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Stakeholder Mapping Report:
Accelerating South Africa's Transition to a Green Economy









the dtic
Department:
Trade, Industry and Competition
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

NCPC
INDUSTRIAL EFFICIENCY IN SOUTH AFRICA

technology innovation
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1. Introduction

1.1 Aim of the report

This report provides a comprehensive stakeholder mapping and analysis for the project aimed at accelerating South Africa's transition to a green economy. Supported by a diverse group of stakeholders, including universities, training centers, umbrella organizations, and other key entities, this mapping highlights each entity's expertise and potential for knowledge exchange with stakeholders identified from Flanders. The aim is to create a collaborative framework that enhances South Africa's capacity for sustainable development and climate resilience.

1.2 Project background

South Africa's transition to a low-carbon, climate-resilient economy presents opportunities for industries to adopt sustainable water and energy solutions. The Industry Climate Change Adaptation Project, led by UNIDO with NCPC-SA and TIA, and funded by Flanders, supports this shift by addressing adoption barriers, showcasing technology upgrades, and fostering green innovation. Focused on the agro-processing sector, it strengthens capacity, finances resilient investments, and promotes sustainable practices. By embracing these measures, industries can reduce environmental impacts, enhance competitiveness, and create green jobs.

1.3 Methodology

The purpose of stakeholder mapping and engagement is to:

- Identify key national, provincial and local stakeholders which are directly or indirectly linked to the development and implementation of SAIA.
- Review (potential) roles of key stakeholders related to project implementation and scaleability in South Africa.

This was done through discussion with the project owners and understanding the project activities to date. The review of capacity and knowledge levels was to develop specific awareness-raising and capacity-building strategies for stakeholders in the private and public sectors.

2. Stakeholder Overview

The stakeholders involved in this project are categorized based on their sectors, expertise, and areas of focus. This overview is essential for understanding how each stakeholder can contribute to the project, particularly in terms of collaboration with Flemish counterparts. The success of this initiative hinges on strategic partnerships, effective communication, and the integration of diverse perspectives. The stakeholder categories of each group have been identified according to the following:

- Government and policy bodies
- Academia and research
- Civil Society and NGOs
- Special economic zones (SEZs) and Industrial Parks
- Umbrella organisations

In addition, global organisations are listed as important stakeholders as these bodies can fund collaborations and initiatives.

2.1 Government and Policy Bodies in South Africa

Government entities play a critical role in setting the regulatory and policy framework for sustainable development and is imperative to the SAIA project. The Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE) leads efforts in climate change adaptation and environmental sustainability, while the Department of Trade, Industry and Competition (DTIC) drives industrial transformation, promoting green technology adoption. The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) ensures effective water resource management, essential for balancing industrial needs with environmental conservation. Additionally, the Department of Agriculture, Land Reform, and Rural Development (DALRRD) aligns agricultural practices and agro-processing with national climate resilience goals, making these bodies key enablers of the SAIA project.

Organization	Sector/Network	Mandate of organization	Potential Role related to SAIA project	Relevant persons	Notable Projects
Department of Trade Industry and Competition (dtic)	Economic Development, Green Industry	The mission of the Department of Trade, Industry and Competition is to promote structural transformation, towards a dynamic industrial and globally competitive economy; provide a predictable, competitive, equitable and socially responsible environment, conducive to investment, trade and enterprise.	**The dtic** is the national lead organisation in the implementation of Green industries. Facilitate partnerships with industries and ensure alignment with industrial policy.	Mr Gerhard Fourie Chief Director: Green Industries Ms Ncumisa Mcata-Mhlauli Chief Director Telephone: +27 (0) 12 394 1557	**Green Industry and Energy Efficiency Programme (GIEEP):** Supports the transition to greener industries by promoting energy-efficient technologies and practices.
Department Agriculture, Rural Development and Land Reform (DARDLR)	Agriculture and Rural Development	The mandate of the DARDLR is to create and maintain an equitable and sustainable land dispensation; and acting as a coordinator and catalyst in rural development to ensure sustainable rural livelihoods, decent work and continued social and economic advancement of all South Africans.	The DARDLR provides a financial supporting role through the funding support for agriculture-based manufacturers (within EIPs) can be sourced from DRDLR and the Land Bank Comprehensive Rural Development Programme (CRDP) throughout the country.	Mr Mooketsa Ramasodi Director-General: Department of Agriculture Land Reform and Rural Development Telephone: +27 (0) 12 312 9662 Email: DGOffice@dalrrd.gov.za	**Comprehensive Rural Development Programme (CRDP):** Focuses on rural development, including support for agricultural practices and green farming technologies.

Organization	Sector/Network	Mandate of organization	Potential Role related to SAIA project	Relevant persons	Notable Projects
Department of Forestry and Fisheries Environment (DFFE)	Environment, Climate Change	The Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries is responsible for protecting, conserving and improving the South African environment and natural resources.	DFFE's Green Industries unit can assist local industries in factoring climate change considerations, coping with climate change-related regulations and embarking on the transition to a low-carbon development path.	Ms Nonhlanhla Mkhize Deputy Director-General Environmental Programmes Telephone: +27 (0) 12 399 9510	**Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs):** Ensuring industries comply with environmental regulations, helping businesses meet sustainability goals, and reducing their carbon footprints.
Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS)	Water Resource Management	The Department of Water and Sanitation's (DWS) legislative mandate seeks to ensure that the country's water resources are protected, managed, used, developed, conserved and controlled in a sustainable manner for the benefit of all people and the environment.	The DWS implements the National Water Act (includes water use, pollution prevention, quality monitoring, punitive steps for pollution, etc.). Water stewardship programmes have been promoted through the department for industry sectors with sector water guides made available. The provision of bulk water supply, sewage treatment plants or industrial effluent control, or waste recycling/ treatment facilities in line with the expansion and maintenance programme.	Mr N Mkhize Telephone: +27 (0) 12 336 8557 Email: MkhizeNh@dws.gov.za	**National Water Resource Strategy:** Protects and manages the country's water resources to ensure sustainable use, including pollution control, effluent management, and water conservation initiatives in industrial sectors.

Organization	Sector/Network	Mandate of organization	Potential Role related to SAIA project	Relevant persons	Notable Projects
Department of Energy (DoE)	Energy Supply, Renewable Energy	The mission of the Department of Energy is to regulate and transform the sector for the provision of secure, sustainable and affordable energy. The Department's mandate is to ensure secure and sustainable provision of energy for socio-economic development.	DoE facilitates the electricity supply industry (ESI) policy, legislation and regulations. The DoE mainly provides the legislative environment for energy provision which includes the Independent Power Producers (IPP). These IPP policies affect industrial parks that want to promote Renewable Energy projects as a sustainable source of energy for their tenants.	Telephone: +27 (0) 87 351 3000 Email: info@ipp-projects.co.za	**Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement Programme (REIPPPP):** Facilitates private sector investment in renewable energy through independent power producers, benefiting industrial parks and green industries.
Department of Science and Innovation (DSI)	Research, Innovation, Green Economy	The DSI mission is to provide leadership, an enabling environment, and resources for science, technology and innovation in support of South Africa's development.	DSI has been involved in most of the sustainability implementation projects in South Africa working closely with dtic as well as DFFE by providing research and technical support. They also provide research-based innovation projects which assist in the growth of the Green economy.	Dr Mmboneni Muofhe Deputy Director-General: Socio-economic Innovation Partnerships Telephone: +27 (0) 12 843 6821	**South Africa's Green Fund:** Supports sustainable development projects through innovation in clean technologies, energy efficiency, and environmental conservation.

Organization	Sector/Network	Mandate of organization	Potential Role related to SAIA project	Relevant persons	Notable Projects
Department Of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (COGTA)	Local Government, Urban Development	The department leads various programmes which assists in the development of municipal infrastructure and economic development.	Programmes such as the Integrated Urban Development Framework (IUDF) assists in the implementation of support programmes. Funds have been mobilised for 37 intermediate cities.	Dr Modjadji Malahlela Telephone: +27 (0) 21 395 4717 Email Modjadjim@cogta.gov.z	**Integrated Urban Development Framework (IUDF):** Supports the development of intermediate cities, improving urban governance, sustainable infrastructure, and regional economic growth in line with green and climate-resilient planning.

2.2 Academia and research in South Africa

Universities and research institutions contribute to the project by generating knowledge, fostering innovation, and building capacity. Organizations like the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) conduct research and development to support sustainable technologies for the water-energy nexus. Universities such as the University of Pretoria and Stellenbosch University provide expertise in agro-processing and climate resilience, while the Water Research Commission (WRC) advances water use efficiency and innovations. These stakeholders help mainstream climate action through evidence-based solutions and training.

Entity	Departments/faculties	Area of Expertise/ Strengths	Researchers and Professors	Relevant Projects/ initiatives
University of Cape Town (UCT)	Energy Research Centre (ERC) and African Climate and Development Initiative (ACDI)	They focus on sustainable energy and climate resilience research	Professor Mark: New - Director of the ACDI-A leading researcher in climate change resilience and sustainability in Southern Africa. Professor Harald Winkler: Lead researcher in renewable energy and energy systems modeling, with a focus on South Africa's energy transition.	ACDI Climate Resilience Initiative: Research on building climate resilience in vulnerable communities across Africa. Climate Adaptation and Sustainable Development: Collaborations on integrating climate adaptation strategies into development policies.

