

Smart land and water resource management: co-creating a collaborative opportunity

The Blue Deal Programme has taken steps to be more conscious of climate change in all the work that is being done to meet the 2030 goals. This effort is most seen in the inclusion of the KIWI Climate Game Changers to the programme. The Dutch KIWI's, tasked individuals focusing on climate aspects, seek to support and boost climate adaptation in international water board projects, including the Blue Deal Programme. The work that the KIWI's do involves addressing concerns over climate change around the world.



Over the years we've seen how climate change has detrimentally affected the Vredefort Dome

Particularly with regards to flooding and veld fires and on Wednesday, 10 April 2024, the Vredefort Dome World Heritage Site Project held a workshop on climate change adaptation in the area. The some 30 odd attendees included representation from local, provincial and national government, NGOs, private land owners and the NWU ACDS. The workshop marked the beginning of a collaborative event amongst the diverse group of stakeholders in the Vredefort Dome, UNESCO World Heritage Site.

During the workshop the discussions were centred around present

and future data collection needs and how to transform data into information that could be used in the future to inform and support impactful mitigation actions. Beyond the need for information, a key concern was how to strengthen and improve information sharing amongst and between stakeholders. The inclusion of so many different voices meant a new level of understanding of the needs and limitations of the different overlapping parties.

There was a general sense of renewed willingness for collaboration between the different stakeholders

And as the Blue Deal Vredefort Dome team we hope that this is a step in the right direction to providing a platform for all stakeholders to be active participants in working towards addressing the climate change issues faced in the area both as regards water resource management and land/veldt management.

