



# The Climate Change Bill

## What is The Climate Change Bill?

The Climate Change Bill is a framework piece of legislation that if, passed as an act, is intended to govern South Africa's climate change response strategy at a high level. It is meant to be the master plan for how we mitigate and adapt to climate change impacts. Following the adoption of this Bill, other regulations will be made and formed to ensure that the objectives set out within it are met.

## What is Great About The Climate Change Bill

### It Acknowledges:

- Our Section 24 constitutional right,
- The human impact on the climate,
- South Africa's vulnerability and role in reducing GHG emissions,
- Climate's impact on livelihoods and the environment
- How climate change undermines South Africa's developmental goals
- and is the only piece at this level that mentions and Supports a Just Transition

## The TOP 4 Problems

### Urgency:

There are no set timeframes to ensure that we meet the required recommended targets as set out in our NDC

### Transparency & Access:

There is limited obligation for government to provide relevant information upon request.

### Weak Targets:

The targets indicated are based on targets set in 2015, this will result in our actions to mitigate being weaker.

### Penalties and Enforcement:

The penalties system set out in the bill for high emitters of carbon is weak and subject to manipulation. Rather than hard penalties, and making excessive emissions a criminal offence, it's more of a Pay as you Pollute policy via the carbon tax system.

## How Do We Influence The Climate Change Bill?

- Learn about climate change, the bill, and concerns that arise from it.
- Make submissions and comments, and attend public participation meetings, once these invitations are sent out.
- Engage with local, provincial, and national political leaders about the bill and your concerns
- Engage with the various platforms that influence the Bill
- Build solidarity within your community to ensure that there is a joint understanding of concerns and ways the community would like to see themselves represented.
- Hold knowledge-building workshops and share information about the climate change bill