



City of Tshwane **CLIMATE ACTION PLAN** A Net-Zero Carbon and Climate Resilient City by 2050

PROFILE OF CLIMATE CHANGE RESEARCH IN TSHWANE CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

1. Background

Climate change is no longer a fuzzy concept but an everyday reality which is now fast becoming known as the major storyline of the twenty-first century. In 2015, the 21st Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Climate Change Convention (UNFCCC) and the 11th Meeting of Parties to the Kyoto Protocol adopted the Paris Agreement as an expression of the collective sense of urgency to address climate change.

The Paris Agreement mandates accelerated action to keep global average temperature increases to below 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels. It also catapulted local government into the spotlight by explicitly recognising that local governments, among other non-state actors, have a crucial role to play in supporting national governments to deliver their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC). Per the Paris Agreement, it is also necessary for the city to support the efforts of the national government in the spirit of cooperative governance by reducing our contribution to the national carbon footprint.

The City of Tshwane is committed to addressing climate change impacts. To fulfil this commitment, the city has invested significant efforts in developing a Climate Action Plan (CAP) which was launched on 7 June 2022 by the Executive Mayor of Tshwane. The main aim of the CAP is to develop a clear road map to achieve a net-zero carbon future by 2050 and to build the resilience of our people, economy and natural environment in terms of the current and future climate.



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Tshwane's status as a knowledge hub gives us a great advantage, as many academic and research institutions based here can provide readily available expertise to support us as we chart our way through new territory. Our vision is for the Tshwane knowledge hub to become a frontrunner in localised climate science. A further advantage of our knowledge hub is the ability to form partnerships to develop locally appropriate climate change mitigation and adaptation measures. Therefore, the city believes in taking climate action through collaborative efforts. For this reason, we are engaging with multiple stakeholders and research partners to pursue shared climate action goals that promote equity.

It is against this background that the city seeks to co-host a two-day climate change research Symposium with the Tshwane University of Technology. The Symposium is aimed at academic and research institutions to profile areas of research interest and scope possible areas of further research based on the approved Municipal Research Agenda and CAP. To this end, a call for Abstracts is being made for the upcoming Symposium, which will be held on 7th and 8th December 2022 in Tshwane.

2. Key Objectives of the Symposium

- Provide a platform to showcase local research in climate change by academic and research institutions
- Enable participants to share practical ideas and experiences on how to tackle climate change at the local tier of government in a collaborative way
- Facilitate information dissemination and effective learning around climate change in Tshwane and other cities.

3. Research Thematic Areas

The following three thematic areas are proposed:

- Climate Change Mitigation
- Adaptation to Climate Change
- Climate Finance

4. Abstract Development Guidelines

The proposed structure of the expected abstracts (**maximum of 300 words**) should be developed based on the following subheadings:

- Background (Introduction)
- Research Objectives
- Research Approach and Methodological underpinnings
- Results and Key Findings
- Conclusions and Key Recommendations

5. Submission of Abstracts

The deadline for the submission of abstracts is 9th of November 2022. Submissions of Abstracts and enquiries should be addressed to Stanley Nyanyirai, Director: Strategy and Research Development, City of Tshwane, at StanleyNy@TSHWANE.GOV.ZA and should your Abstract be successful, you will be informed of the next steps.