

## MEDIA INVITATION

### Exploring the impact of climate change on children in South Africa

**What:** Launch of “*Exploring the impact of climate change on children in South Africa*” study

**Who:** Hon. Lulu Xingwana, Minister for Women, Children and People with Disabilities  
Ms. Aida Girma, UNICEF Representative  
Climate change experts from the Overseas Development Institute (ODI)  
Children working on climate change in school-based clubs

**When:** Saturday 19 November 2011  
11h00 – 13h30

**Where:** CSIR International Conference Centre, Meiring Naude Road, Brummeria, Pretoria

**Why:**

The science is strong on the impact of climate change in South Africa, particularly in terms of increased average temperatures, more rainfall in the east of the country and decreased rainfall for the west and the interior parts of the country. The burden of dealing with the impacts of climate change will not be distributed evenly across society. Children represent more than a third of South Africa’s population and are one of the social groups most vulnerable to climate change.

‘*The Impact of Climate Change on Children in South Africa*’ study commissioned by UNICEF in partnership with the Department of Environmental Affairs and the Department of Women, Children and People with Disabilities highlights the expected impact of climate change on children’s health, education, nutrition, safety and access to adequate housing and sanitation in South Africa – both directly and indirectly. This impact on child wellbeing is likely to be compounded by poverty and the multiple vulnerabilities that millions of children in the country face.

The study also highlights the importance of children’s participation in designing effective responses to climate change. In spite of their increased vulnerability, children have a right to be involved in the planning of mitigation and adaptation strategies, as well as policies and plans by various levels of government.

**To RSVP and for further enquiries:**

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