

# Climate-related conflict: arts-based mediation and recourse to redress

## Hybrid event organised by:

The One Ocean Hub, the Strathclyde Centre for Environmental Law and Governance, and the Independent Redress Mechanism (IRM) of the Green Climate Fund

## Venue:

Level 3 of the new Learning & Teaching Building, TL328, University of Strathclyde

## Date & Time:

10 November 2021, 14.30-17.00 GMT

## Programme:

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| 14:30-14:45 | Opening remarks - Professor <b>Elisa Morgera</b> , the Director of the One Ocean Hub and Dr <b>Lalanath de Silva</b> , Head of the Independent Redress Mechanism Green Climate Fund                        |
| 14:45-14:50 | Introduction – Panel Chair (Dr <b>Bernadette Snow</b> , One Ocean Hub) explanation about the event and introduction of speakers who will be involved in the 1 <sup>st</sup> Panel.                         |
| 14:50-15:40 | 1 <sup>st</sup> part of the event – screening of the <i>Indlela Yokuphila</i> (The soul's journey) animated film and discussion.   |
| 14:50-15:00 | Screening of <i>Indlela Yokuphila</i>  |
| 15:00-15:40 | Discussion on <i>Indlela Yokuphila</i> lead by Dr <b>Dylan McGarry</b> (Rhodes University), Dr <b>Kira Erwin</b> (Durban University of Technology) and <b>Mpume Mthombeni</b> (Empatheatre).               |
| 15:40-16:00 | Coffee break   |
| 16:00-16:05 | Introduction – Panel Chair (Dr <b>Bernadette Snow</b> , One Ocean Hub) explanation of the second part of the event and introduction of speakers.   |
| 16:05-17:00 | 2 <sup>nd</sup> part of the event – presentations and discussion   |
| 16:05-16:20 | Professor <b>Elisa Morgera</b> , One Ocean Hub 'Using multiple sources of law to bridge disconnects between knowledge systems within land and ocean decision making on climate adaptation and mitigation'. |
| 16:20-16:35 | <b>Paco Gimenez-Salinas</b> , Independent Redress Mechanism Green Climate Fund and <b>Pablo Lumerman</b> , Intercultural Mediator/Facilitator and  |

Honorary Member ICCA 'The Inter-Cultural Mediator in Climate Change Conflicts'.

16:35-17:00 Q&A

The event will be chaired by Dr Bernadette Snow, the Deputy Director of the One Ocean Hub. It will consist of two main parts. The first part of the event will begin with a short animated film, Indlela yokuphila, produced by the Empatheatre team of the One Ocean Hub in association with Shells & Spells.

Indlela Yokuphila" which is isiZulu for "the soul's journey" is a transdisciplinary and trans-epistemological project which brought together a range of artists, traditional healers, marine sociologists and deep-sea marine ecologists to collaborate on a more holistic biocultural alternative to ocean mapping and decision making. In the isiZulu traditional ancestral belief, the deep sea is the resting place of our ancestors, and after death the soul travels from the land, through streams, rivers, estuaries and eventually into the sea.

The film offers a dazzling digital storytelling experience headed up by visionary animator/director Marc Moynihan, Empatheatre co-founders Dylan McGarry and Mpume Mthombeni and composer Braam Du Toit. The soul's journey in isiZulu traditional belief systems is remarkably similar to the scientific idea of the water lifecycle. This journey was explained during an interview with a traditional Zulu historian, and a traditional Zulu healer as part of the One Ocean Hub research project on transformative ocean governance in South Africa. The social scientists and artists working on this project use storytelling to illustrate how, if we are willing to listen closely, scientific knowledge and indigenous knowledge can at times align. The animation is followed by an interactive discussion with the researchers and artists on how novel arts-based research approaches reveal shared, inter-related concerns around our ocean within scientific and indigenous knowledge systems.

The following leading academics and an award-winning performer will then lead a discussion to broaden to distill relevant lessons learnt for innovative approaches to inclusivity, human rights protection and non-discrimination in climate mitigation and adaptation projects:

- Dr Dylan McGarry, Senior researcher at the Environmental Learning Research Centre (ELRC) at Rhodes University and the co-founder of Empatheatre.
- Dr Kira Erwin, Senior researcher, at the Urban Futures Centre at the Durban University of Technology
- Mpume Mthombeni, an award-winning performer, storyteller and theatre-maker from Umlazi, Durban and the co-founder of Empatheatre

The second part of the event will begin with a presentation by Professor Elisa Morgera, the Director of the One Ocean Hub. Professor Morgera's presentation is aimed to highlight the use of multiple sources and themes of law to bridge disconnects and inequalities between knowledge systems decision-making on climate adaptation and mitigation both on land and ocean. Professor Morgera will draw attention on how the consultation and participation procedures to redress climate change induced conflicts both on land and ocean spheres have excluded some people, such as the indigenous people and those with intangible heritage and spiritual beliefs.

Paco Gimenez-Salinas, Independent Redress Mechanism Green Climate Fund and Pablo Lumerman, Intercultural Mediator/Facilitator and Honorary Member ICCA will deliver a joint presentation on 'The Inter-Cultural Mediator in Climate Change Conflicts'. Indigenous people have spiritual and cultural dimensions connected to nature and natural phenomenon, that are often overlooked in the decision-making process related to development projects located in or near indigenous territories and sacred and cultural areas. As a result, conflicts may arise between indigenous peoples, non-indigenous communities, government agencies and/or companies. These conflicts sometimes are brought for resolution to independent accountability and redress mechanisms of funding institutions (such as the GCF-IRM). These mechanisms offer mediation and problem solving as one methods of resolving conflicts. What is the role of such a mediator in what is essentially an inter-cultural dialogue in helping the parties to resolve their conflicts?

Two case studies from Patagonia (Argentina and Chile) and Honduras will illustrate how experienced mediators have dealt with conflicts concerning sacred indigenous areas and different cultural perspectives and values. The Patagonia case study involves a Volcano that is sacred to indigenous communities and concerned a tourism development project that was impacting conservation and biodiversity. The parties included indigenous peoples and national agencies. The Honduras case involved reconstruction and rebuilding efforts (climate adaptation) following the impacts of two devastating hurricanes. The presentations will reveal lessons learned from the two case studies, and methods used by these mediators to help parties build trust, open up their minds to appreciating the different cultural values and perspectives, explore options and find solutions to the conflict.