

# The case for a gendered approach to the Global Framework for Climate Services



Mangondi village,  
Limpopo Province,  
South Africa January  
2001

Dr Emma Archer

# Setting the Scene

- Aren't climate services gender neutral?
- Traditional approaches in climate information service provision
- Mangondi case study
- Understanding the user

# Climate information – not gender neutral

- Gendered access to information – strong tradition from disaster management
- Women differential exposure to climatic disasters
- Women closest to resources impacted by climatic (and other) disasters
- Differential access and use of climate information

# Traditional approaches to climate information provision

- Climate information producer driven
- Little understanding of what users need
- Little understanding of constraints on user interpretation and use
- The 'front end loader' approach for climate information

# Mangondi case study

- Funded by NOAA – *improving pathways of seasonal forecast use in South Africa*
- Limpopo Province, South Africa
- Gender not on initial radar
- Constraints on use – factor came out strongly; Why?
- Feedback to the South African Weather Service
- Local institutional realities (and the way forward)

# Practical Implications - the Global Framework for Climate Services

- User interface programme – disaggregate users beyond ‘sectors’
- Realities around information access
- Realities around information use and response (co-learning - humanitarian agencies and disaster management)
- Let notion of ‘social & economic benefit’ to be derived from climate services expand to marginalized users



Rainfall monitoring team: Mangondi communal plot, January 2001  
(after first significant rainfall of the season: >45mm)