

NELSON MANDELA
UNIVERSITY

Transformed and Transformative Ocean Governance Conference



22 to 24 January 2020 | Nelson Mandela University,
North Campus Conference Centre, Port Elizabeth, South Africa



SARChI Law of the Sea
and Development in Africa

SARChI Marine
Spatial Planning

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Conference Theme

In the preamble of Transforming our world: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the outcome document of the United Nations Summit for the Adoption of the post-2015 Development Agenda adopted by Resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, the UN General Assembly resolved "to free the human race from the tyranny of poverty and want and to heal and secure our planet". It also indicated that it was "determined to take the bold and transformative steps which are urgently needed to shift the world on to a sustainable and resilient path" and pledged that "no one will be left behind".

Sharing the same resolve, determination and pledge, the organisers of this conference structured the event on the premises that:

- It is imperative to transform the way humankind impacts and relies on the oceans;
- To that end, ocean governance needs to assume a transformative role;
- In order to do so, ocean governance needs to be transformed.

Aim of TTOG Conference

The aim of the conference is to provide a forum for a wide range of ocean experts and stakeholders to engage with the latest developments impacting on ocean governance from developmental, ecosystem-based and human-rights-based approaches, before starting to reflect and give direction on what transformed and transformative ocean governance means and requires.

About CMR, IOI, OOH

Institute for Coastal and Marine Research (CMR): The Institute for Coastal and Marine Research (CMR) is a leading ocean and coastal sciences transdisciplinary research institute that spans across all seven Nelson Mandela University Faculties, reporting directly to the Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Research, Innovation and Internationalisation. Our membership also includes external research groups, stakeholders and international collaborators. The CMR aims to conduct cutting-edge research, building capacity and advancing our understanding of the marine environment, to serve the needs of South Africa, the continent, and beyond in a sustainable manner. The CMR strives for excellence in its transdisciplinary research and training related to coastal and marine environments.

One Ocean Hub: The One Ocean Hub aims to transform our response to the urgent challenges facing our ocean. Its research seeks to bridge current disconnections in law, science and policy and integrate governance frameworks to balance multiple ocean uses with conservation. It strives to empower the communities, women and children, most reliant upon the oceans, to inform decisions based on multiple values and knowledge systems. The aim is to predict, harness and share equitably environmental, socioeconomic and cultural benefits from ocean conservation and sustainable use. The Hub will also identify hidden trade-offs between more easily monetized fishing or mining activities and less-understood values of the ocean's deep cultural role, function in the carbon cycle, and potential in medical innovation. The Hub specifically addresses the challenges and opportunities of South Africa, Namibia, Ghana, Fiji and Solomon Islands, and will share knowledge at regional (South Pacific, Africa and Caribbean) and international levels. This Hub is funded by UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) through the Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF).

<https://cmr.mandela.ac.za/>

One Ocean Hub - <https://www.strath.ac.uk/research/strathclydecentreenvironmentallawgovernance/oneoceanhub/>

International Ocean Institute - <https://www.ioinst.org/>

Committees

Organising Committee (OC)

- Dr Bernadette Snow (CMR & Chairperson)
- Prof Mandy Lombard (SARChI: Marine Spatial Planning)
- Prof Patrick Vrancken (SARChI: Law of the Sea and Development in Africa)

Technical and Scientific Committee (TC)

- Prof Patrick Vrancken (SARChI: Law of the Sea and Development in Africa & Chairperson)
- Prof Mandy Lombard (SARChI: Marine Spatial Planning)
- Dr Bernadette Snow (CMR)
- Dr Adnan Awad (IOI-Africa)
- Dr Lisa Morgera (OOH)



Programme

Day 1: 22nd January 2020

Ocean Governance & Developmental Approaches

09:00 – 09:30 **Opening - Vice Chancellor**

Chair: Dr Bernadette Snow and Patrick

09:30 – 10:30 **Keynote Address - The transformation imperative**
To highlight the urgency and extent to which transformation is required in ocean governance
Prof Christina Hicks and Prof Edward Allison

