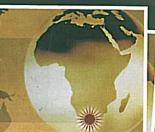
## SA RISK AND VULNERABILITY ATLAS ENEWSLETTER



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## November 2011

## In this issue

International climate change policy

Climate change in SADC and COP17

Visit the SARVA stand @ COP17

SADC Risk Handbook now available

IPCC Regional Africa Experts Meetina

Toolkit for local decision-makers

How to use the Atlas In local planning

Interactions in the Arid Zone

"I get the news on the weather report"

Integrating terrestrial & aquatic environments

The variety of life on Earth

Producing food in a changing climate

Taking science out of the lab ... into society

Students learn about risk and vulnerability

Miriam brings social perspective to SARVA

## Geography students learn more about risk and vulnerability

Previous issues

SARVA website

Miriam Murambadoro, CSIR Natural Resources and the Environment

As part of its stakeholder outreach programme, the South African Risk and Vulnerability Atlas (SARVA) was introduced to geography students at the Society of South African Geographers' Students Conference hosted by the University of the Wilwatersrand.

Home

The conference was attended by university students from Limpopo, Venda, Western Cape, Free State, Rhodes, Nelson Mandela Metro, Pretoria and Wits University among others. There were more than 100 presentations by students on their geography-related work, ranging from an assessment of fuel wood harvesting as a contributor to deforestation to sediment sources and the rate of sedimentation within the Bushman's River Estuary.

Mirlam Murambadoro from the SARVA Outreach team presented the Atlas to students and encouraged them to use it as it provides them with new and relevant knowledge on global change, as well as risk and vulnerability in human and natural environments. It also seeks to develop human capacity that is required in responding to the Department of Science and Technology's Global Change Grand Challenge as a useful source of information.

Students were included in SARVA's stakeholder outreach process because they play a crucial part in transforming South Africa Into a knowledge-based economy.

University representatives at the conference received copies of the Atlas and were encouraged to visit the SARVA website and spatial data portal for more detailed information. Since the conference the SARVA team has received several requests from university libraries for more copies of the Atlas to be used by students.

Keynote speakers at the conference Included Dr Dan Hammett, a lecturer in human geography at the University of Sheffield in the UK and Simon Gear, an expert in corporate sustainability and modern environmental thought.



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Conference presentations ranged from an assessment of fuel wood harvesting as a contributor to deforestation to sediment sources and the rate of sedimentation within the Bushman's River Estuary.



Miriam Murambadoro from the SARVA Outreach team addressed the students on global change, risk and vulnerability.

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