Entity	Departments/faculties	Area of Expertise/ Strengths	Researchers and Professors	Relevant Projects/ initiatives
Stellenbosch University	Centre for Renewable and Sustainable Energy Studies (CRSES) and Sustainability Institute	Conducts cutting-edge research on renewable energy systems and technologies, including solar, wind, and bioenergy.	Professor Mark Swilling: Expert in sustainable development and the transition to a green economy. He has led various projects on urban sustainability and eco-innovation. Professor Frikkie de Lange: Researches renewable energy systems, particularly focusing on their integration into South African energy infrastructure.	The South African Solar Thermal Energy Project: Research into solar energy solutions for reducing energy consumption and mitigating climate change. Smart Grid Research: Development of innovative grid technologies for integrating renewable energy into the national grid. Water-Energy Nexus: Projects analysing the interlinkages between water and energy resources in sustainable urban systems. Sustainable Livelihoods and Ecosystem Services: Research into how natural systems can support sustainable economic activities in communities.

Entity	Departments/faculties	Area of Expertise/ Strengths	Researchers and Professors	Relevant Projects/ initiatives
University of Pretoria (UP)	Centre for Environmental Studies and Department of Geography, Geoinformatics, and Meteorology	Conducts research on environmental sustainability and climate change.	Professor Guy Midgley: An expert in biodiversity, ecosystem services, and climate change impact assessments, with a strong emphasis on Southern Africa. Professor Alan M. W. Kache: Focuses on climate change policy and the role of geospatial technologies in climate change mitigation and adaptation.	South African Climate Change Adaptation Project: Research on improving resilience in agriculture and water management. Geospatial Modeling for Environmental Management: Tools for spatial planning and climate risk assessments. Climate Change Impact Assessments: Research on how climate change affects biodiversity, water resources, and ecosystem services. Sustainable Land-Use Planning: Focus on climate-resilient agricultural practices and land restoration.
University of the Witwatersrand (Wits)	School of Geography, Archaeology, and Environmental Studies	Conducts research on environmental sustainability, water management, and climate adaptation.	Professor Linda Godfrey: Expert in environmental policy, sustainable development, and climate change adaptation. Professor Mike Meadows: Specializes in land degradation, climate change impact on ecosystems, and strategies for sustainable land management.	Water Security and Climate Resilience: Research on managing water resources and building climate resilience in urban and rural communities. Sustainable Land Management: Projects focused on land restoration and sustainable agricultural practices in the face of climate change. Climate Adaptation in Informal Settlements: Research on developing climate-resilient strategies for informal urban settlements in South Africa.

Entity	Departments/faculties	Area of Expertise/ Strengths	Researchers and Professors	Relevant Projects/ initiatives
North-West University (NWU)	Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences, Institute for Groundwater Studies	Offers programs and research in environmental science, climate change, and agricultural sustainability.	Professor Dieterle de Beer: Leads research on sustainable agricultural practices and water resource management in the context of climate change. Professor Susan Walker: Expert in climate change impacts on biodiversity and sustainable ecosystem management.	Sustainable Agriculture and Climate Change Resilience: Projects focusing on climate-smart agriculture and sustainable land use. Water and Energy Efficiency Projects: Research into optimizing water and energy use in agricultural and industrial sectors. Groundwater Modeling and Climate Change: Research on how groundwater resources can help mitigate the effects of climate change in arid and semi-arid regions.
University of Kwazulu-Natal (UKZN)	School of Environmental Sciences, Centre for Environment, Agriculture, and Development (CEAD)	School of Environmental Sciences Offers research in the fields of climate change, environmental policy, and sustainable development while CEAD Focuses on sustainable agriculture, climate resilience, and development in vulnerable rural communities.	Professor Sibusiso Dlamini: Expert in the intersection of environmental science and community development in South Africa. Professor Tania O'Rourke: Focuses on environmental policy and governance in the context of climate adaptation and resilience.	Sustainable Energy Solutions: Focus on integrating renewable energy into rural areas of South Africa. Environmental Policy and Governance: Research on policies for achieving a low-carbon and climate-resilient economy. Climate-Smart Agriculture Initiatives: Helping farmers adapt to changing weather patterns through new farming techniques and resilience-building measures.

Entity	Departments/faculties	Area of Expertise/ Strengths	Researchers and Professors	Relevant Projects/ initiatives
University of the Free State (UFS)	Centre for Environmental Management and, Institute for Groundwater Studies	Specializes in the sustainable management of natural resources, climate change mitigation, and environmental governance.	Professor R. O. M. Venter: Specialist in natural resource management, focusing on biodiversity conservation in a changing climate. Professor Stefan de Klerk: Focuses on climate resilience and sustainable agriculture.	Climate Change and Natural Resource Management: Research on managing South Africa's natural resources in a changing climate, focusing on water and agriculture. Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services: Projects focusing on conservation strategies to ensure ecosystem services continue in the face of climate stress. Climate Change Adaptation through Water Resource Management: Strategies for using groundwater to mitigate droughts and manage water shortages.

Entity	Departments/faculties	Area of Expertise/ Strengths	Researchers and Professors	Relevant Projects/ initiatives
Nelson Mandela University (NMU)	Faculty of Engineering, the Built Environment and Technology, Department of Environmental Sciences	Institute for Coastal and Marine Research: This institute focuses on climate change, coastal resilience, and ecosystem-based adaptation strategies. Sustainability Research Unit (SRU): This unit focuses on sustainability science, climate change adaptation, and green economy transitions.	Prof. Jeanine Wessels (Institute for Coastal and Marine Research): An expert in marine ecology and climate change, Prof. Wessels has contributed to research on the effects of climate change on marine biodiversity, coastal ecosystems, and climate resilience strategies. Dr. René de Lange (Sustainability Research Unit): Specializes in sustainable resource management, climate adaptation, and resilience strategies. She has worked on various interdisciplinary projects concerning climate change and sustainable development. Prof. Andries Venter (Department of Environmental Sciences): A key researcher in the fields of biodiversity conservation, ecosystem services, and environmental management, with an emphasis on sustainability in the face of climate change.	Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Center: This center promotes sustainable practices within the region and collaborates with various stakeholders to address the global sustainability challenges, particularly in climate resilience and green economy transitions. Green Campus Initiative: NMU is committed to reducing its environmental footprint, focusing on energy efficiency, water conservation, and waste management, with a special emphasis on sustainability in the curriculum.

Entity	Departments/faculties	Area of Expertise/ Strengths	Researchers and Professors	Relevant Projects/ initiatives
Tshwane University of Technology (TUT)	Department of Environmental, Water, and Earth Sciences, Faculty of Engineering and the Built Environment, Institute for Sustainable Energy and the Environment (ISEE).	Engineering, technology, and innovation in sustainable practices	Prof. Jacobus Smit (Department of Environmental, Water, and Earth Sciences): An expert in environmental engineering and water management, Prof. Smit focuses on water sustainability, climate change adaptation, and pollution control technologies. Dr. Sheryl J. Smith (Institute for Sustainable Energy and the Environment): A researcher in renewable energy technologies and energy-efficient solutions, Dr. Smith's work focuses on integrating sustainable energy practices in South African industries and communities. Prof. Fransie Van der Merwe (Faculty of Engineering and the Built Environment): Specializes in green building technologies, renewable energy integration into urban design, and climate-responsive architecture. Prof. Andries G. Barnard (Department of Mechanical Engineering): Known for his work on sustainable mechanical engineering solutions, including energy efficiency, renewable energy systems, and green technologies in the manufacturing sector.	Solar Thermal Power Plant Project: TUT is involved in developing innovative solar technologies to reduce reliance on fossil fuels. The university works on scalable solar thermal power plants aimed at promoting renewable energy use. Sustainable Transport Systems: TUT researchers are working on energy-efficient transportation solutions, including electric vehicles and sustainable urban mobility plans. Green Building Technologies: TUT is involved in various projects focusing on green building solutions, including energy-efficient buildings, sustainable architecture, and eco-friendly construction materials.

Entity	Departments/faculties	Area of Expertise/ Strengths	Researchers and Professors	Relevant Projects/ initiatives
University of South Africa (UNISA)	College of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences, Institute for Environmental and Sustainability Studies (IESS), Department of Science and Technology Education.	Research and academic support	Prof. Hennie M. J. Boshoff (Institute for Environmental and Sustainability Studies): A leading figure in environmental sustainability and climate change research, particularly in the context of Southern Africa. His research spans environmental law, policy, and climate adaptation strategies. Prof. Karen J. Watson (Department of Science and Technology Education): Focuses on sustainable education, with an emphasis on integrating environmental sustainability and climate change awareness into educational curricula. Dr. David T. W. Bisschop (Department of Environmental Sciences): An expert in climate change science, Dr. Bisschop's research looks at the socio-economic impacts of climate change, especially in vulnerable South African communities. Prof. John L. J. N. Louw (Faculty of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences): Specializes in sustainable agriculture, including climate-smart agricultural practices and ecosystem-based adaptation.	Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Projects: UNISA is involved in research projects aimed at improving adaptation to climate change in Southern Africa. The university works closely with governments, NGOs, and other stakeholders to implement practical solutions for sustainable development. Sustainable Energy and Green Economy: UNISA is contributing to the research on green economy transitions, especially in promoting renewable energy technologies and sustainable practices within industries. South African Renewable Energy Program: UNISA collaborates with other universities and research bodies to push for the adoption of renewable energy solutions across South Africa.