10:30 – 11:00 **Tea/Coffee**

Session 1: Ocean Governance. Chair: Patrick Vrancken

11:00 – 11:50 **The Legal Framework of Ocean Governance**
To present and discuss international-law and domestic-law instruments for equitable orders that account for the needs of all ocean stakeholders.
Prof Elisa Morgera

11:50 – 12:40 **The International and Domestic Politics of Ocean Governance**
To present and discuss the international and domestic political aspects of ocean governance and how they support or undermine efforts to transform ocean governance
Dr Wesley Flannery

12:40 – 13:30 **Lunch**

Session 2: Developmental Approaches. Chair: Dr Bernadette Snow

- 13:30 – 14:20 **Inclusive and Equitable Development**
To interrogate the prevailing political economy thoughts with specific reference to inclusive governance and equitable access to a healthy environment
Prof Lena Gipperth
- 14:20 – 15:10 **Multi-sized development**
To engage a variety of socio-ecological systems in order to identify elements necessary to build human resilience and interrogate the notion of a one-size-fits-all developmental approach
Dr Kimberley Peters
- 15:10 – 15:40 **Tea/Coffee**
- 15:40 – 16:30 **The Blue Economy**
To interrogate the concept of 'Blue Economy' with specific reference to inclusivity, fairness and sustainability
Mr Paul Holthus
- 16:30 – 17:20 **SDG 14 – Life Below Water**
To reflect on SDGs process and initiatives aimed at reaching SDG 14 having an impact on inclusive ocean governance and equitable access to a healthy coastal and marine environment
Dr Daniela Diz
- 17:20 – 17:30 **Closure**
- 18:30 **Cocktail Function, Ocean Sciences Campus**

Day 2: 23rd January 2020

Ecosystem-Based Approaches & Human-Rights-Based Approaches

08:30 – 08:40	Day 1 Overview
08:40 – 09:30	The Value of Ocean Health To reflect on the latest evidence of the extent to which human health depends on marine and coastal ecosystems. <i>Prof Phil Levin</i>
09:30 – 10:20	The Measurement of Ocean Health To engage with initiatives aimed at measuring ocean health, such as the Ocean Health Index <i>Prof Amanda Lombard</i>
10:20 – 10:50	Tea/Coffee
10:50 – 11:40	Fisheries Management for Ocean Health To discuss the contribution to ocean health of ecosystem approaches to fisheries <i>Prof Kevern Cochrane</i>
11:40 – 12:30	Planning for Ocean Health To engage with ecosystem-based instruments developed with the aim of assisting in MSP processes <i>Prof Peter Jones</i>
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch
13:30 – 14:20	Integrating human rights in environmental impact assessments related to ocean uses <i>Dr Daniela Diz</i>
14:20 – 15:10	Women's and children's rights <i>Dr Bolanle Erinosh</i>

15:10 – 15:40	Tea/Coffee
15:40 – 16:30	Human rights in the blue economy: the relevance of international investment law. <i>Lorenzo Cotula & Thierry Berger – presented by Prof Elisa Morgera</i>
16:30 – 17:20	Civil Society Panel
18:30	Conference Dinner * Speakers and invited guests only

Day 3: 24th January 2020
Transformed and Transformative Governance

08:45 – 09:00	Plan for morning
09:00 – 11:00	Breakaway Groups (see below)
11:00 – 11:30	Tea/Coffee

Prof Heila Lots Sitsiska

11:30 – 12:30	Plenary
12:30 – 13:00	Closure <i>Dr Bernadette Snow</i>
13:30 - 16:00	Lunch for invited speakers and discussions, side meetings, paper development, way forward

	Topic	Chaired by
Breakaway 1	Law and Governance	Prof Patrick Vrancken
Breakaway 2	Development, justice and governance	Dr Bernadette Snow
Breakaway 3	Marine Planning, Biodiversity, Ocean Health	Prof Amanda Lombard
Breakaway 4	Social Justice, Civil Society and governance	Prof Elisa Morgera



STAY CLEAR

DO NOT
ANCHOR WITHIN
300 FEET

Invited Speakers: Biographies and Abstracts



Prof Christina Hicks

Affiliation

Political Ecology Group, Lancaster University, Environment Centre.

