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| Book Name: | [**Current Research Progress in Agricultural Sciences**](https://www.bookpi.org/bookstore/product/current-research-progress-in-agricultural-sciences-vol-1/) |
| Manuscript Number: | **Ms\_BPR\_4747** |
| Title of the Manuscript: | **Climate Change and Small-Scale Agriculture in the Eastern Cape Province: Investigating the Nexus of Awareness, Adaptation, and Food Security** |
| Type of the Article | **Book Chapter** |

**Special note:**

**A research paper already published in a journal can be published as a Book Chapter in an expanded form with proper copyright approval.**

**Source Article:**

**This chapter is an extended version of the article published by the same author(s) in the following journal.**

**Sustainability, 16(22): 9986, 2024.**

**Available:** [**https://doi.org/10.3390/su16229986**](https://doi.org/10.3390/su16229986)

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| PART 1: Comments | | |
|  | Reviewer’s comment **Artificial Intelligence (AI) generated or assisted review comments are strictly prohibited during peer review.** | Author’s Feedback *(Please correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)* |
| **Please write a few sentences regarding the importance of this manuscript for the scientific community. A minimum of 3-4 sentences may be required for this part.** | This chapter addresses the data void on combining awareness about climate change, adaptation processes, food security and the nexus of the three with regard to small-scale farmers in the Eastern Cape Province. The research evaluates the awareness of climate change as well as the ability of small-scale farmers in the Eastern Cape Province to adapt to it. It also investigates the food security status of small-scale farmers in the Eastern Cape Province as related to climate change. It enquires whether inadequate awareness of climate change and its impacts are a reason for insufficient adaptation and food security levels of small-scale farmers in the Eastern Cape Province. Amidst concerns raised by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) lay discussions on the relations between development and vulnerability, as well as the associative dependencies of vulnerability predictions on sustainable development pathways followed.  The study asserts that the ambiguity of awareness in the domain of climate change portrayed by public arenas tends to provide only partial and often distorted information, excluding the expected effects of climate change almost entirely from the discourse. It also notes that, this ambivalence to climate change is a global phenomenon and is common in countries where people are exposed to climate change impacts daily. On the African continent, similar developments are noted and observed, particularly in countries such as South Africa. Thus, this chapter focused on the Eastern Cape Province where people’s livelihoods are closely connected to the use of natural resources. The future challenges posed by climate change to these communities underpins the importance of this research chapter. |  |
| **Is the title of the article suitable?**  **(If not please suggest an alternative title)** | The title is timely, suitable and comprehensively informative. |  |
| Is the abstract of the article comprehensive? Do you suggest the addition (or deletion) of some points in this section? Please write your suggestions here. | There is no need for any addition or deletion. The introduction section is good and shows the significance of the study.  However, there are a few typographical, punctuation and grammatical mistakes that need to be addressed as I have pinpointed in the track changes sections. Therefore, there is need to address these typological errors to make it more robust and informative. |  |
| **Is the manuscript scientifically, correct? Please write here.** | In my sincere opinion, I confirm that this chapter is scientifically robust and technically sound. Similar research has not been conducted in the studied area. Therefore, this chapter fills this research gap and contributes to the existing body knowledge immensely.  This Chapter demonstrates Scientific Correctness by thoroughly discussing and asserting that Climate Change is the most critical development challenge of this century. Small Scale Farmers feels the impact of climate more frequently than any other groups and sectors. Climate change is rapidly becoming a most critical global development issue, increasing the number of sectors affected by climate impacts. The research, empirically shows that Africa is one of the most vulnerable regions in the world. Agriculture in Africa is threatened by climate change at a time when its role in development performance, poverty alleviation, and food security is well acknowledged.  For centuries, the livelihood of small scale farmers in the Sahel has been based on knowledge and practices passed on from one generation to the next. Such knowledge includes the recognition of changes in the timing of the seasons, climatic conditions and location of favorable cropping areas for staple crops, as well as the preservation and propagation of planting material for these crops in traditional field and forest management systems. However, traditional knowledge is less adaptive to rapid change outside the usual variability of the climate, as predicted with future anthropogenic climate change. Recurrent and more intense extreme events may override existing coping strategies rendering them ineffective. Moreover, the projected climate trends are new and outside the experience of past generations, meaning that farmers cannot rely only on previous knowledge to anticipate them.  In conclusion, I therefore, recommend that this study is worthy to be published. |  |
| **Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestions of additional references, please mention them in the review form.**  **-** | The references are sufficient, all of them are *most recent*. The cited and referenced materials are relevant to the present article with all citations in the reference list. |  |
| Is the language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications? | The language used in this chapter is good and of standard quality. However, there need to check on *a few grammar and punctuation typo errors* in the article. Some of the *errors* are indicated in the track changes and comments. Please address them to improve the rigor of this article. |  |
| Optional/General comments | This Chapter has a few typographical and grammatical errors as indicated in the track changes. Please address the errors as indicated on the *manuscript’s track changes* to improve the readability and clarity of the text.  Overall, I believe the article is acceptable after addressing a *few suggested revisions*, particularly concerning addressing the specific questions and comments raised, and ensuring at a glance and fast revision actions. |  |

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| **PART 2:** | | |
|  | Reviewer’s comment | Author’s comment *(if agreed with the reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)* |
| **Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?** | *(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in detail)* |  |

**REVIEWERS:**

**Fredrick Kayusi, Pwani University, Kenya**