deal focal effort to collectively work towards effective climate resilience and sustainable water management strategies. Throughout the webinar, we will:

- Explore the impactful realities of climate change
- Assess the visible consequences on different sectors
- Showcase ongoing initiatives and best practices

### **Objectives**

Participants will be able to:

- Gain a comprehensive update and insight into the critical global issue of climate change and its significance for South Africa and the Netherlands.

- Gain perspective on visible consequences of climate change at a local level within Blue Deal South Africa projects, including perspectives on the challenges and opportunities arising.
- Evaluate visible consequences of climate change on water resources and policy implementation.

## Draft programme

Moderator: Ms Minenhle Nene, Climate Policy Officer, Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands

Opening and introduction	Ms Minenhle Nene
Climate scan of KwaZulu-Natal Blue Deal project	Ms Noortje Vromans, Dutch Water Authorities
Response from the local project team	Mr Nkosinjani Mkhize, Department of Water and Sanitation
Climate scan of Vredefort Dome Blue Deal project	Mr Leendert Visser, Dutch Water Authorities
Response from the local project team	Mr Gustav Engelbrecht, North-West Department of Economic Development, Environment, Conservation and Tourism
Climate scan of the Theewaterskloof Blue Deal project	Mr Tom Overgaauw, Dutch Water Authorities
Response from the local project team	Mr Fabion Smith, Breede-Olifants Catchment Management Agency
The Blue Deal as a vehicle for cross-country learning	Ms Aiske Rijnks, Dutch Water Authorities
Panel discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr Brilliant Petja, Water Research Commission</li> <li>• Dr Gabriel Lekalakala, Department of Water and Sanitation</li> <li>• Mr Gustav Engelbrecht</li> <li>• Mr Nkosinjani Mkhize</li> <li>• Mr Fabion Smith</li> <li>• Ms Aiske Rijnks</li> </ul>
Questions and answers	Ms Minenhle Nene
Concluding remarks and way forward	Ms Minenhle Nene