



**s a r u a**  
southern african regional  
universities association



**Circular 10, 2014**

## **CCD Curriculum Innovation Network funding announcement**

Dear Member Vice Chancellors,

We are delighted to announce that the **Curriculum Innovation Network** of SARUA's Climate Compatible Development programme will be sponsored by the *Climate Development Knowledge Network (CDKN)*. This circular provides the context and some details on this network.

***Expressions of Interest will be developed and communicated to you shortly.***

*The Curriculum Innovation Network is one of four proposed networks – please see the diagram at the bottom of the page two of this circular. The remaining three networks will be launched once financing for them has been secured.*

### **History**

**In 2010 SARUA initiated the Programme for Climate Change Capacity Development.** The programme responds directly to southern Africa's high vulnerability to climate change. It provides a platform for regional universities to address climate change together with other knowledge partners and to influence effective policy making and implementation in the SADC region.

**The CCD programme's ultimate objective** is to revitalise Higher Education in the region by building a regional scientific base of new knowledge, which can benefit the region's response to climate change.

**The CCD programme seeks to bring about the following outcomes over approximately 5 years:**

- Collaborative network development
- Policy and stakeholder outreach
- Research
- Teaching and learning
- Knowledge management
- Institutional learning and support.

**During Phase 1 of the programme an assessment was conducted of the Climate Compatible Development (CCD) knowledge needs and gaps in southern Africa over 12 countries, and the institutional (in particular university) responses to these. This phase was concluded in December 2013 and the regional Knowledge Co-Production Framework (KCPF) was launched in May 2014 at a SARUA Leadership Dialogue. At this event the findings were endorsed by the attending university Vice Chancellors and their DVCs. The publication of the results of the assessment is available in English, French and Portuguese and can be found at [www.sarua.org](http://www.sarua.org).**

### **The CCD Regional Curriculum Innovation principles are the following:**

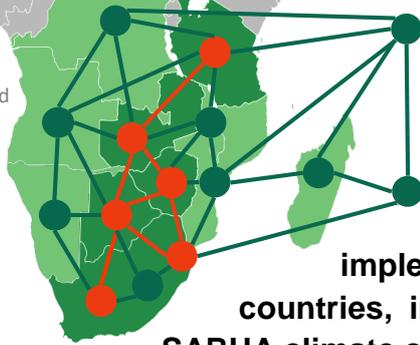
- To focus on inter- and trans-disciplinary approaches to teaching, involving new teaching methods and new forms of learning.
- To be guided by CCD concerns, policy and research.
- To emphasise research-informed curriculum development.

# Curriculum Innovation Network Objective

Regional curriculum innovation in climate compatible development

The objective of the Curriculum Innovation network is to produce outputs that can benefit the quality of university teaching and learning across the whole SADC region.

- Initial nodes identified
- All countries to be included in future implementation



The activities of the network will be coordinated in a similar way to that of the research clusters within the Research Network – universities and partners with the capacity to contribute (like those in the provisional list below) will drive curriculum innovation activities and develop programmes and tools with a view to meeting regional needs. The outputs produced by the network will be made available for implementation to all SARUA members in all SADC countries, irrespective of their active participation in the SARUA climate change programme.

## CCD Curriculum innovations across disciplines and levels are to include

- new approaches to thinking
- integration of different forms of knowledge
- core competences for CCD
- values and ethics
- relational understanding
- equity and social justice
- futures orientation
- care and concern
- sustainability.