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Title of Talk

The Transformation Imperative

Keywords

Blue acceleration, nutrition, labour, justice

Biography

Christina is a professor within the Political Ecology group at Lancaster University's Environment Centre, she gained her PhD from James Cook University, and held a fellowship at Stanford University. Christina's research examines small scale fisheries, how they contribute nutritional, cultural, and wellbeing benefits, and their vulnerability to climate

change. Her research seeks to address three themes: 1) Ensuring equitable and sustainable access to fisheries nutrition; 2) Building small scale fisheries governance capacity and, 3) Supporting critical thinking within ecosystem services research. Christina works in collaboration with Academic, Governmental, and non-profit organisations in the East and West coasts of Africa.

Abstract

The Oceans have been a source of food and income for centuries; with Indian Ocean trade networks dating back at least 4000 years. However, incontrovertible evidence now exists that the dramatic increase in intensity, extent, and range of activities in past 50 years, have wrought devastating impacts upon ocean ecosystems. Such ecosystem change directly affects human wellbeing, as coastal communities devastated by cyclones and storm surges attest. Furthermore, these patterns of ocean use, ownership, and distribution have created vast inequities and fuelled conflict. Yet, expectations remain that the oceans can provide both an engine for development and environmental refuges. Thus, governance responses that seek to maximize capital and secure space for restoration tend to dominate; despite their tendency to undermine labour, create precarious conditions, and incentivise extractive industries that exacerbate inequalities and environmental decline. Transformation is necessary, but are current, commons based alternatives, built on an social justice foundation, sufficient?



Prof Elisa Morgera

Affiliation

Prof Elisa Morgera, Professor of Global Environmental Law at Strathclyde University Law School in Glasgow, UK and the Director of the UKRI GCRF One Ocean Hub.

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Title of Talk

"Transforming the legal framework of ocean governance for an inclusive and sustainable blue economy" (with Prof Patrick Vrancken)

Keywords

Marine biodiversity, indigenous peoples' rights, right to science, cooperation

Biography

Elisa Morgera's research focuses on the interface of international biodiversity law, international human rights law and the law of the sea. Since 2005 Elisa has participated as an observer in international negotiations under the Convention on Biological Diversity and under the aegis of the UN General Assembly on marine biodiversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction. Prior to joining academia, Elisa served as a legal officer for the Food and

Agriculture Organisation of the UN, advising over fifty countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the South Pacific on domestic legislation on natural resources; and as an environmental management officer for the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in the Eastern Caribbean.

Abstract

This presentation will investigate the potential of the 2018 UN Framework on Human Rights and the Environment to transform the international and national legal frameworks on ocean governance in order to support an inclusive and sustainable blue economy. It will discuss how international and national laws on marine resources need to be re-interpreted to take into account the dependence of everyone's essential human rights on healthy coastal and marine ecosystems. Equally, the presentation will also discuss how the application of international human rights law, including with specific regard to indigenous peoples, small-scale fishing communities, women and children, can support a balanced approach to the interests and needs of different ocean stakeholders, while responding to specific socio-environmental justice issues arising from the conservation and multiple uses of the ocean.



Dr Wesley Flannery

Senior Lecturer

Affiliation

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Queen's University Belfast, Belfast, Northern
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Title of Talk

Politicising marine spatial planning to realise
transformative ocean governance

Keywords

Marine spatial planning; transformative
ocean governance; post-political planning;
stakeholder participation

Biography

Dr Wesley Flannery is a senior lecturer in the School of the Natural and Built Environment (SNBE) at Queen's University Belfast. His key research interests are in marine spatial planning (MSP), integrated coastal zone planning and stakeholder participation in environmental decision-making. He has assessed the implementation of MSP in the US, Canada, Scotland and England and authored a best practice report for Ireland's Enablers Task Force on Marine Spatial Planning. He leads the Marine Social Science Group in SNBE and is involved in H2020, INTERREG, GCRF, EPA, Marine Institute, and Norwegian Research

Council funded research on marine and coastal governance.

