Climate Change Status in the Mutale Local Municipality: A Case Study of the Smallholder Farmers in Vhembe District, Limpopo Province

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ABSTRACT The Limpopo Province is one of the poorest province in the country, characterized by a high unemployment rate, poverty and lack of access to a range of resources that results in the majority of the people's not being able to secure their livelihoods. The primary aim of this paper is to highlight the status of climate change in the Local Municipality as in objective section. The following objectives were identified: (a) To describe the status of climate change in the Mutale Local Municipality and (b) To identify the determinants of climate change adaptation in the Mutale Local Mnicipality. A representative sample of 150 farmers aged between 18 and 60+ years (46% males and 54% females) participated in the study. The study was conducted in the Vhembe District, with special attention being paid to the Mutale Local Municipality. The following two villages visited included *Folovodwe and Rambuda*. The purposive sampling method used covered most of the productive farms in the two selected villages and also covered the uniform or homogeneous characteristics of farmers. The sample frame was designed to meet the objectives of the study and it had to adhere to the statistical specifications for accuracy and representation. The questionnaire was administrated to farmers, and included matters relating to climate variability and change. Data was coded, captured, and analyzed using SPSS. Descriptive and regressions analyses were conducted. The results show a positive association among the following variables: age, female, decreased rainfall, level of education, farming fulltime, climate change information, source of climate information, perception on climate change, climate change adaptation and formal extension.