Entity	Departments/faculties	Area of Expertise/ Strengths	Researchers and Professors	Relevant Projects/ initiatives
Vaal University of Technology (VUT)	Faculty of Engineering and Technology, Department of Environmental Management and Department of Industrial and Environmental Engineering	Research and academic support	Prof. Lazarus J. Sithole (Department of Environmental Management): An expert in environmental management systems, Prof. Sithole has worked extensively on water resource management, sustainable land use, and the integration of climate adaptation strategies in urban environments. Dr. Makhosazana T. Mhlongo (Department of Industrial and Environmental Engineering): Focuses on sustainable industrial practices, waste management, and energy efficiency in manufacturing processes. Dr. Johannes C. Mouton (Department of Environmental Management): A researcher in environmental sustainability, water conservation, and climate change adaptation strategies in rural and urban areas. Prof. Modupe O. Akinmoladun (Faculty of Engineering and Technology): Known for research on green engineering and the application of sustainable practices in industrial and technological systems.	Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Projects: VUT has been involved in various projects to promote energy efficiency in South Africa, including the development of energy-efficient technologies and the exploration of renewable energy solutions. Green Technology Innovation: VUT focuses on innovations in green technologies such as clean energy production, waste management systems, and sustainable agriculture practices. Water Conservation and Management Initiatives: Given the increasing water scarcity in South Africa, VUT has launched various research projects aimed at sustainable water management and conservation strategies.

Entity	Departments/faculties	Area of Expertise/ Strengths	Researchers and Professors	Relevant Projects/ initiatives
Cape Peninsula University of Technology (CPUT)	Department of Environmental and Occupational Studies, Faculty of Engineering and the Built Environment and Institute for Advanced Material Engineering (IAME).	Engineering, technology, and environmental management	Prof. Hennie A. Theron (Sustainable Energy Research Centre, CPUT): Prof. Theron leads research in renewable energy solutions, focusing on solar and wind energy technologies, and their applications within the South African context. Dr. Colleen P. D. Low (Department of Environmental and Occupational Studies): Known for her work in environmental impact assessments and the role of occupational safety in achieving sustainable environmental outcomes. Prof. Piet D. Smit (Institute for Advanced Material Engineering): Specializes in green building materials, sustainable construction, and the role of material engineering in energy-efficient technologies. Prof. Jan H. Smit (Department of Civil Engineering and the Built Environment): Focuses on climate-responsive urban design, green infrastructure, and the integration of renewable energy systems into urban development.	Sustainable Energy Research Centre (SERC): CPUT runs SERC, which focuses on research into sustainable energy solutions, especially solar and wind energy, as well as energy-efficient technologies. Green Building Projects: CPUT is involved in the development of green building solutions, with emphasis on eco-friendly materials and sustainable construction practices. Waste to Energy Project: The university has been working on projects aimed at converting waste into energy through the use of sustainable technologies like biogas and waste-to-energy plants. Smart City and Green Urban Infrastructure: CPUT is engaged in initiatives aimed at designing smart cities with integrated green infrastructure, sustainable energy use, and low-carbon urban planning.

Entity	Departments/faculties	Area of Expertise/ Strengths	Researchers and Professors	Relevant Projects/ initiatives
CSIR (Council for Scientific and Industrial Research)	Energy Centre, Natural Resources and the Environment (NRE), Biosciences.	Focuses on green technologies, renewable energy, and sustainable development through its Energy Centre and Environmental Sustainability focuses on environmental impact assessments, water management, and sustainable agriculture.	Prof. Mark Swilling: A leading researcher in sustainability science and the green economy. He works on sustainable development pathways and green economy policy frameworks. Dr. Geraldine Fenn: Focuses on energy efficiency and renewable energy systems, including solar and wind energy technologies.	Solar Energy Research: CSIR is involved in research on solar photovoltaics and concentrating solar power (CSP) technologies. Wind Energy Projects: Developing wind energy solutions for South Africa's energy grid and promoting sustainable energy production. Sustainable Urban Development: CSIR contributes to the development of green buildings and eco-cities, including energy-efficient infrastructure and materials.

Entity	Departments/faculties	Area of Expertise/ Strengths	Researchers and Professors	Relevant Projects/ initiatives
SANEDI (South African National Energy Development Institute)	Renewable Energy and energy efficiency	Government-funded entity under the Department of Energy. It is primarily responsible for promoting energy efficiency, renewable energy adoption, and innovative energy technologies in South Africa. Its key goals are to contribute to the country's transition to a low-carbon economy and sustainable energy systems.	Prof. Steve C. O'Keefe: Expect in renewable energy, energy policy, and energy systems integration Dr. Wessel Smit: Expect in wind energy, grid integration, and renewable energy technologies. Dr. Balan Naidoo: Expect in energy efficiency, smart grids, and sustainable energy solutions	Renewable Energy Support Programme (RESP): SANEDI has developed tools and models to assist with renewable energy deployment strategies, ensuring cost-effective and efficient integration into the grid. National Energy Efficiency Strategy (NEES): Establishing energy efficiency standards, supporting energy audits, and driving energy-saving technologies across industries. Energy Efficiency in Industry Program: Providing industry-specific research and advisory services on energy efficiency, facilitating the adoption of best practices in sectors like manufacturing, mining, and agriculture.

Entity	Departments/faculties	Area of Expertise/ Strengths	Researchers and Professors	Relevant Projects/ initiatives
South African Environmental Observation Network (SAEON)	Climate change impacts and adaptation strategies, Biodiversity monitoring and conservation, Ecosystem-based adaptation, Ecological modeling and data analysis for climate resilience.	National research organization that focuses on environmental monitoring and research to understand the impacts of climate change on South Africa's ecosystems. It operates through various observation networks, including those focused on air quality, water, biodiversity, and climate science.	Prof. Morné du Plessis: Expect in climate change, biodiversity conservation, and ecosystem restoration. Prof. Brian Van Wilgen: Expect in fire ecology, land management, and ecosystem resilience Dr. Tim Cowling: Expect in climate adaptation, ecosystem services, and environmental management. Dr. Guy Midgley: Expect in climate science, biodiversity, and ecosystems.	Long-Term Environmental Monitoring: SAEON runs long-term monitoring programs across diverse ecosystems, helping to understand how climate change and human activity affect South Africa's natural resources. Climate and Biodiversity Research: SAEON conducts significant research on climate change's impact on biodiversity and ecosystem services, contributing data that informs national policy.
South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI)	Biodiversity Planning and Management, Climate Change and Ecosystem Services	Dedicated to biodiversity conservation, environmental sustainability, and climate resilience. It plays a critical role in understanding and responding to climate change impacts on South Africa's ecosystems.	Dr. Guy Midgley: A prominent researcher in climate change science and biodiversity, working on the impacts of climate change on ecosystems and biodiversity in Southern Africa. Prof. Brian Van Wilgen: An expert in the field of fire ecology, land management, and ecosystem restoration.	National Biodiversity Assessment (NBA): SANBI leads South Africa's biodiversity monitoring program, assessing climate change impacts on biodiversity and ecosystem services. Ecosystem Restoration Projects: Focus on restoring key ecosystems to improve climate resilience and biodiversity conservation.

Entity	Departments/faculties	Area of Expertise/ Strengths	Researchers and Professors	Relevant Projects/ initiatives
The Sustainability Institute	Sustainability Leadership Programme, Eco-Cities Programme	Provides training, research, and consultancy on sustainability, climate change adaptation, and environmental management.	Prof. Mark Swilling (also at CSIR and ACDI): Known for his work on sustainability transitions, including in the context of urban development and green economies	Sustainability Education & Training: Provides leadership and professional development programs for individuals working in the public and private sectors, focused on integrating sustainability principles into their work. Eco-Cities Research: Works on urban sustainability and climate resilience in cities, focusing on reducing the environmental footprint of urban settlements.

Entity	Departments/faculties	Area of Expertise/ Strengths	Researchers and Professors	Relevant Projects/ initiatives
The Green Building Council of South Africa (GBCSA)	Green building and sustainability	Key advocate for green building standards in South Africa. It plays an important role in promoting sustainable construction and building practices.	Prof. Kobus van der Walt (University of Pretoria (Architecture): expert in green architecture, sustainable building design, and energy-efficient construction methods. Prof. van der Walt is a key academic voice in sustainable construction in South Africa and frequently collaborates with the GBCSA on green building education and certification. Prof. Peter D. L. Davies (UCT, Faculty of Engineering & the Built Environment): expert in sustainable urban design, green buildings, and eco-architecture. He has been involved in various projects that look at the integration of renewable energy systems and green technologies into urban infrastructure.	Green Star SA Rating System: GBCSA developed the Green Star rating system, which evaluates the environmental sustainability of buildings. This system is central to the GBCSA's efforts to promote energy-efficient, environmentally friendly buildings. Education and Training: GBCSA offers training courses for professionals, building owners, and contractors on sustainability in the built environment. Experts like Prof. van der Walt, Prof. Davies, and others often participate in these programs. Green Building Awards: Recognizes exemplary projects that achieve high levels of environmental sustainability, energy efficiency, and social responsibility in the built environment.

Entity	Departments/faculties	Area of Expertise/ Strengths	Researchers and Professors	Relevant Projects/ initiatives
The South African Renewable Energy Technology Centre (SARETEC)	Renewable Energy Technician Training, Capacity Building for Green Economy.	Leading centre for renewable energy training in South Africa. It offers specialized training in wind energy, solar PV, and other renewable energy technologies.	Prof. Faizal S. Khan (CPUT): Expert in renewable solar energy systems, and energy storage technologies. Prof. Khan is a key figure in renewable energy research and frequently collaborates with SARETEC in training programs for the energy sector. Dr. Sylvia M. Gebremedhin (CPUT): Specializes in renewable energy, wind energy systems, and energy system modeling. Dr. Gebremedhin is involved in research on wind energy technologies, and her work contributes to the training modules offered by SARETEC. Prof. Gary P. Evans: expert in energy management, renewable energy integration, and sustainable energy systems. Prof. Evans works on strategies for optimizing the use of renewable energy in South Africa, particularly in urban settings.	Renewable Energy Training Programs: SARETEC offers accredited training in wind energy, solar photovoltaics (PV), and other renewable energy technologies. These programs are designed to equip technicians and engineers with the skills necessary for working with renewable energy systems. South African Wind Energy Programme: In collaboration with industry partners, SARETEC supports the expansion of wind energy in South Africa, offering both research and training on the integration of wind energy into the national grid. SARETEC Research on Energy Storage: Given the challenges of intermittent renewable energy sources like solar and wind, SARETEC is involved in projects exploring energy storage solutions that can improve the reliability of renewable energy systems.

