



South African  
National Implementing Entity  
of the Adaptation Fund

## **Why is Direct Access important? Insights from South Africa's National Implementing Entity (NIE) to the Adaptation Fund**

Dr. Mandy Barnett, NIE Director, SANBI  
November 2015



**SANBI**

Biodiversity for Life

South African National Biodiversity Institute



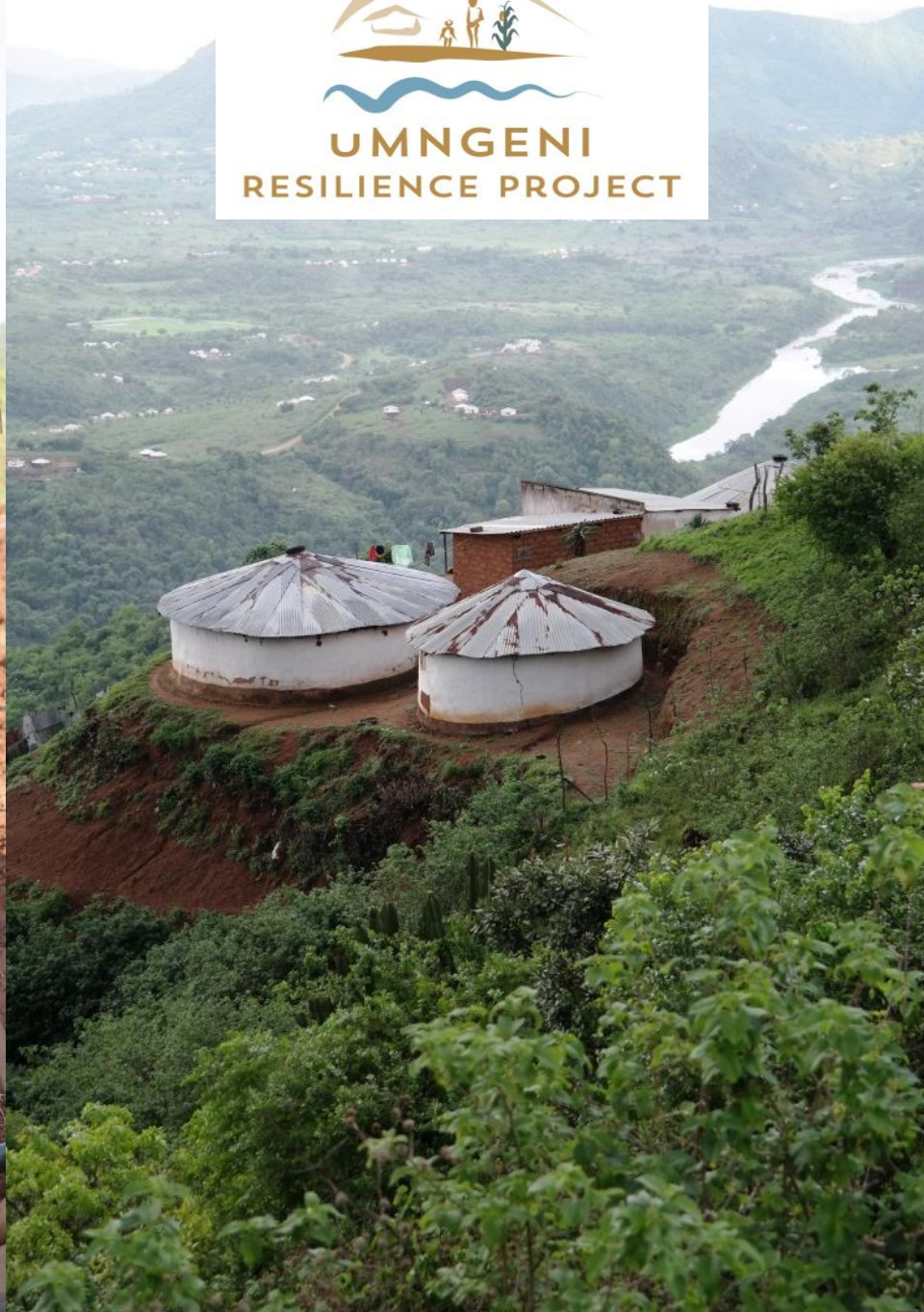


# SMALL GRANTS FACILITY

*Responding to climate change*



UMNGENI  
RESILIENCE PROJECT





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RESILIENCE PROJECT

## Taking Adaptation to the Ground: A Small Grants Facility for enabling local level responses to climate change

(USD 2.5 million)

