

Subject: Climate change winter school
From: "Lewarne, Mireille" <MireilleL@elsenburg.com>
Date: Tue, 12 May 2009 11:27:27 +0200
To: <tewen@csag.uct.ac.za.>

Dear Tracy

I would like to be considered to attend the Climate Change Winter School. I am a GIS regional technical coordinator for the Department of Agriculture : Western Cape. I recently completed my master degree applying a GIS-based hydrological model to the Verlorenvlei catchment to determine flow in this area which has changed dramatically due to human interference (clearing land inappropriately for farming). The model can simulate surface flow and water quality scenarios which could be used to inform the local Water Users' Associatiion and Catchment Management Agency. I would like to to use this kind of model and include climate change factors for the purposes of agriculture and conservation in the light of long term sustainability, but currently do not know how to do so.

The DAWC is also in the process of activating a project to identify high priority agricultural land and attaching land use guidelines to specific priority levels. The project will be run in conjunction with the National Department of Agriculture, and should begin within the next few months. The purpose of the results would be to inform land use change decisions made within the department, and present a pro-active planning informant for the likes of municipal EMF's, SDF's and IDP's. Surely it is imperative that we take climate change factors into account when doing this exercise. To make informed decisions for either of these projects, it would require knowledge of current climate change models and applications for the data available. This is why I think both I and my department, could truly benefit from attending your winter school and I hope you consider my request favourably.

I look forward to your response.

Regards

Mireille

Mireille Lewarne
Regional technical coordinator:GIS
Western Cape: Department of Agriculture
Elsenburg
(O) 021-8085085
(F) 021- 8085380
(C) 082881152