2.3 Academia and research in Flanders

Entity	Area of Expertise/Strengths related to agro-industry	Researchers and Professors	Potential for Knowledge Exchange and track record
KU Leuven	Extensive expertise related to the agro-industry, including agricultural sciences, food technology, and environmental sustainability	Prof. Dr. ir. Erik Mathijs: Expert in sustainable food systems, agricultural economics, and policies for resilient agri-food transformation. Prof. Dr. ir. Miet Maertens: Specializes in agricultural trade, sustainability standards, and rural development economics. Prof. Dr. ir. Wannes Keulemans: Focuses on plant genetics, breeding, and sustainable agriculture for improved crop systems.	Relevant project: "Water-Energy Nexus in the Western Cape", integrated solutions that optimize both water use and energy efficiency
Hasselt University	Expertise sustainable agriculture, agri-food technologies, and the intersection of agriculture with environmental sciences and economics.	Prof. Dr. ir. Tom Kuppens: Associate Professor in Environmental Economics, focusing on sustainable agriculture, circular economy, and bio-based systems. Prof. Dr. Nadia Soudzilovskaia: Research Professor in Ecosystem Functioning, leading the Ecotron Research Facility, focusing on plant-soil interactions and biogeochemical cycling.	Relevant project: "ECOHYDRO" with focus on eco-hydrological processes in arid and semi-arid regions of South Africa
Antwerp University	Focus on sustainable development, food technology, and the economic and environmental aspects of agricultural value chains	Prof. Siegfried Vlaeminck focuses on sustainable food production and circular economies Prof. Steven Van Passel specializes in environmental economics within agriculture Prof. Amaryllis Audenaert researches environmental impacts of the protein value chain.	Relevant project: "Food Security and Economic Development in Limpopo Province":

Entity	Area of Expertise/Strengths related to agro-industry	Researchers and Professors	Potential for Knowledge Exchange and track record
Ghent University	Focus on agri-food marketing, plant breeding, food processing, and sustainability. Initiatives like CropFit and VIB's Center for Plant Systems Biology drive innovations in biostimulants and agricultural biotechnology.	Prof. Jan Pieters focuses on biosystems engineering and spray technology Prof. Bruno De Meulenaer specializes in food safety and chemistry Prof. Erik Meers works on resource recovery and sustainable agro-food systems.	"EU-AU Partnership for Resilient, Inclusive and Safe Food Systems for Everyone" (UP-RISE), addressing mycotoxin contamination in key crops
VITO NV	VITO develops sustainable water-energy solutions, including energy-efficient water treatment, renewable energy integration, and smart water systems. It focuses on circular economy practices like water reuse and energy recovery. VITO also addresses climate resilience and urban water challenges.	Carlos Guerrero Lucendo: A senior international researcher and Water-Energy-Food (WEF) nexus expert, he co-develops open-source planning tools to understand the WEF nexus, with applications in regions like sub-Saharan Africa. Yves de Weerdt: As a research coordinator on sustainable transition, he applies transition management frameworks to water-energy-food systems, fostering collaboration and innovation among stakeholders. Dr Koen De Ridder: focuses on climate change and sustainable development in Southern Africa. His expertise includes the use of modelling, remote sensing, and urban planning tools and data to determine urban heat stress and assess adaptation measures.	VITO excels in Southern Africa by advancing Water-Energy-Food nexus planning, climate resilience, and renewable energy integration in water systems. It supports local capacity building, develops tools for sustainable resource management, and advises governments on policy impacts.

2.4 Civil Society and NGOs in South Africa

Non-governmental organizations and civil society groups play a key role in promoting awareness, engaging communities, and driving collaboration between the public and private sectors. Organizations like WWF South Africa advocate for sustainable industrial and agricultural practices, while GreenCape supports businesses in adopting green technologies, particularly in water and energy efficiency. Agri SA, representing farmers and agribusinesses, serves as a bridge to ensure industry alignment with climate-resilient practices. Local communities, including smallholder farmers and cooperatives, are key beneficiaries of the project. Smallholder farmers can adopt sustainable practices and technologies to improve resilience to climate impacts, enhancing their productivity and livelihoods. Farmer cooperatives provide collective access to resources, training, and green innovations, fostering inclusive participation in the transition to climate-resilient agro-processing practices.

Entity	Expertise	Capacity for knowledge exchange	Contact details	Notable Projects
WWF South Africa	Focuses on biodiversity conservation, sustainable development, and climate change adaptation.	WWF partners with government bodies, corporations, and communities to implement sustainable development projects. They are involved in educational programs, advocacy, and policy reform.	Website: wwf.org.za Telephone: +27 (0) 21 657 6600 Email: info@wwf.org.za	Sustainable Fisheries Program, Carbon Footprint Reduction Campaigns, and Water Stewardship Projects.
South African Climate Action Network (SACAN)	SACAN is an NGO focusing on promoting climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies at the local, national, and international levels.	SACAN advocates for climate policy reforms, organizes capacity-building workshops, and engages in research on the socio-economic impacts of climate change.	Website: sacan.africa Telephone: +27 (0) 79 784 5417 Email: info@sacan.africa	National Climate Change Action Plan and advocacy for climate-resilient development.
The Green Building Council of South Africa (GBCSA)	Promotes green building standards, certifications, and sustainable building practices across South Africa.	GBCSA offers training, workshops, and certification programs for industry professionals and developers on sustainable building and energy-efficient design.	Website: gbcsa.org.za Telephone: +27 (0) 21 486 7900 / +27 (0) 86 104 2272 Email: info@gbcsa.org.za	Green Star South Africa rating system, a framework for assessing the sustainability of buildings and developments.
Earthlife Africa	Focuses on environmental justice, climate change, and renewable energy advocacy.	Earthlife Africa works with grassroots communities and policymakers to promote sustainable practices and environmentally friendly policies.	Website: earthlife.org.za Telephone: +27 (0) 11 628 0000 Email: earthlife@earthlife.org.za	Campaigns for a just energy transition and education on renewable energy solutions.

Entity	Expertise	Capacity for knowledge exchange	Contact details	Notable Projects
The African Climate and Development Initiative (ACDI)	ACDI is based at the University of Cape Town and focuses on research and action on climate change adaptation and development.	The initiative connects researchers, policy makers, and practitioners across Africa to share knowledge on climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies.	Website: acdi.uct.ac.za Email: acdi@uct.ac.za	Climate-smart development initiatives and climate resilience research.
Sustainable Energy Africa (SEA)	Focuses on promoting energy efficiency and renewable energy, particularly in urban areas.	SEA works with governments, businesses, and communities to exchange knowledge and foster the adoption of energy-efficient and sustainable technologies.	Website: sea.org.za Email: info@sea.org.za	Energy efficiency in the building sector and policy advocacy for renewable energy adoption.
GreenCape is a non-profit organization that drives the transition to a green economy in South Africa by supporting businesses, investors, and policymakers.	GreenCape specializes in green economy sectors, including renewable energy, water resilience, waste management, sustainable agriculture, and circular economy initiatives. They provide market intelligence, policy advocacy, and technical expertise to support green innovation.	GreenCape excels in knowledge dissemination through sector-specific reports, workshops, and networking events. It acts as a bridge between businesses, government, and academia, offering tailored insights to accelerate sustainable practices.	Website: www.greencape.co.za Telephone: +27 (0) 21 811 0250 Email: info@greencape.co.za	- Western Cape Industrial Symbiosis Programme (WISP): Facilitates resource-sharing opportunities between businesses to reduce waste and promote circular economy. - Water Resilience Initiative: Supports industries in adopting water-efficient practices and technologies during drought periods. - Energy Services Market Intelligence Reports: Provides data and guidance on renewable energy investment and energy efficiency in South Africa.

2.5 Civil Society and NGOs from Flanders active in Southern Africa

Entity	Area of Expertise/Strengths	Contact details	Potential for Knowledge Exchange
Join For Water	Formerly known as Protos, this NGO focuses on sustainable water management and has implemented projects in countries like Burundi, addressing climate-resilient agricultural practices.	Flamingostraat 36, 9000 Ghent, Belgium Website: www.joinforwater.ngo/en/	Climate-resilient agricultural practices.
Flemish Association for Development Cooperation and Technical Assistance (VVOB)	Supports education and training in various thematic areas, including agriculture and the environment.	Julien Dillensplein 1 bus 2A, 1060 Brussels, Belgium Telephone: +32 (0) 2 209 07 99 Website: www.vvob.org/en/vvob-in-southafrica	Training in agriculture and the environment.
Exchange vzw	Facilitates partnerships between Flemish and African enterprises, enhancing agricultural value chains and promoting sustainable energy solutions.	Sneeuwbeslaan 20 bus 8, 2610 Wilrijk, België Telephone: +32 (0) 3 740 06 90 Website: www.exchangevzw.be/	Partnerships between Flemish and African enterprises in the agriculture and energy sectors.

