



## THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF LESOTHO WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION CHAIR

### INTERNATIONAL TRADE CLUB FUN WALK AND SYMPOSIUM CONCEPT NOTE

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**Theme:** Youth in Action: Building Climate Change Adaptability and Resilience for Sustainable International Trade in Lesotho

**Date:** Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2024

**Venue:**

**Fun Walk:** Route: From the NUL Campus to St. Michaels Tropicana Lounge (Youth Symposium) back to Roma (Funwalk).

**Symposium:** Tropicana Lounge.

**Time:** 9:00 hours - 14:45 hours (for both the Fun Walk and the Youth Symposium)

**Expected Number of Participants:** 45.

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#### **Background and Rationale:**

Climate change is one of the most pressing global challenges, affecting all aspects of life, including international trade. In Lesotho, climate variability and its effects—such as droughts, floods, and erratic weather patterns—pose risks to agriculture, water resources, and infrastructure, all of which are vital for trade. Building adaptability and resilience to these impacts is critical to ensuring Lesotho's trade sustainability and competitiveness in global markets. The **Fun Walk and Symposium** aims to raise youth awareness, foster dialogue, and promote actionable strategies for building climate change adaptability and resilience within Lesotho's trade sector. The event combines a health-focused activity with a knowledge-sharing platform amongst the youth, enabling diverse stakeholders to engage in discussions on sustainable development, environmental stewardship, and trade competitiveness. Overall, the event seeks to find ways for the youth to actively share knowledge and interact in mapping the way forward in the issues of climate change and international trade.

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#### **Objectives:**

1. To increase the youths' understanding of how climate change affects trade, livelihoods, and economic sustainability in Lesotho.



2. To examine strategies for enhancing climate resilience across key sectors involved in international trade, such as agriculture, manufacturing, and infrastructure.
  3. To proffer strategies for engaging and empowering the youth and local communities on climate adaptation and how they can contribute to sustainable trade practices.
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## Event Structure:

### Fun Walk

The Fun Walk will be a symbolic event to highlight the importance of health and collective action in building resilience to climate change. Participants will walk through a scenic route in Roma from the NUL Campus to St Michaels and back.

- **Time:** 9:00hours - 09:45 hours

The Symposium will be a platform for dialogue and knowledge exchange, featuring presentations, panel discussions, and workshops on the linkages between climate change, adaptability, resilience, and sustainable international trade.

- **Time:** 10:00 hours - 13:00 hours
  - **Venue:** Tropicana Lounge
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## Expected Outcomes:

1. The youth will better understand climate change risks and how they impact trade and economic activities.
2. Practical solutions and strategies for enhancing climate change adaptability and resilience will be discussed and shared.
3. Strategies for engaging and empowering the youth and local communities on climate adaptation and how they can contribute to sustainable trade practices.

## Expected Outputs:

1. Presentations from the three key speakers.
2. Encouraging the students to take a stand in creating awareness in the community on how to impact the community on climate change resilience, adaptability, and sustainable international practices.

**N.B.:** These expected outputs ensure that the fun walk and symposium not only raise awareness but also create lasting impacts through capacity building, youth-driven initiatives, networking, and advocacy. They contribute to building a resilient and adaptive



approach to climate change challenges in the context of international trade, particularly in Lesotho.

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## **Conclusion:**

The Fun Walk and Symposium on "Building Climate Change Adaptability and Resilience for Sustainable International Trade in Lesotho" will offer a vital platform for raising awareness, fostering collaboration, and promoting resilience in trade amidst climate challenges. This initiative will contribute significantly to shaping a sustainable and climate-resilient economic future for Lesotho as a whole.