

Climate change co-benefits in South Africa

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One of the problems facing African countries in addressing climate change is the overwhelming dominance of local problems such as poverty, food security, health challenges and in the larger metropolitan areas, poor air quality. By focusing on co-benefits of climate change, it is possible to elevate the importance of climate change to a higher level on the development agenda. When addressing climate change, it is important that actions not be viewed as opposing development. In this context, a green economy framework that emphasises climate change co-benefits and promotes development is suitable. Examples from South Africa are presented in this paper.