2.6 Special economic zones (SEZs) and Industrial Parks in South Africa

Special economic zones and Industrial parks operate within the GEIPP project. GEIPP-South Africa has been strategically placed within **the dtic** as their core services include Industrial Parks Revitalisation Programme (IPRP). The programme is however managed and delivered by the National Cleaner Production Centre of South Africa (NCPC-SA) as an implementing agency. The programme aims to integrate sustainability into industrial development by focusing on environmental, social, and economic aspects. These parks facilitate collaboration between industries, municipalities, and communities to improve resource efficiency, minimize environmental impact, and enhance socio-economic benefits.

Organization	Sector/Network	Mandate of Organization	Potential Role related to SAIA project	Notable Energy-Water Nexus and Sustainability Projects
Nkomazi SEZ	Agro-processing Hub	Focuses on citrus, sub-tropical fruits, nuts, sugarcane, meat processing, and high-tech green technologies.	Agro-processing development, sustainability initiatives, and renewable energy use.	Promotes green energy in processing facilities and logistics, emphasizing renewable and automated technologies for agro-processing.

Organization	Sector/Network	Mandate of Organization	Potential Role related to SAIA project	Notable Energy-Water Nexus and Sustainability Projects
Free State SEZ (Maluti-a-Phofung)	Agro-logistics and Agro-processing	Facilitates agricultural logistics, agro-processing, and infrastructure development for export-oriented production.	Partnering in optimizing energy-water infrastructure for agro-logistics and food manufacturing.	Utilizes upgraded utility networks to improve water and energy efficiency for agro-processing industries.
Atlantis SEZ	Green Technologies	Specializes in renewable energy and green manufacturing, with a focus on localizing sustainable industrial solutions.	Collaboration on renewable energy adoption and water-saving technologies for agro-processing units.	Green technology hub with projects under the Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Programme (REIPPP).
Coega SEZ	Agro-processing and Manufacturing	Hosts agro-processing industries such as dairy, juice production, and aquaculture, with sustainability in focus.	Collaboration in improving water recycling and renewable energy use in agro-industrial processes.	Water recycling initiatives for aquaculture and energy-efficient systems for food manufacturing operations.
East London Industrial Development Zone (ELIDZ)	Special Economic Zone	To attract investments in manufacturing, agro-processing, and renewable energy with eco-industrial park initiatives.	Collaborate on eco-industrial transformation, especially in renewable energy and water recycling for agro-processing.	- 50MW Solar PV project for renewable energy. - Hoodpoint Wastewater Reclamation for bio-fertilizer and recycled water (R625 million). - Agro-processing facility expansion in Berlin SEZ with renewable energy and biofuel focus.
Phuthaditjhaba Industrial Park	Industrial Park	Focuses on light manufacturing, agro-processing, and textiles to promote rural economic development.	Partner on developing sustainable agro-processing techniques and energy-efficient production models.	Revitalization initiatives under SEZ revitalization program, targeting improved energy infrastructure and water efficiency for agro-processing.

Organization	Sector/Network	Mandate of Organization	Potential Role related to SAIA project	Notable Energy-Water Nexus and Sustainability Projects
Ekurhuleni (Ekandustria)	Industrial Zone	Aimed at enhancing regional agro-processing, chemical production, and light manufacturing sectors.	Provide opportunities to implement energy-water efficiency technologies for agro-processing enterprises in the region.	Current projects under SEZ revitalization involve improving utility services and infrastructure, with opportunities for renewable energy deployment.
Richards Bay Industrial Development Zone (RBIDZ)	Industrial Development, Agro-processing	RBIDZ, a vital industrial hub, participated in discussions to provide insights into industrial development, innovation, and collaborative initiatives.	Facilitating industrial development, promoting investment, fostering innovation, creating business opportunities	Industrial development in Richards Bay: Focus on creating a sustainable industrial hub through infrastructure investment and collaboration with businesses.
Mpumalanga Economic Growth Agency	Economic Development, Agriculture	Contributed insights into economic growth initiatives, innovation, and sustainable development within the agro-processing sector.	Facilitating economic growth, encouraging investment in agro-processing, supporting sustainability efforts	Agro-processing economic growth: Fostering innovation and economic development through sustainable practices in agriculture and agro-processing.

2.7 Umbrella Organizations in South Africa

An umbrella organization in a stakeholder plan refers to a collective body that represents a group of organizations or entities that share common interests, typically within a specific industry, sector, or cause. It operates at a higher level, coordinating the activities, advocacy, or services for its member organizations, providing a unified voice, and offering support or resources to the members. Umbrella organizations relevant for this stakeholder mapping are Industry Associations, which represent businesses or organizations within a particular industry (e.g., agriculture, beverages, textiles) and promote collective interests, standards, and regulations.

In a stakeholder plan, umbrella organizations can act as influential advocates, facilitators, and hubs for information, partnerships, and funding opportunities. Their role is critical in mobilizing collective action and ensuring coordination among various actors within an industry or across sector.

Entity	Sector/Network	Area of Expertise/ Strengths	Key Functions	Notable Projects
Indalo exclusive	Inclusive green economy and innovation network	Enabler of green entrepreneurship, capacity building.	Support SMEs and entrepreneurs in adopting sustainable practices. - Facilitate access to green financing for enterprises implementing water-energy nexus solutions.. Provide training and mentorship on resource efficiency and clean technology implementation. - Strengthen local capacities to mainstream climate action within the agro-processing sector.	**Indalo Green Business Certification Program:** Indalo Exclusive runs a certification program that helps businesses integrate environmentally sustainable practices into their operations. The program focuses on energy efficiency, waste management, water conservation, and resource use reduction. Certified businesses are provided with guidance on how to improve their environmental performance and reduce their carbon footprint. **Green Business and Networking Events:** By facilitating these events, Indalo Exclusive creates opportunities for businesses to collaborate and learn from one another about the latest trends and technologies in the green economy, while also promoting the wider adoption of green practices in various sectors. like waste reduction, sustainable sourcing, energy efficiency, and the importance of a circular economy.

Entity	Sector/Network	Area of Expertise/ Strengths	Key Functions	Notable Projects
South African Green Building Council (GBCSA)	Green Construction and Sustainable Building.	The GBCSA is an umbrella body for promoting green building standards and sustainable urban development. It brings together architects, developers, engineers, and sustainability experts to advocate for green building practices and certification in South Africa.	Training, policy advocacy, sustainability certification (Green Star ratings), and knowledge exchange.	**Green Star Rating System:** The GBCSA developed and promotes the Green Star rating system, which certifies the environmental sustainability of buildings. This system has been applied to various high-profile projects in South Africa, such as the V&A Waterfront and the Green Building at Sandton City, contributing to a growing number of sustainable buildings in the country. **Green Building Council Initiatives:** GBCSA runs events like Green Building Week, which brings together industry experts to showcase sustainable building practices and advancements.
South African Climate Action Network (SACAN)	Climate Action, Environmental Advocacy.	SACAN is an umbrella organization for South African civil society organizations involved in climate change action. It serves as a platform for collaboration on climate policy, including adaptation, mitigation, and just transitions.	Lobbying for stronger climate policies, mobilizing civil society, and advocating for the inclusion of vulnerable communities in climate action.	**Climate Justice Campaign:** SACAN has been involved in various advocacy campaigns that call for greater action on climate change, particularly in vulnerable communities. This includes lobbying for just transitions in energy, addressing the loss and damage caused by climate change, and ensuring climate policies are equitable. **SACAN's COP Participation:** SACAN plays a key role in mobilizing civil society during COP climate conferences, advocating for African nations' interests and supporting the inclusion of marginalized communities in climate policy discussions.

Entity	Sector/Network	Area of Expertise/ Strengths	Key Functions	Notable Projects
National Business Initiative (NBI)	Business and Industry Collaboration for Sustainability.	NBI is a network of South African businesses committed to sustainability, climate change action, and corporate social responsibility. It provides businesses with a platform for collaboration, policy engagement, and implementing sustainable business practices.	Sustainability reporting, climate risk management, and corporate advocacy for sustainable practices.	**Green Building Business Council:** The NBI facilitates collaboration between businesses and the GBCSA in driving the adoption of green building principles across industries. **The Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP):** Through its involvement with CDP, NBI encourages businesses to disclose their environmental impact and improve sustainability practices. Many South African businesses involved in the NBI have integrated sustainability into their corporate strategies, contributing to the growing green economy. **Sustainability Week:** NBI hosts South Africa's Sustainability Week, a leading event bringing together thought leaders, policymakers, and businesses to discuss issues such as climate change, renewable energy, and sustainable business practices.

Entity	Sector/Network	Area of Expertise/ Strengths	Key Functions	Notable Projects
Green Fund (National Treasury)	Green Financing and Environmental Projects.	The Green Fund, managed by South Africa's National Treasury, serves as an umbrella organization to support projects aimed at promoting low-carbon, climate-resilient development. It funds initiatives that focus on renewable energy, energy efficiency, and environmental conservation.	Providing funding and investment for green projects, managing climate finance, and promoting green economic transition.	**Renewable Energy Projects:** The Green Fund has provided significant funding for renewable energy projects, such as wind, solar, and hydro energy, in line with South Africa's commitment to transitioning to a low-carbon economy. One of the notable projects includes funding the Jasper Solar Power Project in the Northern Cape, which has contributed significantly to the national grid's renewable energy capacity. **Energy Efficiency Programs:** The Green Fund has supported projects that focus on energy efficiency in industrial sectors, as well as pilot projects that test innovative low-carbon technologies. **Green Cities Program:** This program focuses on promoting sustainable urban development, enhancing energy and water efficiency, waste management, and the adoption of low-carbon technologies in cities.

