



Adaptation Research Alliance

BUILDING CAPACITY IN LDC UNIVERSITIES TO SUPPORT NATIONAL ADAPTATION ACTION

AN ARA CO-CREATION SPACE

An exciting new initiative is being taken forward by the Adaptation Research Alliance (ARA) to design a research programme that puts Least Developed Country Universities in the driving seat to support national adaptation priorities with locally led research.

WHAT IS THE CO-CREATION SPACE?

The co-creation space is a series of in-person and online engagements with interested stakeholders from different sectors. Through iterating together, we will co-develop a new adaptation research programme where LDC Universities take the lead in generating knowledge that supports their country's national adaptation efforts.

The intended programme would facilitate the preparation, use and enhancement of national scientific and technical capacities in LDCs and embed these going forward into national adaptation actions, processes, and development plans at local to national scales.

The co-creation approach will work with government agencies, Civil Society Organisations, business and local communities, to ensure that universities in LDCs can help to build the knowledge and capacity needed to implement effective adaptation and resilience-building measures.

By taking a whole of society approach, the programme would ensure that the voices of the vulnerable are included and that locally-led and community-based adaptation approaches can be integrated into national systems and at scale.

WHAT IS THE ARA?

The Adaptation Research Alliance (ARA) is a global coalition responding to the urgent challenges faced by vulnerable communities from climate change. Our membership is made up of researchers, funders, policymakers, development bodies, and community-based organisations committed to action for adaptation that supports climate resilient futures.

WHAT IS THE PROBLEM WE ARE ADDRESSING?

Universities in LDCs play a critical role in advancing knowledge and providing solutions to the complex challenges facing these under-researched and underrepresented nations.

One of the most pressing challenges facing LDCs is the impacts of climate change, which exacerbate poverty and inequities and undermine sustainable development. To effectively address this, LDCs need a climate change adaptation research programme that integrates and aligns with their government's broader efforts to advance the SDGs and build resilience to the impacts of climate change.

By working with government agencies and other stakeholders, universities in LDCs can help to ensure that research efforts contribute to building resilience and equitable adaptation to climate change, including in the areas of disaster risk reduction, sustainable land use, natural resource management and governance.

HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED?

Interfer is working with the ARA to facilitate the co-creation of a new action-oriented adaptation research programme, to be led by LDC Universities. The co-creation process entails a series of online and in-person engagements. The process will evolve and be refined to reflect LDC University needs as these emerge. The time commitment envisaged to be part of the co-creation is no more than 10 days over the next 8 months.

If you have any questions about the process or want to get involved, please direct them to Leigh Stadler, Interfer, at leigh.cobban@uct.ac.za or Suzanne Carter, ARA Secretariat, secretariat@adaptationresearchalliance.org.