Abstract

Marine spatial planning (MSP) has rapidly become the most accepted approach through which to transform ocean governance. Its widespread acceptance is driven by discourses that frame spatial planning as an unproblematic solution to an array of marine issues. MSP is not, however, innately rational or value-free, and it problematises marine issues and their solutions in specific ways, often reflecting established agendas. Emerging forms of MSP focus on entrenching established agendas through: tokenistic participation; wholesale adoption of path-dependent solutions; obstructionist deployment of inactive technological solutions; and promising progressive change. Progressive elements of MSP, such as well-being, are advanced to garner early support for initiatives but these are managed out of planning processes as they proceed towards implementation. Rather than being transformative MSP has, in essence, become about maintaining the status quo. To foster more transformative forms of MSP we must pay attention to how policy agendas are formed, how they travel through time/space and be cognisant of where difference can most usefully be inserted into planning processes.



Mr Paul Holthus

Founding President and CEO, World Ocean Council

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World Ocean Council

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Title of Talk

The Role of the Private Sector in Transformed and Transformative Ocean Governance

Keywords

Business, investment, ocean, governance

Biography

Paul Holthus founded the World Ocean Council (WOC) – the Global Blue Economy Business and Investment Organization. The WOC brings together investment, shipping, fisheries, aquaculture, tourism, oil/gas, offshore renewables, mining, submarine cables, ports, and other sectors for global private sector leadership, collaboration and action on ocean sustainable development. The annual WOC Sustainable Ocean Summit is the premier high-level global ocean business and investment event on “Corporate Ocean Responsibility”.

Paul has held senior positions with UN

Environment, IUCN and other international organizations. He has worked in 30+ countries, with companies, communities, industry associations, UN agencies, NGOs, and governments.

Abstract

Ocean Governance (OG) should provide the stable, predictable basis for the responsible use of ocean space and resources and sustainable development for the diverse, extensive existing and future ocean economic activities. This is especially important in relation to international, transboundary issues, resources and activities and for the high seas. Transforming OG and ocean sustainable development requires coordinated engagement by the diverse, international ocean business community.

Opportunities for private sector involvement in OG include:

- Industry Involvement in Ocean Governance Development
- Ocean Governance Based on Sector-By-Sector Approach
- Ocean Data and Monitoring in Support of Ocean Governance
- Ocean Surveillance and Maritime Domain Awareness
- Cross-Sectoral and Cumulative Impacts to the Ocean
- Global Standards for Management Tools and Approaches in Support of Ocean Governance
- Multiple UN And Intergovernmental Agencies and Processes Dealing with Ocean Governance
- Regional Institutions and Approaches To Ocean Governance
- New and Emerging Ocean Uses
- Ocean Geopolitical Challenges to Peace, Security and Stability



Dr Kimberley Peters

Affiliation

Reader, Human Geography at University of Liverpool

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Title of Talk

Imagining governance beyond borders

Keywords

Resilience; governance; flexible; dynamic

Biography

Kimberley Peters is a Reader in Human Geography at the University of Liverpool, where she researches and teaches on maritime spatialities and governance. She is the author and editor of sea and ocean related books including, *Waterworlds: Human Geographies of the Ocean* (Ashgate, 2014); *The Mobilities of Ships* (Routledge, 2015); *Rebel Radio* (Palgrave, 2017); and *Territory Beyond Terra* (Rowman and Littlefield, 2018) as well as a number of peer-reviewed journal publications and book

chapters. In 2020 she will publish the *Handbook of Ocean Space* (Routledge, 2020).

Abstract

How might we make resilient - human and non-human life - in respect of our seas and oceans? This paper begins by exploring the concept of resilience and the link to specific modes of governing the environment. It then questions the fundamental logics on which many modes of governance are based: the often 'one size fits all' use of data to create clear demarcated and fixed zones of resource, space, human activity management, through modes of planning - marine spatial planning and the creation of area based management techniques (such as marine protected areas, or areas to be avoided). This paper urges us not to develop a 'one size fits all' approach, but to imagine a mode of governing beyond borders. Synthesizing evidence from 18 months of research into responsive and flexible management techniques the paper considers the possibilities of dynamic modes of managing marine realms for resilience, which may provide more responsive modes of governance, suited to particular, adaptive environments.