Entity	Sector/Network	Area of Expertise/ Strengths	Key Functions	Notable Projects
Business Unity South Africa (BUSA)	Business Advocacy for Sustainability.	BUSA represents the collective interests of South African businesses, including those involved in sustainability, renewable energy, and green technology. It serves as a platform for business advocacy on issues related to the green economy and climate change.	Advocacy, policy engagement, sustainability initiatives, and fostering partnerships for green economy development.	**Energy Transition Strategy:** BUSA has played a significant role in advocating for a just energy transition in South Africa, ensuring that both the business sector and workers in fossil fuel-dependent sectors are part of the green economy transition. **South African Climate Business Leaders Coalition:** This initiative brings together business leaders to collaborate on climate change mitigation strategies, sustainable practices, and green growth opportunities for South African businesses. **Policy Advocacy for Renewable Energy:** BUSA has been at the forefront of supporting policies that promote renewable energy investment, advocating for renewable energy auctions and a move away from coal-fired power plants.

Entity	Sector/Network	Area of Expertise/ Strengths	Key Functions	Notable Projects
African Climate Foundation (ACF)	Climate Finance, Policy Advocacy.	ACF is an umbrella organization that works to foster sustainable development and climate action across the African continent. It funds and supports initiatives focused on climate change mitigation and adaptation, sustainable energy, and green economic growth.	Grantmaking, capacity-building, and policy advocacy to strengthen climate resilience and green transitions across Africa.	**The Africa Climate Finance Hub:** ACF has supported the creation of a regional climate finance hub aimed at increasing access to finance for African climate resilience and low-carbon projects. **Grantmaking for Energy Transition Projects:** ACF funds a range of energy transition initiatives, including clean energy start-ups and projects focused on expanding Africa's renewable energy capacity. **Policy Advocacy:** ACF supports several African governments in developing climate-resilient policies and integrating climate change into national development plans.

Entity	Sector/Network	Area of Expertise/ Strengths	Key Functions	Notable Projects
The South African Renewable Energy Technology Centre (SARETEC)	Renewable Energy Training and Development.	SARETEC is a key player in training and capacity-building for South Africa's renewable energy sector. As an umbrella organization, it supports the workforce in the renewable energy industry, focusing on skill development and technical expertise in wind and solar energy.	Training and certification programs, research, and facilitating workforce development for the green economy.	**Wind and Solar Energy Training Programs:** SARETEC runs specialized training programs for the renewable energy sector, such as the Wind Turbine Technician Program and the Solar PV Installation Certification Program. These programs ensure South Africa's renewable energy workforce has the skills needed for the country's green energy projects. **Research and Development Projects:** SARETEC is involved in several R&D projects, particularly focusing on improving the efficiency and sustainability of renewable energy technologies in the country. **Public-Private Partnerships:** SARETEC collaborates with the private sector to advance the development of South Africa's renewable energy infrastructure and workforce, including partnerships with energy companies like Suzlon and Siemens.

Entity	Sector/Network	Area of Expertise/ Strengths	Key Functions	Notable Projects
National Cleaner Production Centre South Africa (NCPC-SA)	Resource efficiency and sustainable industrial practices	NCPC-SA promotes cleaner production, energy efficiency, and waste minimization among South Africa's industries. The organization plays a key role in advancing the green economy by helping businesses reduce their environmental footprint and improve sustainability. It provides technical support, training, and capacity building for industries to adopt sustainable practices.	Energy efficiency and resource optimization programs, Clean technology adoption and carbon footprint reduction, and recognition programs like the Cleaner Production Awards.	**Resource Efficiency and Cleaner Production (RECP) Program:** NCPC-SA supports industries in adopting more sustainable production practices. The program focuses on improving resource efficiency, reducing waste, and cutting energy and water consumption. It provides companies with technical assistance and tools for identifying opportunities to reduce costs and environmental impacts. **Industrial Symbiosis Program:** This project facilitates collaboration among industries, where the waste of one company becomes the raw material for another, thus promoting circular economy principles. **Sustainable Energy and Water Projects:** The NCPC-SA has worked with businesses to implement energy-saving measures and reduce water usage, helping industries adopt greener, more efficient practices.

Entity	Sector/Network	Area of Expertise/ Strengths	Key Functions	Notable Projects
The South African Wind Energy Association (SAWEA)	Promoting wind energy in South Africa.	SAWEA is the leading industry association for wind energy in South Africa. It represents the interests of the wind energy sector, advocating for policy development, investment, and the expansion of renewable energy capacity in the country. SAWEA plays a key role in supporting South Africa's green energy transition.	Advocacy for wind energy policy development, Promoting wind energy projects and investments, Engaging with government and industry stakeholders to scale wind energy in South Africa.	**Wind Power Capacity Building:** SAWEA has been actively involved in building the wind energy sector in South Africa, advocating for the integration of wind energy into the national grid. Through the Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement Programme (REIPPPP), SAWEA supports developers and policy makers in advancing wind energy projects. **SAWEA Wind Resource Mapping and Data:** SAWEA has worked on projects related to mapping wind resources across South Africa, providing essential data that informs wind farm development decisions. This is a critical initiative for boosting wind energy adoption. **Wind Energy Training and Skills Development:** SAWEA has been involved in various training programs aimed at developing local skills in the wind energy sector to support the growing demand for wind turbine installation, operation, and maintenance.

Entity	Sector/Network	Area of Expertise/ Strengths	Key Functions	Notable Projects
South African Renewable Energy Business Incubator (SAREBI)	Supporting renewable energy entrepreneurs	SAREBI is dedicated to helping startups and small businesses in the renewable energy sector. It provides business support services to clean energy entrepreneurs to help them scale and commercialize renewable energy technologies. SAREBI plays a crucial role in growing the green economy by fostering entrepreneurship and supporting the clean energy transition.	Incubating solar, wind, and bioenergy businesses, Providing technical support, mentorship, and financial resources to clean energy start-ups and promoting entrepreneurship in the green energy sector.	**Renewable Energy Start-up Support:** SAREBI focuses on providing mentorship, business development support, and funding to start-ups and small businesses in the renewable energy sector. It has helped several small companies scale up and implement projects in solar, wind, and other renewable technologies. **Access to Market Program:** SAREBI helps emerging renewable energy businesses access the broader market by connecting them with potential clients, investors, and government programs. This program also assists with the commercialization of innovative green technologies. **Training and Capacity Building:** SAREBI runs workshops and training sessions for entrepreneurs, especially those from underrepresented

2.8 Industry associations in South Africa

Organization	Sector / Network	Mandate of Organization	Potential Role Related to SAIA Project	Notable Energy-Water Nexus and Sustainability Projects
Agbiz (Agricultural Business Chamber)	Agro-processing	Advocacy for sustainable agribusiness growth, representing food, beverages, and agricultural sectors.	Partner on policy alignment for sustainability standards in agroprocessing.	Led initiatives promoting efficient resource use in agro-industrial value chains
FBMI (Food and Beverage Manufacturing Industry)	Agro-processing	Represents food and beverage manufacturers, promoting innovation and environmental stewardship.	Collaborator on energy and water efficiency benchmarking for food manufacturers.	Joint energy efficiency audits with NCPC-SA.
SASA (South African Sugar Association)	Agro-processing	Develops strategies for sustainable sugar production, focusing on water-efficient irrigation systems.	Technical expertise on water conservation in agriculture.	Implemented sustainable irrigation practices in KwaZulu-Natal sugarcane farms
SWSA (Sustainable Wine South Africa)	Wine	Alliance promoting sustainability in wine production through biodiversity conservation and energy-efficient practices.	Implement monitoring tools for sustainability in wine production systems.	Biodiversity & Wine Initiative: Reduced water consumption through innovative irrigation in vineyards
WIETA (Wine and Agricultural Ethical Trade Association)	Wine	Ensures ethical trade, including fair labor practices and environmental stewardship in wine and agriculture.	Expertise in integrating ethical and sustainable practices into wine value chains.	Developed ethical sourcing guidelines with a focus on energy and water usage.
IPW (Integrated Production of Wine)	Wine	Promotes environmentally sustainable wine production with focus on water and soil management.	Technical consultancy on energy-water best practices in viticulture.	Certification system ensuring minimal water usage and reduced carbon footprint for certified wines
BASA (Beverage Association of South Africa)	Soft Drinks	Represents non-alcoholic beverage producers, focusing on sustainability and water stewardship.	Industry expertise in water efficiency and plastic recycling initiatives.	Partnered with PETCO on beverage container recycling and initiated water-saving campaigns.

Organization	Sector / Network	Mandate of Organization	Potential Role Related to SAIA Project	Notable Energy-Water Nexus and Sustainability Projects
SA Fruit Juice Association	Soft Drinks	Advocates for fruit juice manufacturers with an emphasis on sustainable production and packaging.	Input on energy-saving technologies for juice processing plants.	Piloted solar-powered juice processing systems.
PETCO (Plastic Recycling Company)	Cross-sector (Soft Drinks focus)	Promotes recycling and sustainable packaging solutions within the beverage sector.	Advisory role on recycling and circular economy practices in beverage production.	Expanded nationwide recycling initiatives, reducing the energy footprint of packaging waste management

2.9 Industry Associations in the Flanders Region (Belgium)

Entity	Sector/ Network	Role	Contact Details	Key Functions
FLUX 50	Energy Transition Network	FLUX 50 is an innovation cluster focused on fostering collaboration in energy transition technologies. Its primary mandate is to promote energy efficiency and smart energy systems by connecting companies, research institutions, and governments. FLUX 50 supports projects in smart grids, energy storage, and renewable energy, contributing to a more sustainable and efficient energy sector.	Flux50 Koningsstraat 146 1000 Brussel BE 0824.769.323 Website: www.flux50.com	• Promote the adoption of energy-efficient and sustainable technologies. • Support collaborations between energy companies, universities, and technology providers.
Blue Cluster	Marine and Maritime Network	Blue Cluster is a network dedicated to driving innovation in the maritime and marine economy. Its mandate involves promoting sustainable development in marine sectors such as aquaculture, offshore renewable energy, and water management. By bringing together businesses, researchers, and policymakers, Blue Cluster facilitates innovative projects and sustainable practices that benefit the blue economy.	De Blauwe Cluster vzw Incubatiecentrum Bluebridge Wetenschapspark 1 8400 Oostende Website: www.blauwecluster.be	• Foster innovation in sustainable marine activities, including water management. • Connect businesses, researchers, and government for blue economy projects. • Represent the interests of chemical and life sciences companies.

