

## South-African *Climate and Disaster Resilience Fund* (CDRF) Announces Partnership with *Daily Impact Emergency Management* (DIEM)

*Transitioning from Risk to Resilience...: HOW will we get there?*

July 6, 2023 – Johannesburg/The Hague - Amid stalling progress in dealing with the complex challenges of climate change, the partners will work together in a new, interactive programme that using the Nine Universal Roadblocks (NUR) Meta-Model as a tool to transition from a “Risk” approach (= zooming in on problems) to one that favours “Resilience” (= focusing on possible solutions)

**The problem** – During these extraordinary times, all of us see the frequency and severity of the effects of climate change increase: cyclones, hurricanes, floods, droughts, fires, environmental degradation, food insecurity, inequality, loss of biodiversity, unemployment, mass migration, disruption of essential services, organized crime, mass violence and a collapse of societal cohesion. The increase in damage, disgrace and potential catastrophic losses is striking.

**The expectation** – Despite the realization that there is no quick fix, no magic bullet, for solving the problems of climate change, more and more people are getting concerned, even frustrated, by the lack of progress. The Climate and Disaster Resilience Fund (CDRF) and the Daily Impact Emergency Management (DIEM) Network are united in their conviction that collectively we need to look beyond a risk-based approach that discusses the problems and instead engage in a resilience dialogue aimed at finding solutions.



**Solutions?** – It has been said that “one cannot solve complex problems with linear thinking”. True. Yet equally true, is that “Complexity doesn’t have to be complicated “. What we need are a structure and a methodology that allows people to see the forest through the trees. Only when we use a holistic or system perspective can we expect to manage the entire forest instead of tending to individual trees.

**Tools** – Among the tools used by the DIEM/CDRF partnership, is the Nine Universal Roadblocks (NUR) Meta-Model. Following decades of transdisciplinary research and experience, the NUR Model:

- *unpacks barriers that impede the implementation of lessons learned in practice*
- *unpacks barriers that block the transition 'From Risk to Resilience'*
- *harvests concrete recommendations on HOW to overcome barriers.*

**Call to action** – The CDRF/DIEM Partnership will organize and participate in highly interactive meetings (lectures, briefings, seminars, workshops) during which participants can familiarize themselves with (how to use) the NUR Model. Individuals and organizations might then continue their journey 'From Risk to Resilience' by applying for enrolment in specially designed Short Learning Courses (SLC) that includes the six-module NUR Instructor Training Program ('Training-of-Trainers').

*"Even though the subject matter is quite serious, we've designed the interactive part of the programme in such a way that it is fun as well,"* said Eelco H. Dykstra, Chairman of DIEM. *"While the opportunity to engage in an open and structured dialogue to formulate one's own conclusions and recommendations may already be invaluable for the participants themselves, contributing to a meaningful future for next generations might be even more fulfilling."*

*"Strengthening resilience is something all of us in South Africa should care about and get involved in,"* said John Lomborg, CEO of CDRF. *"It doesn't matter who you are. Practitioners, scientists, policymakers, individuals from rural communities, cities, private companies, public entities, we can all play a role. What we need now, is a truly 'whole-of-society' approach - so when you are proactive and would like to participate, send us a note and we will contact you!"*

### **About CDRF**

CDRF is a South African not-for profit company registered with the CIPC that seeks to mobilise funds and efforts across sectors to support the implementation of 'whole of society' climate and disaster risk mitigation, adaptation and resilience building solutions. <https://climateresiliencefund.org.za/> **About DIEM**

DIEM is a transdisciplinary network organisation and social enterprise registered in the Netherlands. Working primarily behind the scenes, it developed the Nine Universal Roadblocks (NUR) Meta-Model and initiated the international movement "From Risk to Resilience – How do we get there?". Current activities include rolling out the "20/20 Vision" programme ([www.20outof20.vision](http://www.20outof20.vision)) and developing a Centre-of-Excellence (CoE) for Adaptation and Resilience in South Africa.



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