Dr Daniela Diz

Lecturer of Oceans Governance and International Law; Deputy Director of One Ocean Hub (OOH)

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Title of Talk (Presentation 1)

Integrated Environmental Impact Assessment as a Tool for Equitable and Sustainable Fisheries

Keywords

Environmental impact assessment; biodiversity; ecosystem services; human rights

Title of Talk (Presentation 2)

The Ecosystem Approach as a Frame for the Coherent Implementation of SDG 14

Keywords

Ecosystem approach; marine biodiversity; sustainable development goals; integrated oceans management.

Biography

Dr Daniela Diz is a Lecturer of Oceans Governance and International Law at the University of Strathclyde and Deputy Director of the One Ocean Hub research programme. She has been working in the environmental law and oceans governance field for over 20 years. She regularly participates as an expert at UN meetings related to the law of the sea, marine biodiversity and fisheries, and conducts legal studies related to marine biodiversity conservation and sustainable use to UN agencies (e.g. The Convention on Biological Diversity Secretariat, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN), and government institutions.

Abstract 1

Environmental Impact Assessments, especially integrated assessments where potential cultural, socio-economic and environmental impacts and ecosystem services flows are analysed, have been an under-utilised tool in fisheries management. However, gaps in understanding of such potential impacts and flows of marine and coastal ecosystem services at different scales can pose limitations to an inclusive decision-making process and to the implementation of fair and equitable integrated ocean management regimes that respects human rights. In this context, guidance developed under the Convention on Biological Diversity on impact assessments, including strategic environmental assessments, can provide an important contribution to this debate. This presentation will focus on how such assessments can integrate ecological and human rights considerations, such as the right to food, especially when assessing the trade-offs between large and small scale fisheries.

Abstract 2

The ecosystem approach as elaborated under specific decisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity can provide a comprehensive strategy and frame for the coherent implementation of the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 14 on the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development. Consistency with relevant instruments developed under related multilateral environmental agreements can help achieve greater governance coherence, facilitating the implementation of this global goal. This presentation will focus on how the

ecosystem approach can provide such a frame in assisting with the implementation of SDG 14 towards an inclusive ocean governance and equitable access to a healthy coastal and marine environment. In doing so, it will also explore the connections and opportunities arising from the ongoing development of the Convention on Biological Diversity Post-2020 Biodiversity Framework, which will set new goals and targets for achieving its 2050 vision of living in harmony with nature.





Prof Phil Levin

Affiliation

Lead Scientist and Professor of Practice;
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Washington School of Environmental and
Forest Sciences.

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Title of Talk

Co-creating ocean solutions for people and
nature

Keywords

Triple bottom line, ecosystem-based
management, interdisciplinary, fisheries

Biography

Phillip Levin is a Professor of Practice at the University of Washington, and Lead Scientist at The Nature Conservancy, Washington USA. Levin is a conservation scientist who is interested in bridging the gaps between theory and practice and between social and natural sciences. The focus of his current work is developing interdisciplinary tools to inform conservation of marine, and terrestrial ecosystems and the human communities that

depend on them. Previously, he was a Senior Scientist at NOAA Fisheries. He received his Ph.D. from the University of New Hampshire and was a postdoctoral fellow at the University of North Carolina.

Abstract

We humans have intentionally and unintentionally shaped and reshaped the earth's environments for thousands of years. As the largest biome, the oceans have long been central to the culture and identity of those dependent on it. The scale and scope of human influence upon the oceans today is unprecedented, and the need to assess the effects of changing environmental conditions and management actions on human wellbeing is growing. In this talk I highlight the need to transcend the human-nature dichotomy and think beyond the discrete categorization of human and nature. In doing so, I will provide examples that challenge the ideological strictures of conventional conservation and demands attention to values, power relationships, and governance. A key challenge is to transform academic principals into practice. I highlight how the co-construction of knowledge accelerates our ability to create a future where both people and nature thrive.