Entity	Sector/ Network	Role	Contact Details	Key Functions
Essencia	Chemicals and Life Sciences Sector	Essencia is the industry representative body for the chemicals and life sciences sector. Its mandate is to advocate for the interests of its members while promoting innovation, sustainability, and competitiveness. Essencia also plays a critical role in supporting sustainable practices, encouraging the adoption of circular economy principles, and providing a platform for collaboration within the sector.	BluePoint Auguste Reyerslaan 80 1030 Brussel +32 (0)2 238 97 11 info@essenscia.be Website: www.essenscia.be/over-essenscia/essenscia-vlaanderen	• Advocate for sustainable practices and facilitate access to green technology innovations.
Catalisti	Innovation Cluster for Chemistry	Catalisti is an innovation cluster for the chemical and plastics industries, focusing on R&D and sustainability. Its mandate is to drive innovation and accelerate the adoption of sustainable solutions, including green chemistry, resource efficiency, and circular economy practices. Catalisti connects industry stakeholders with academic research, funding agencies, and policymakers to promote transformative projects.	Catalisti vzw Olieweg 95, 2020 Antwerp info@catalisti.be Website: www.catalisti.be/en	• Accelerate innovation in the chemical sector, focusing on circular economy and sustainable solutions. • Connect industry stakeholders with funding opportunities and research institutions.
Flanders Investment and Trade (FIT)	Trade and Investment Agency	FIT is the trade and investment promotion agency of Flanders. Its mandate is to support Flemish companies in expanding to international markets and attracting foreign investment to Flanders. FIT facilitates international partnerships, provides market intelligence, and promotes Flanders as a hub for sustainable innovation and green technology development.	Marie-Elisabeth Belpaire Building Simon Bolivarlaan 17 1000 BRUSSELS BELGIUM T +32 2 504 87 11 info@fitagency.be Website: www.corporate.flandersinvestmentandtrade.com/en	• Support Flemish companies in accessing international markets. • Attract foreign investment to projects in sustainability and green technology.

Entity	Sector/ Network	Role	Contact Details	Key Functions
Flemish Interuniversity Council (VLIR-UOS)	Academic Development Cooperation	VLIR-UOS facilitates partnerships between Flemish universities and academic institutions worldwide to advance sustainable development. Its mandate is to support capacity building through academic research, education, and knowledge sharing, with a focus on tackling global challenges such as water management, climate change, and poverty reduction	Julien Dillensplein 1, Box 1A 1060 Brussels Belgium info@vliruos.be +32 2 289 05 50 www.vliruos.be/about-vliruos	- Facilitate partnerships between Flemish universities and international academic institutions. - Promote research and training in sustainable development, including water-energy nexus projects.

2.10 Industry and Companies in the Flanders Region (Belgium)

Entity	Area of Expertise/Strengths	Contact details	Potential for Knowledge Exchange
ABInBev	Global brewery company with operations in South Africa	Brouwerijplein 1 3000 Leuven Belgium +32 16 27 61 11 Website: www.ab-inbev.com	Wastewater reuse for irrigation, water stewardship, community engagement and development
Port of Antwerp Authority	Extensive expertise in port management, logistics, and sustainable development	Zaha Hadidplein 1 2030 Antwerpen Belgium Website: www.portofantwerpbruges.com/en	Areas related to energy efficiency, waste management, and reducing the carbon footprint of maritime activities
BOSAQ	Delivery of decentralised sustainable water solutions, focusing on drinking water	E3-laan 87/89 9800 Deinze Belgium Website: www.bosaq.com	Decentralised water delivery systems
Turbulent	Delivery of innovative hydropower solutions, particularly sustainable and decentralized energy through small-scale, low-impact hydropower plants.	Wijgmaalsesteenweg 6 3012 Wilsele Belgium Website: www.turbulent.be	Provision of decentralised green energy production for agro-processing industry

Entity	Area of Expertise/Strengths	Contact details	Potential for Knowledge Exchange
Thermovault	Specializing in energy efficiency solutions, particularly focused on optimizing the use of electrical heating systems	Diestsevest 32 / 3a 3000 Leuven Belgium Website: www.thermovault.com	Improvement of electrical heating systems in the agro-processing industry
Waterleau	Specializing in environmental technology and sustainability solutions, services in water, air, waste, and energy management	Nieuwstraat 26 3150 Haacht Belgium +32 16 65 06 57 Website: www.waterleau.com/en	Wastewater treatment for re-use
Jan De Nul Group	Expertise in various fields related to marine and civil engineering, environmental activities, and complex infrastructure projects.	Tragel 60 9308 Hofstade-Aalst Belgium +32 53 73 17 11 Website: www.jandenul.com	Improvement of port facilities for food export

2.11 Global organizations and funding bodies

Global organisations engage worldwide in providing policy and lobbying support, as well as financial backing to various initiatives – typical entities include the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the World Bank and the Global Environment Facility (GEF) who are active in the Global South, including South Africa, to support environmental programmes:

Entity	Sector/Network	Area of Expertise/ Strengths	Key Functions	Notable Projects
The Green Climate Fund (GCF)	Climate change adaptation and mitigation projects, particularly in developing countries.	GCF supports the implementation of climate action by providing funding to projects and programs aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions and building climate resilience.	Providing grants, loans, and equity investments for climate-related projects.	**Climate Financing for Low-Carbon Development:** The GCF has funded numerous projects globally aimed at transitioning to low-carbon economies. Notable African projects include the Scaling Up Renewable Energy Program and the Green Cities Initiative, which support clean energy, energy efficiency, and climate resilience in urban areas. **Adaptation Projects:** The GCF has supported South Africa's climate adaptation efforts, particularly through funding for projects that address climate impacts on vulnerable communities, water systems, and agriculture. **Private Sector Engagement:** GCF works to mobilize private sector investment for climate-friendly infrastructure, renewable energy, and green technology development.

Entity	Sector/Network	Area of Expertise/ Strengths	Key Functions	Notable Projects
The World Bank Group	Human development, poverty eradication, climate change, and sustainable energy.	UNDP provides financial resources and expertise to support sustainable development projects and climate resilience strategies globally, with a significant focus on supporting countries' green transitions.	Grants, technical assistance, and advocacy for green economy policies, sustainable development goals (SDGs), and climate change action.	**Renewable Energy Financing:** The World Bank has been involved in financing renewable energy projects, such as South Africa's Renewable Energy IPP Procurement Program (REIPPPP), which aims to diversify the energy mix with an emphasis on wind, solar, and other renewable sources. **Climate Resilience Projects:** The World Bank is supporting South Africa's efforts to build climate resilience, particularly in water resources and agriculture, through programs like the Climate Resilience Programme and Integrated Water Resource Management Projects. **Sustainable Transport:** The World Bank is funding sustainable transport projects, including efforts to promote low-carbon transport systems and improve energy efficiency in the transport sector.
The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)	Human development, poverty eradication, climate change, and sustainable energy.	UNDP provides financial resources and expertise to support sustainable development projects and climate resilience strategies globally, with a significant focus on supporting countries' green transitions.	Grants, technical assistance, and advocacy for green economy policies, sustainable development goals (SDGs), and climate change action.	**South Africa's Green Economy Strategy:** UNDP has supported South Africa's green economy transition by helping the government develop policies to promote green industries and sustainable development. **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Integration:** UNDP works with local governments and industries to help integrate the SDGs into national development strategies. This includes initiatives to promote sustainable agriculture, renewable energy, and climate change mitigation. **Adaptation and Resilience Projects:** UNDP has funded various projects aimed at building climate resilience in vulnerable regions of South Africa, particularly through disaster risk reduction, water conservation, and sustainable agriculture practices.

Entity	Sector/Network	Area of Expertise/ Strengths	Key Functions	Notable Projects
The African Development Bank (AfDB)	Green economy, climate change adaptation and mitigation, infrastructure development.	AfDB provides funding for sustainable infrastructure projects and climate resilience programs across Africa, with a focus on supporting the African Green Growth Agenda.	Offering loans, grants, and investments in green technologies and projects across the continent.	**Desert to Power Initiative:** The AfDB launched this initiative to develop one of the largest solar zones in the world, stretching across the Sahel region of Africa. This initiative includes South Africa as a key partner in renewable energy development. **Green Bond Financing:** The AfDB has issued green bonds to finance a variety of sustainable projects across Africa, including in South Africa, with a focus on renewable energy, energy efficiency, and sustainable infrastructure. **Africa Adaptation Initiative**: This initiative supports African countries in improving their climate adaptation strategies, providing funding and technical assistance to enhance resilience to climate change impacts.
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)	Supporting countries in implementing sustainable development goals (SDGs), including climate action, sustainable industry, and energy.	Provides technical assistance, policy advice, and supports sustainable development projects in South Africa.	Promoting the UN Environment Assembly (UNEA), and working on climate change and biodiversity initiatives.	**Green Economy Initiative:** UNEP has supported South Africa's transition to a green economy through programs that promote the use of cleaner technologies, sustainable production practices, and climate-friendly policies. **Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP):** UNEP has implemented projects in South Africa aimed at promoting sustainable consumption and production patterns, including efforts to reduce waste and promote resource efficiency in key sectors like manufacturing and agriculture. **Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services:** UNEP has supported initiatives to protect biodiversity and enhance ecosystem services in South Africa, focusing on areas like conservation, sustainable forestry, and ecosystem restoration.

