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Session 5: Concept Note – Capacity Building and Knowledge Exchange

Date and time of session	6th July 2026
Format	Roundtable Discussion with Case Study
Duration	Approximately 90 minutes – 4:00 pm to 5:30pm
Session Room	Nyati
Theme	Capacity Building and Knowledge Exchange
Convener	• WYLDE International Ltd • PlanAdapt • Smart Regional Consultants • Finding XY • CLASP
Speakers	• Catherine Gitonga, CEO _Smart Regional Consultants - panelist • Chris Odongo, Managing Partner _ WYLDE International - panelist • Eddie Sembatya, CEO _Finding XY - panelist • Martin Rokitzki, PlanAdapt – Moderator • Doreen Kinoti, Programme Manager_ Micro Enterprise Support Programme Trust (MESPT) - panelist • Elizabeth Mbogo, Founder – Botanic Treasures Limited – SME case study • Abigael Kuria – Senior Associate – CLASP - panelist

1. Executive summary of the session:

Climate adaptation enterprises play a critical role in building resilient communities and economies across Africa. They develop and deploy innovative solutions that help businesses, farmers, households, and institutions respond to climate risks. Despite their importance, many climate adaptation enterprises struggle to access the technical, managerial, financial, and market capabilities required to attract investment and scale their impact.

While significant efforts have been made by enterprise support organizations (ESOs), business development service (BSD) providers, investors, development partners, and governments, important gaps remain. Many enterprises continue to face challenges in investment readiness, climate risk assessment, impact measurement, governance, market access, technology adoption, and business scaling.

This session will explore how capacity building, technical assistance, peer learning, and ecosystem collaboration can accelerate the growth of climate adaptation enterprises and improve their ability to attract financing and scale climate solutions across Africa.

The session will (a) provide a short landscape overview and highlight some initiatives at country, regional and continental level, (b) followed by a practical case study from a climate adaptation SME, highlighting the support received from ecosystem actors and the role this support has played in strengthening the enterprise and improving its investment readiness. This will be followed by an interactive roundtable discussion featuring leading ecosystem support organizations, technical assistance providers, government representatives, industry representatives, and knowledge partners.

2. Session Goal:

To showcase and learn from practical and scalable capacity-building approaches, partnerships, and support models that strengthen climate adaptation enterprises, improve investment readiness, and accelerate the development and scaling of climate adaptation solutions across Africa.

3. Session objectives:

By the end of the session, participants will have:

- Examine the most critical capacity gaps that limit climate adaptation enterprises from accessing finance and scaling their solutions and explore how ecosystem actors (enterprise support organizations (ESOs), investors, business associations, governments, and development partners) can help enhance enterprise capabilities and market readiness and facilitate access to finance.
- Showcase and examine policy, institutional, and ecosystem interventions required to strengthen Africa's climate adaptation entrepreneurship ecosystem.

4. Session outputs and outcomes:

Expected Outputs

- A prioritized list of enterprise capacity gaps and ecosystem barriers affecting climate adaptation enterprises' ability to access finance and scale.
- A shared overview of practical policy, institutional, and ecosystem interventions to strengthen enterprise readiness and support adaptation entrepreneurship in Africa.

Expected Outcome

Participants leave with a shared understanding of the capacity, knowledge, and ecosystem interventions required to strengthen climate adaptation enterprises and unlock greater investment into locally driven climate adaptation solutions across Africa.

- **Improved stakeholder alignment and commitment** to strengthening enterprise support systems, market readiness, and access to finance for climate adaptation enterprises.
- **Enhanced collaboration among ecosystem actors** to implement practical solutions that accelerate the growth and investment readiness of adaptation-focused businesses.

5. Session agenda

Time	Activity	Lead
4:00 pm – 4:15 pm	State of the adaptation enterprise support ecosystem in Africa Case Study by Botanic Treasures Limited	By Martin Rokitzki (PlanAdapt) Elizabeth Mbogo - Founder
4:15 pm – 5:15 pm	Roundtable Discussion A short online poll will be used to identify views about critical capacity gaps and the breadth of exposure among the audience and panelists Tables are divided randomly. Participants are then put in their tables and asked to nominate leads and note takers. Alternatively, we can have the conveners' moderate discussions in each table.	Moderator - Martin Rokitzki Participants
5:15 pm – 5:30 pm	Synthesis and close: Key takeaways, next steps, and follow-on engagement pathways	Moderator - Martin Rokitzki

6. Guiding questions

Enterprise Readiness and Capacity Building

- Are African climate adaptation enterprises sufficiently prepared to attract and absorb adaptation finance?
- What are the most critical capacity gaps preventing enterprises from scaling climate adaptation solutions?

Technical Assistance and Ecosystem Support

- What capacity-building approaches have demonstrated the greatest impact in supporting climate adaptation enterprises?
- How can technical assistance providers better tailor support to the unique needs of climate adaptation businesses?

Knowledge Exchange and Innovation

- How can ecosystem actors facilitate the sharing of practical knowledge, market intelligence, and climate adaptation best practices across regions?
- How are organizations helping enterprises understand, assess, and respond to climate risks?
- What role can digital platforms, peer-learning networks, and technology transfer mechanisms play in accelerating adaptation innovation?

7. Technical needs required

- Projector & Screen for presentations, visuals, and case study display
- High-quality Sound System including speakers and amplifiers for clear audio across the room
- Wireless handheld microphones (for audience questions and answers)
- Chairs for the roundtable.
- Clicker/Remote for slide control during presentations at the case study if required.

8. Room configuration/set-up

The room setup will include a raised stage or designated front area for the case study and chairs organized in a circle for the round table. There will be a need for microphones, and water for each speaker. Audience seating will follow a roundtable layout with roaming mics for questions and answers.