Prof Kevern Cochrane

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Title of Talk

Fisheries management for ocean health: policies, progress and challenges

Keywords

Ecosystem approach, global attitudes, livelihoods, conservation

Biography

Kevern Cochrane started his scientific career working on inland fisheries in Zimbabwe and South Africa. From 1988 to 1995 he worked for what is now the Fisheries Branch, Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries, South Africa before moving to the Fisheries and Aquaculture Department of the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation, Italy. There his work focused on promotion of responsible fisheries management and implementation of an ecosystem approach. In 2010, he was appointed Director of the Resources Use and

Conservation Division of the Department. He returned to South Africa at the end of January 2012, taking up a part-time position as a professor in the Department of Ichthyology and Fisheries Science at Rhodes University. His current interests centre on integrated fisheries science and management, ocean governance and the impacts of climate change on fisheries.

Abstract

Marine fisheries are under pressure as being both essential for achievement of several of the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and presenting challenges for achievement of some of them. Fisheries provide essential livelihoods and nutrition for millions of people but without effective management can, and often do, have undesirable impacts on species and ecosystems. Both sides of this problem have been well recognized and many policies and guidelines developed to encourage responsible fisheries management and operations to optimise the benefits while minimizing or eliminating undesirable impacts. This presentation will explore changing attitudes and approaches to fisheries in recent decades and some key international frameworks and guidelines relevant to achieving the SDGs. It will review progress towards contributing to the goals directly relevant to fisheries and challenges to making further progress.



Dr Peter J.S. Jones

Reader in Environmental Governance

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Title of Talk

Towards Ecosystem-Based Marine Spatial Planning: ecological connectivity through institutional connectivity

Keywords

Ecosystem-Based; Marine Spatial Planning; Governance; Integration.

Biography

Peter has specialised in inter-disciplinary and applied research on the governance of marine resources for nearly 30 years, with a particular focus on MPAs and MSP as important but challenging arenas for governance. He coordinated the governance stream of a European Commission funded research project on the Monitoring and Evaluation of Spatially Managed Areas (MESMA), involving 12 MSP case studies around Europe (tinyurl.com/MSPinReality). His research currently focuses on

MPA Governance (mpag.info), involving more than 50 case studies in 23 countries, including a recent publication by UN Environment Enabling Effective and Equitable Marine Protected Areas - Guidance on combining governance approaches (tinyurl.com/MPAGuidance), building on his 2014 book *Governing Marine Protected Areas: resilience through diversity* (tinyurl.com/GoverningMPAs).

Abstract

This presentation begins with an outline of three main approaches to governance, introducing the concept of co-evolutionary governance and the argument that “the key to resilience is diversity, both of species in ecosystems and incentives in governance systems.” The aim that we should be moving towards ecosystem-based approaches to marine spatial planning (EBMSP) is widely accepted, but many MSP initiatives remain, in reality, more focused on integrated-use approaches. The attributes of these two approaches are outlined and the key differences between them highlighted, with a particular focus on the European policy context. The argument is then explored that EBMSPs are mere ‘paper plans’ unless they are implemented, and that such implementation requires connectivity between different sectoral institutions if the aim of integrated ecosystem-based MSP is to be achieved, though the reality is that such institutional connectivity remains very challenging and many MSPs are ‘disconnected by design’. The implications of these challenges and realities are considered as are some potential means of addressing them.



Prof Amanda T. Lombard

South African Research Chair Initiative (SARChI), Marine Spatial Planning

Co-authors: Smit, KP., Vermeulen, EA., Bernard, A., Clifford Holmes, J., Orgeta, K., Shannon, L., Sink, K., and Snow, B.