Entity	Sector/Network	Area of Expertise/ Strengths	Key Functions	Notable Projects
Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI)	Supporting the transition to a green growth model that promotes sustainable economic development while addressing climate change.	Provides technical assistance and expertise to develop green policies and strategies for green economy development.	Working with South Africa on green growth initiatives in energy, sustainability, and resilience building.	**Green Growth Planning:** GGGI has assisted South African government and business sectors in integrating green growth principles into national development plans. It has worked with local authorities on creating policies that promote green jobs, clean energy, and sustainable industries. **Climate Finance Support:** GGGI provides technical assistance to South Africa in securing financing for green projects, particularly in renewable energy and sustainable infrastructure. **Urban Sustainability Programs:** GGGI works with South African cities to design and implement strategies for sustainable urban development, including waste management, energy-efficient buildings, and sustainable transportation systems.

3. Engagement Plan

3.1 Objectives:

- Foster collaboration between South African entities.
- Enhance knowledge exchange on climate resilience and sustainable practices.
- Develop training programs and research initiatives that benefit both regions.
- Increase visibility and recognition of South Africa's green economy initiatives.

3.2 Engagement Strategies:

1. Workshops and Training Sessions:

- Organize joint workshops with South African and Flemish stakeholders focusing on areas of expertise such as energy efficiency, water management, sustainable agriculture, and circular economy practices.
- These workshops should include practical case studies, interactive sessions, and opportunities for networking.

2. Research Collaborations:

- Establish partnerships for joint research projects that address local and regional climate challenges.
- Research outputs should be published in high-impact journals, presented at international conferences, and shared with key government departments.

3. Knowledge Sharing Platforms:

- Create an online platform to facilitate continuous learning, sharing of best practices, and real-time collaboration between South African and Flemish institutions.
- The platform should include resources such as policy briefs, technical guides, webinars, and discussion forums.

4. Networking Events:

- Host conferences, symposiums, and networking events to bring together stakeholders from both regions.
- These events should focus on key topics like climate adaptation, sustainable development, and the green economy.
- Invite media coverage and government representatives to enhance the visibility of these initiatives.

5. Exchange Programs:

- Develop student, faculty, and professional exchange programs to promote practical learning, cultural exchange, and capacity building.
- Focus on hands-on experiences and internships in areas like renewable energy, waste management, and green financing.

6. Policy Advocacy and Government Engagement:

- Engage with national and provincial governments to align stakeholder activities with South Africa's national climate and development policies.
- Advocate for policy changes that support the green economy transition, using data and insights from research collaborations.

7. Public Awareness Campaigns:

- Launch public awareness campaigns to educate communities about the importance of the green economy and sustainable practices.
- Use social media, radio, and television to reach a broader audience and highlight the successes of the project.

8. Monitoring and Evaluation:

- Implement a robust monitoring and evaluation framework to assess the impact of stakeholder engagements and the progress of the project.
- Regularly review strategies to ensure they are effective and adjust as needed.

9. Recognition and Awards:

- Establish recognition programs or awards for outstanding contributions by stakeholders, promoting excellence in sustainable practices and collaboration.
- Publicly recognize the achievements of individuals and organizations at conferences, events, and through media channels.

10. International Collaboration and Partnerships:

- In addition to UNIDO, also leverage international partnerships with organizations like, UNEP, and the European Union to bring global best practices to South Africa.
- Participate in international forums and platforms to showcase South Africa's leadership in the green economy transition.

The stakeholder engagement plan was further divided into specific activities for each provides a tailored approach for engaging different stakeholder groups (government, industry, academia, funding organizations, and umbrella organizations) to promote collaboration, knowledge exchange, and action in support of South Africa's transition to a low-carbon, climate-resilient economy.

3.3 Government Stakeholders

Objective: Secure regulatory support, align policies with project goals, and facilitate public-private partnerships.

Actions	Key Engagement Strategies	Outcome
Policy Alignment: Engage the Department of Trade, Industry and Competition (DTIC), Department of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries (DAFF), and Department of Environment, Forestry, and Fisheries (DEFF).	Organize policy roundtables to align agro-processing regulations with green economy goals. Showcase pilot projects to highlight benefits of green practices.	Supportive policies and frameworks that incentivize sustainable water and energy practices in agro-processing.
Partnership Building: Facilitate collaboration between national and provincial government.	Conduct regional workshops to engage provincial representatives (e.g., Gauteng and Eastern Cape).	Strengthened cooperation between national and regional entities.
Capacity Development: Train government officials on climate adaptation technologies and best practices.	Host training sessions in collaboration with Flemish counterparts. Develop online resources for government stakeholders.	Improved technical expertise for implementing and monitoring green projects.

3.4 Industry and Associations

Objective: Encourage the adoption of sustainable technologies and practices in agro-processing, leveraging industry networks and associations for widespread impact.

Actions	Key Engagement Strategies	Outcome
Showcase Success Stories: Highlight Flemish and local case studies of energy-efficient and water-resilient technologies.	Host site visits and industry expos in SEZs like East London IDZ and Nkomazi SEZ.	Increased interest and confidence in green investments.
Collaborate with Industry Associations: Partner with Agbiz, FBMI, and BASA for sector-wide initiatives.	Co-host knowledge-sharing webinars on sector-specific energy and water efficiency solutions.	Wider industry adoption of sustainable practices.
Support SMEs: Focus on small-to-medium agro-processors with limited access to resources.	Provide technical assistance and access to funding mechanisms for green technology upgrades.	Empowered SMEs contributing to the green transition.

3.5 Academic and Training Institutions

Objective: Leverage academic expertise for research, training, and knowledge exchange to strengthen South Africa's capacity in green innovation.

Actions	Key Engagement Strategies	Outcome
Collaborative Research: Partner with institutions like Stellenbosch University and NCPC-SA for green technology innovation.	Initiate joint research projects on water-energy nexus technologies.	Development of locally adapted, innovative solutions for climate resilience.
Capacity Building: Provide training programs in sustainable practices and technologies.	Co-develop training modules with Flemish institutions. Facilitate exchange programs for students and researchers.	A skilled workforce equipped to implement green practices in agro-processing.
Policy Support: Leverage academic findings to guide policy recommendations.	Publish white papers and policy briefs with contributions from academic partners.	Evidence-based policymaking that supports green economy goals.

3.6 Funding Organizations

Objective: Mobilize financial resources and technical support to drive the implementation of green projects.

Actions	Key Engagement Strategies	Outcome
Engage Development Finance Institutions (DFIs): Work with IDC, TIA, and Flemish funding agencies.	Host joint funding forums to connect agro-processors with financing opportunities. Offer co-financing models for green projects.	Increased investment in sustainable agro-processing initiatives.
Promote Incentive Schemes: Highlight tax benefits and subsidies for adopting green technologies.	Conduct awareness campaigns targeting SMEs and industry associations.	Greater uptake of sustainable technologies and practices.
Facilitate Access to Funding: Support stakeholders in navigating funding applications.	Provide workshops on preparing proposals for climate adaptation and green innovation funding.	Improved access to capital for small and medium enterprises in agro-processing.

3.7 Umbrella Organizations

Objective: Harness the influence and reach of sector-wide bodies to drive alignment and coordination.

Actions	Key Engagement Strategies	Outcome
Strengthen Coordination: Work with Agbiz, PETCO, and SWSA to unify efforts across sectors.	Regular stakeholder forums to align sector goals with green economy objectives.	Increased coordination and efficiency in implementing sustainable initiatives.
Promote Best Practices: Use their platforms to share case studies and toolkits.	Publish success stories and technical guides through association newsletters and websites.	Enhanced awareness and capacity for implementing water and energy efficiency practices.
Foster Advocacy: Empower organizations to advocate for supportive policies.	Provide policy templates and evidence from pilot projects to inform advocacy efforts.	Strengthened voice of industry associations in shaping green economy policies.

3.8 Key Milestones

1. Stakeholder Mapping and Engagement (Months 1–3): Identify and engage key players from each group to align goals and priorities.
2. Knowledge Exchange Initiatives (Months 3–6): Launch training sessions, workshops, and exchange programs to facilitate learning and collaboration.
3. Pilot Project Implementation (Months 6–12): Test green technologies and practices in SEZs and agro-processing hubs.
4. Policy Alignment and Advocacy (Months 9–18): Use project findings to support policy changes and build momentum for broader adoption.

This stakeholder engagement plan ensures an inclusive and coordinated approach to advancing South Africa's green economy transition while fostering collaboration with Flemish partners. Let me know if you'd like additional details or customization!

4. Conclusion

This comprehensive stakeholder mapping and engagement plan provides a structured approach to facilitating how the entities involved in South Africa's transition to a green economy can connect to the relevant entities in the Flanders Region to exchange best practices. By recognizing the influence and interest of stakeholders in both regions, the project can ensure effective communication, robust risk management, and, ultimately, the successful achievement of its goals. Strategic engagement, collaboration, and the recognition of efforts will not only drive the initiatives forward but will also position South Africa and the Flanders Region as partners in sustainable development on the global stage.

Get in touch – get involved

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