Commitee: World Health Organization (WHO) South Africa

Topic : Impact Of Climate Change On Global Health

South Africa is located in the southern part of Africa and has coastlines along both the Atlantic Ocean and the Indian Ocean. The country has three capitals: **Pretoria** (administrative capital), **Cape Town** (legislative capital), and **Bloemfontein** (judicial capital) The population is approximately **60 million** people. It is a multi-ethnic society with **11 official languages**, including **English**, **Afrikaans**, **Zulu**, and **Xhosa**. One of the most significant events in South African history is the **apartheid** regime, which began in 1948 and ended in 1994. After the end of apartheid, **Nelson Mandela** became the country’s first black president, symbolizing the country’s transition to democracy. South Africa has one of the most developed economies on the African continent. The country is rich in **gold**, **platinum**, and **diamonds**, and mining is a key part of its economy. **Agriculture** and **industry** are also important sectors.

South Africa is significantly affected by climate change, which has serious environmental, economic, and social consequences.  With climate change, average temperatures in South Africa have been rising, leading to more frequent **extreme heat** waves, especially during summer. High temperatures increase energy demand, put pressure on electricity grids, and lead to **health issues** (e.g., heatstroke, waterborne diseases). **Cape Town** faced a **water crisis** in 2017-2018, where water became scarce, significantly complicating water management in large cities. South Africa's economy heavily relies on agriculture, and climate change poses significant risks to this sector. **Droughts**, **low rainfall**, and **temperature increases** are leading to major losses in the production of wheat, maize, sugarcane, and other key crops. South Africa is known for its rich **biodiversity**, but climate change is threatening this diversity. **Temperature increases** and **changes in rainfall patterns** are causing some plant and animal species to lose their habitats, leading to a decline in biodiversity. **Sea-level rise** due to climate change presents a significant threat to South Africa’s coastal areas.

To mitigate the negative impacts of climate change, South Africa can implement several strategies that focus on sustainability, resilience, and social well-being. South Africa can increase the use of renewable energy sources like solar, wind, and hydropower, reducing dependence on fossil fuels and lowering carbon emissions.Efficient water use, water harvesting, and wastewater recycling should be promoted to address water scarcity, especially during droughts. Active participation in global agreements like the Paris Climate Agreement, and securing international aid and investments, can support South Africa’s climate resilience efforts.

Reference :<https://kumbaradergisi.com/kumbara-kategori/ulkeleri-taniyalim/>

<https://www.un.org/en/climatechange/science/causes-effects-climate-change>