

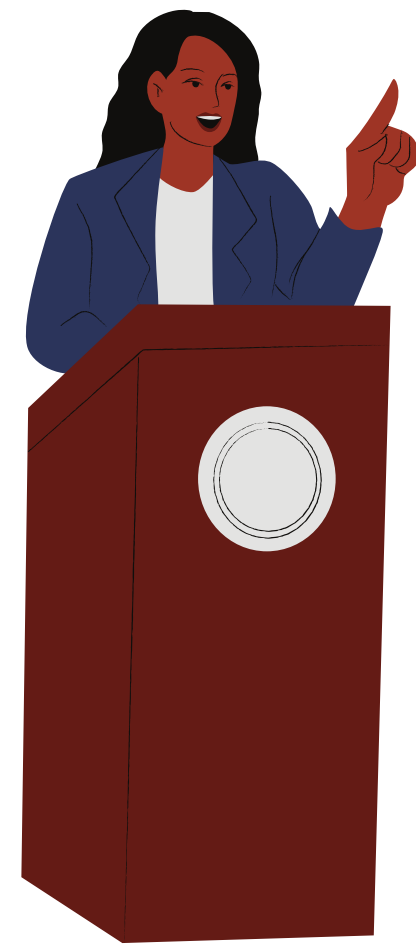


# CLIMATE CHANGE & GOVERNMENT

## 5 STEPS

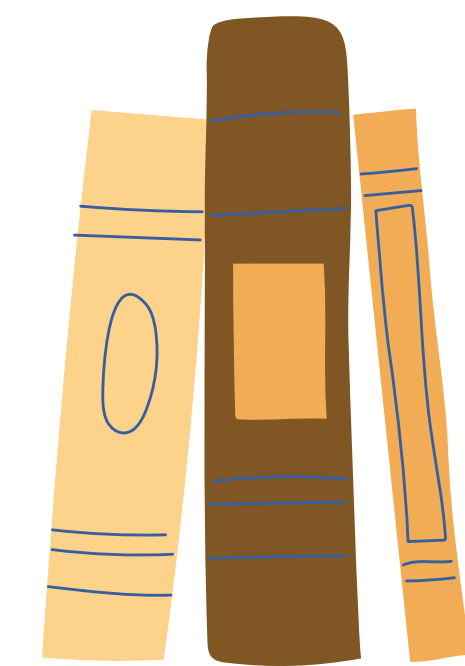


### On engaging your local government on climate change



#### 1 Identify and articulate your climate change concerns

Climate change will impact every aspect of our life. Think about how climate change will impact food, water, housing, health, livelihoods and infrastructure in your area. Talk to your community and identify the key priorities you need to address. Articulate them in connection with climate change. You need to develop a clear argument.



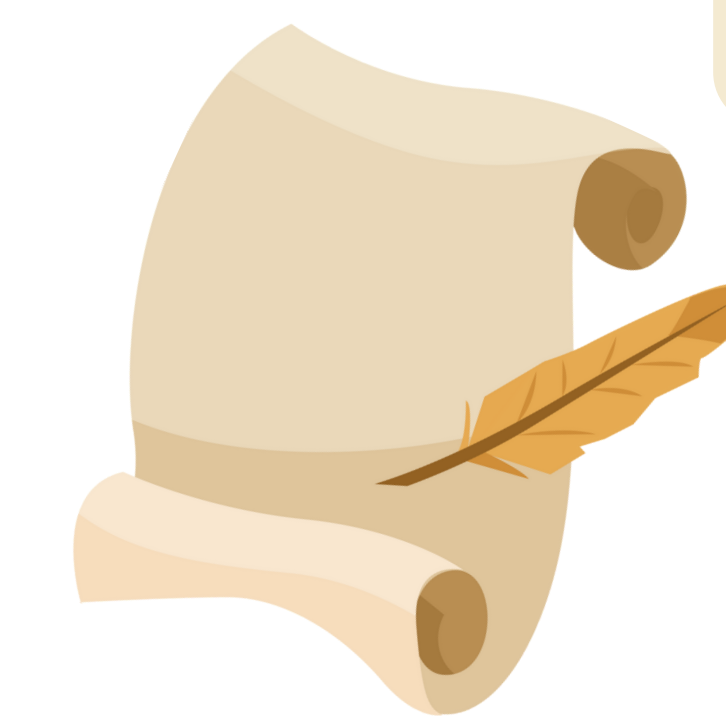
#### 3 Find your local government climate change champion

Identify someone in your local government who believes climate change is important to address. A good starting point is to check your district municipality website or offices for the environmental manager or representative from the National Department of Environmental Affairs, Forestry and Fisheries. They will know who to connect with on climate change issues in your specific local government. They may also be able to tell you about the particular climate change impacts in your region and what can be done about this.



#### 2 Build solidarity

You are stronger together. Connect with people who share your concerns on service delivery, food, water, housing or other climate change issues through your local environmental forums. Faith communities are also key spaces to engage people on these topics. Together you can build a bigger campaign around climate justice that will more likely be heard by government.



#### 4 Link your climate change concerns to service delivery

Connect with people and organisations who have read your municipality's Integrated Development Plan (IDP) and can help you find out what service delivery targets are listed in your municipality's IDP. Link your climate change concerns to the IDP service delivery targets.



#### 5 Talk to your local ward councillor and IDP manager

Contact your local ward councillor and IDP manager to put your climate concerns on the agenda. Ask them what they are planning to do about your concerns. Ensure that you and your network of solidarity around climate issues attend and bring up climate change at public participatory sessions on the IDP. Get your municipality's IDP process plan, which will show when meetings will be held.

### Why must we address the climate crisis?

Southern Africa is one of 10 global hotspots for climate change. Interior Southern Africa has warmed twice as fast as the rest of the planet. If the world keeps burning fossil fuels, our region will keep getting hotter. By 2050 we will not be able to grow maize, cattle rearing will be difficult and fish stocks will move to different marine locations. Already day-zero droughts are becoming more common, while devastating floods like in Durban in April 2022, this will happen more frequently. We must be prepared to respond to these impacts



Rural Action for Climate Resilience



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