



**DR MPANDELI**

(Chairman: African Regional Working Group,  
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Drainage)

**Dr. Sylvester Mpandeli** is a Research Manager: Water Utilisation in Agriculture at the Water Research Commission (WRC) since May 2013. He is the chairman: African Regional Working Group of the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID) and also the Deputy Chairman: South African National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (SANCID). He also represents the South African Regional Irrigation Association (SARIA) at the International Executive Council of ICID. He is a board member at the Applied Centre for Climate & Earth Systems Science (ACCESS). He is also an academic at the University of Venda, School of Environmental Sciences. Before joining the WRC, Dr. Mpandeli worked at the Department of Environmental Affairs as Director: Climate Change Adaptation Resource Sectors at the Department of Environmental Affairs since October 2012. He was also a Specialist Advisor on Climate change Adaptation issues at the same department for a period of about three years. He is also a LEAD Fellow on Environment and Development issues.

Before joining the Department of Environmental Affairs in November 2009, Dr Mpandeli worked at the Agricultural Research Council – Institute for Soil, Climate and Water for almost ten years. He was a programme Manager: Climate Change and Agricultural Risk Management since 2005. Some of his main responsibilities were: oversee the management of the climate change and agricultural risk management projects, market the climate change programme and also mentoring young scientists.

He has completed a PhD degree in 2006 at the University of Witwatersrand. He also completed a master's degree in Irrigation and Agronomy in 2001 at the University of Pretoria, between 1998 and 2002, he has also managed to finished two honours degrees, first honour degree in Horticulture and the second honour degree in Land Use Planning both at the University of Pretoria. He completed a Bachelor of Agriculture degree in Agronomy and Soil Science in 1997 at the University of Venda. He has also completed several certificates on project management, leadership, financial management, leadership etc with various institutions. Dr Mpandeli fields of expertise are: Agrometeorology, seasonal climate forecasting, agronomy, irrigation and Agricultural Risk Management.

Dr. Mpandeli has published several peer reviewed papers in international accredited journals. He has also published book chapters in collaboration with international scientists especially on issues related to agriculture and climate change adaptation. Lastly, Dr. Mpandeli was one of the climate change adaptation negotiators at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change representing the South African government from 2006 to 2013.

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