- Provide small grants
- At least 12
- Approx. USD100 000 each

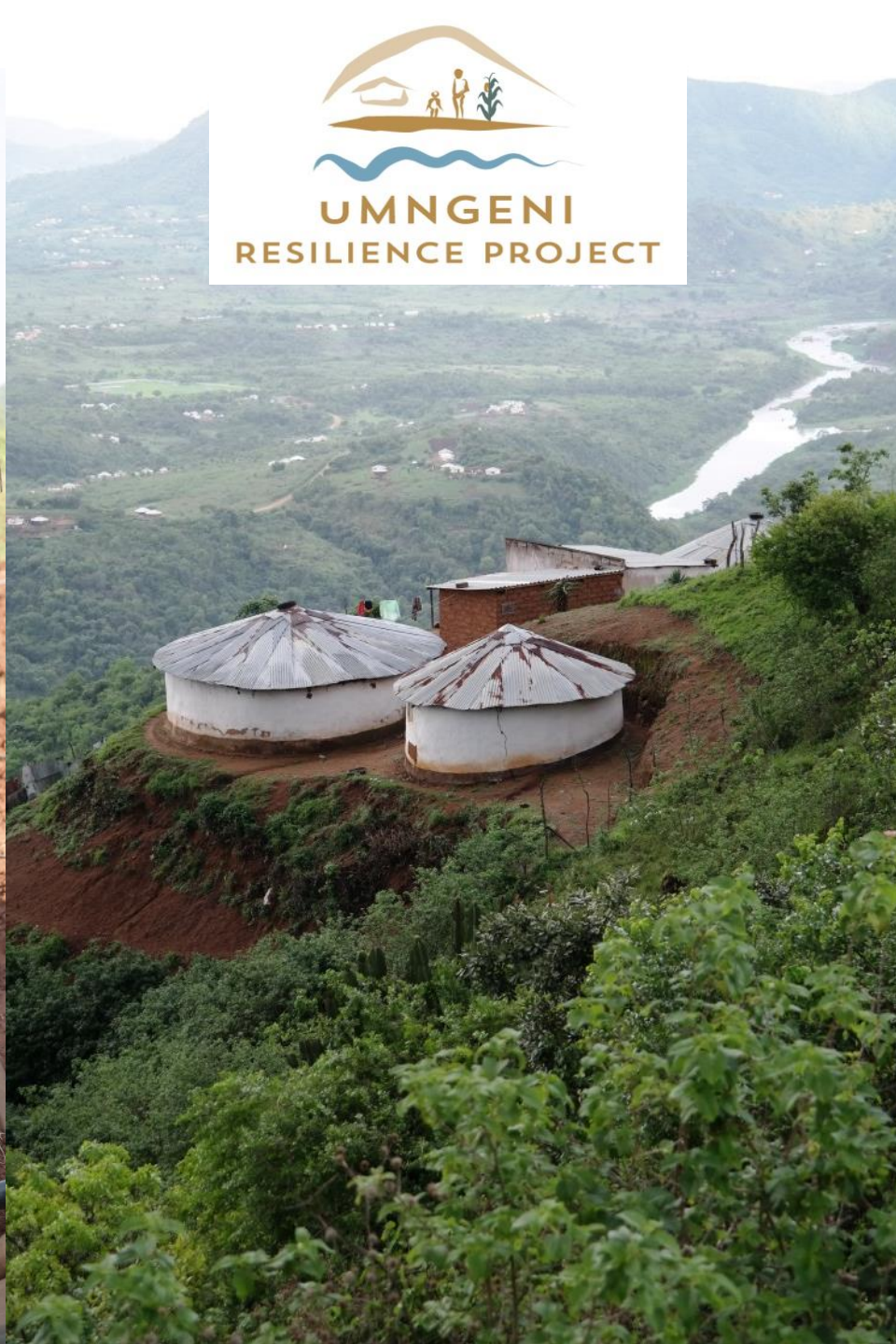


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## Building resilience in the Greater uMngeni Catchment, South Africa (USD 7.5 million)

- Early warning systems
- Climate-proof settlements
- Ecosystem based adaptation
- Climate resilient agriculture





# South African NIE Timeline

1. Sept 2011: Accreditation
2. Sept 2012: Operationalisation
3. August 2012: First NIE SC meeting
4. Oct 2012: Stakeholder Consultation
5. Nov 2012: Investment Framework
6. Nov 2012: Call for Proposals
7. Jan 2013: Proposal selection and development
8. Concept submission
9. July 2013: Concept approval
10. Detailed design – 12 months
11. July 2014: Submission for October 2014 board meeting
12. October 2014: Approval of both projects
13. November 2014 : Pre-inception begins
14. October 2015: Inception Small Grants Facility
15. November 2015: Inception uMngeni Resilience



- Accreditation takes time
- Enabling environment takes time
- Project Development takes time
- Institutional readiness takes time



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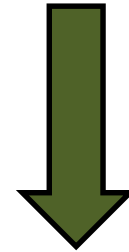


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**The participatory project  
development process took  
one year**



**Good process enables:**

- Unlocking local and indigenous knowledge





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## Good process enables:

- The building of new partnerships for cross sectoral action (and sustainability)



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# Multiple Institutional Strengthening co-benefits through Direct Access

## At the National Level:

- Sound governance and national ownership
- Stronger profiling and mainstreaming of adaptation

## The National Implementing Entity:

- Policy and regulatory environment strengthened
- Developed new standard operating procedures for projects

## The Executing Entities:

- Improved capacity for Climate Change Adaptation, in local government and civil society
- New tools for receiving and spending climate finance

## Local empowerment:

- Empowerment of local community members to participate in Adaptation Action.







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## Direct Access has enabled:

- An opportunity to develop AF-funded projects as part of **coherent, country driven programme**
- The **elevation of the Climate Change Adaptation agenda**, and associated unlocking of political will and domestic resources for adaptation
- An opportunity to **mainstream Climate Change Adaptation into development and service delivery interventions** at the local level
- Investments in the development of sustainable partnerships and the **unlocking of cross sectoral responses to Climate Change**
- The **gradual building of capacity in institutions and individuals** who are new to adaptation but crucial to its successful implementation



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Merci  
Thank you



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