

2 February 2026

World Wetlands Day

Protecting Wetlands for Our Common Future

The Academy of Science of South Africa joins the global community in commemorating **World Wetlands Day**. Wetlands are among the country's most valuable yet threatened ecosystems, providing essential services such as water purification, flood regulation, biodiversity conservation, carbon storage, and support for livelihoods and food security. From peatlands and estuaries to rivers and pans, South Africa's wetlands play a critical role in building climate resilience and sustaining both rural and urban communities. This commemoration calls for strengthened action to protect, restore, and sustainably manage wetlands, ensuring they continue to support development, ecological integrity, and the well-being of present and future generations.



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