



Southern African countries are publishing more on the following topics than would be expected, relative to global averages: help for smallholder food producers (Zimbabwe's output was 217 times the global average intensity), HIV research, medicines and vaccines for tuberculosis, tropical communicable diseases and traditional knowledge.

One growth area for South Africa has concerned the local impact of climate-related hazards: from 20 (2012–2015) to 95 (2016–2019) publications. On the topic of climate-ready crops, rapid growth has been observed in Malawi (5/18 publications), Mozambique (2/9), South Africa (26/109), Tanzania (5/24), Zambia (12/27) and Zimbabwe (11/42).

All 16 countries in the region published at least three times the average intensity on the sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, with output at least doubling in five countries, namely Angola (12/23), Botswana (78/180), Eritrea (4/12), Lesotho (2/7) and Mozambique (35/105).

With regard to renewable sources of energy, Mauritian scientists have boosted output on biofuels and biomass (12/31), as well as hydrogen energy (2/15). Hydropower has been the focus for Zambians (6/15) and Zimbabweans (13/24) and smart-grid technologies (5/21) for Tanzanians. South Africa's output has surged on wind-turbine (142/297) and smart-grid technologies (177/373), as well as on photovoltaics (124/339).

It remains to be seen whether the scientific components of the SADC