



# UMZIMVUBU

— LOCAL MUNICIPALITY —

<b>Policy Name</b>	Climate Change Policy
<b>Status</b>	First Presentation
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<b>Last Amended</b>	Not Applicable

Umzimvubu Municipality  
813 Main Street  
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5090

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## **1. Preamble**

- 1.1 The Climate Change Policy of the Umzimvubu Local Municipality is founded on the shared economic vision for the area – *“a diverse and resilient economy, able to exploit the competitive advantages of the municipality while building appropriate skills”* (climate change education and awareness).
- 1.2 This policy recognizes the impact of climate change which is harshly affecting agricultural sector, environmental, etcetera in the Umzimvubu local economy, especially in creating sustainable jobs and contributing to poverty alleviation.
- 1.3 The policy is accordingly informed by and aligned to the international and national policy frameworks as well as specific needs and opportunities presented by the local communities of Umzimvubu.

## **2. Purpose**

- 2.1 The purpose of this policy is to present a fundamental set of measures and guidelines that helps people understand and address the impact of global warming, increases “climate literacy” within Umzimvubu communities, encourages changes in their attitudes and behaviour, and helps them adapt to climate change related trends.
- 2.2 The policy specifically seeks to achieve the following objectives:
- a) To enhance domestic resources mobilisation
  - b) To bring together information from rural communities, indigenous peoples and research workers on how they use agrobiodiversity to cope with climate change.
  - c) To identify tools and practices relevant to using agrobiodiversity for coping with climate change and making these widely available.

Ultimately, these will lead to the main goals of this project, which are:

- a) To provide a synthesis of available information, assess major knowledge gaps and identify research that will respond to the needs of farmers, communities and indigenous peoples, and
- b) To promote awareness of the vital role of agrobiodiversity in adapting to climate change among key audiences, including donors, development agents and the global biodiversity community.

### **3. Objectives of the Policy**

- 3.1 The proposals contained in this policy document are aimed at ensuring that the Umzimvubu Local Municipality promotes and facilitates climate change awareness to the communities and more specifically into specific growth sectors and development projects.
- 3.2 The policy is aimed at providing an integrated support mechanism to/from potential international and national investor community.
- 3.3 Create a policy framework that supports future resilience building and the reduction of vulnerability to climate change impacts.
- 3.4 Guide the adaptation of infrastructure design guidelines and considerations to expected hazard profiles linked to climate change;
- 3.5 Provide policy support to climate change mitigation and adaptation initiatives within the Umzimvubu Local Municipality; and
- 3.6 Clarify roles, responsibilities and organisational opportunities in climate change mitigation and adaptation.
- 3.7 **Consultation of Tradition Leaders regarding a programme of awareness to local communities for factors that lead to climate change.**

### **4. Policy Content and Guidelines**

- 4.1 The Umzimvubu Local Municipality shall:
  - 4.1.1 Ensure that Climate Change Legal Framework provides for the coordinated and integrated response to climate change. To provide for the effective management of inevitable climate change impacts through enhancing adaptive capacity. Make a fair contribution to the global effort to stabilise greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere.
  - 4.1.2 The Umzimvubu Local Economic Development Strategy will be used as a tool to promote policies and measures that assess the extent of existing and proposed policies.
  - 4.1.3 Create awareness and facilitate access to a range of society and industry, to continue business as usual, climate change will have serious consequences for our planet, its people today, and for generations to

come – from melting ice caps and forest fires to shifting weather patterns that impact the way food is produced.

- 4.1.4 Enter into strategic partnerships with South African weather service, cooperation among local municipalities can be an effective tool to strengthen, share and accelerate development within and across regions. It involves creating, adapting, transferring and sharing knowledge and experiences.

## **5. Designated Structure to Approve, Adjust and Improve the Policy**

- 5.1 The Local Economic Development Committee shall have the authority to recommend to the Council the approval, adjustments and improvements necessary to this policy. It is the Council that will provide the final approval of all adjustments and improvements to the policy.

## **5.2 DEFINITIONS**

- 5.2.1 LED means Local Economic Development  
5.2.2 ICCP International Climate Change Policy  
5.2.3 NCCP National Climate Change Policy  
5.2.4 LUMS means Land Use Management Systems

## **6. Administration of this Policy**

- 6.1 The administration of this policy shall be the primary responsibility of the Local Economic Development Unit of the Umzimvubu Municipality. The Municipal Manager with the assistance of the LED Manager shall ensure that the policy is implemented, managed and monitored appropriately.

## **7. COMMENCEMENT OF THE POLICY**

Unless otherwise stated this Policy shall commence on the date of the adoption of this policy by a sitting of a full Council.

## **8. PERMANENT / TEMPORARY WAIVER OF THIS POLICY**

- 8.1 This policy may be wholly waived by the Municipal Council on temporary or permanent basis.

8.2 Notwithstanding clause 6.1 the Accounting Officer may under the circumstances of emergency temporarily waive this policy subject to reporting of such waiver to Council

## **9. SUSPENSION OF THIS POLICY**

9.1 This policy may be repealed by the Council

9.2 This policy may be suspended by the Council