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Title of Talk

The measurement of ocean health

Keywords

Ecosystem health; health index; cumulative impacts; SDG 14

Biography

Mandy holds a DST/NRF Professorship in Marine Spatial Planning at Nelson Mandela University (South Africa). She focuses on applied research that can be implemented for effective sustainable-use outcomes, and has a special interest in systematic conservation planning (SCP), top predators and systems analysis. She has worked in terrestrial, coastal and marine systems globally and has experience in

local, national and international conservation assessments and plans. She designed South Africa's Prince Edward Islands Marine Protected Area in the Southern Ocean and is mainstreaming SCP methods into CCAMLR and the Antarctic Treaty areas. Her scientific outputs to date have over 6000 citations. She is an editor of the journal *Conservation Letters* and her current work includes biophysical mapping, decision-support tool development; marine spatial planning and integrated ocean management.

Abstract

Progress towards meeting Sustainable Development Goal 14 will require transformations across scales of governance, economies, and human uses of the oceans. In order to measure the success of any of these transformations, or changes, reliable and robust reporting metrics are required. These metrics need to be relatively easy to measure and communicate. To date, metrics used to measure different components of ocean health include structural metrics (e.g. taxonomic diversity); functional metrics (e.g. functional diversity); structural/functional metrics (e.g. fisheries approaches based on food web models); ecosystem service metrics (e.g. the Ocean Health Index); and human pressure metrics (e.g. cumulative impact scores). We introduce three new metrics developed by the authors: an empirical data-derived reef health index, a marine sustainability index (developed with system dynamics modelling), and a set of indicators based on a food web model (developed with Ecosim/Ecospace). We review these metrics to identify strengths and weaknesses regarding their applicability to the rapid transformation required to turn the tide on ocean health degradation at local and global scales.



Dr Bolanle T. Erinosh

Co-authors: Dr Harrison K.Golo

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Title of Talk

Achieving an Equitable and Inclusive Blue Economy in Ghana: A Human Rights Model for the Protection of Women and Children

Keywords

Blue Economy, Human Rights, Vulnerable Communities, Ghana

Biography

Bolanle Tolulope Erinosh is a Lawyer and Law Lecturer at the Faculty of Law, University of Cape Coast in Ghana. She holds a law degree from the University of Ibadan in Nigeria as well as a postgraduate degree in law from the University of Nottingham and a PhD from University of Sheffield both in the United Kingdom. She has authored books and articles in the areas of international environmental law and International law in African Countries. She is a Co-I on the ONE OCEANS hub research project.

Abstract

The realization of the full potential of a blue economy in Ghana requires the effective inclusion of all societal groups, particularly women and young people who may often be underrepresented.

With a focus on small-scale coastal fishing communities in the Central region of Ghana, this study will explore the experiences and challenges of women and children in coastal communities, highlighting issues concerning their insecurity and marginalization. Child labour, child trafficking, equitable allocation of fisheries resources and gender-based violence will be the key areas of concern. Examining these experiences and challenges through the existing human rights framework, our intention is to identify how human rights violations or abuses thereof undermine or enhance the current attempt to reform the fisheries sector for sustainable livelihood in Ghana; and how human rights advocacy can be an effective element of support for resource management and human wellbeing within the country's blue economy.



Lorenzo Cotula

(presented by Prof. Elisa Morgera)

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Title of Talk

Human rights in the blue economy: the relevance of international investment law

Keywords

Blue economy; investment treaties; investor-state arbitration; sustainable development

Biography

Lorenzo Cotula, PhD, is a principal researcher in law and sustainable development at the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED). He leads research and policy work spanning investment law, natural resource governance, and human rights. He is also a Visiting Professor at Strathclyde Law School; and a Visiting Research Fellow at Warwick Law School. Lorenzo holds academic qualifications in law, development studies, and sustainable business from Sapienza University of Rome, the London School of Economics, the

University of Edinburgh, and the University of Cambridge.

Abstract

International investment law – the international law norms that govern the admission and treatment of foreign investment – is a key part of the legal frameworks relevant to the blue economy. It mainly consists of a global network of investment treaties that typically allow investors to bring claims against the host state before an arbitral tribunal. Blue economy developments have raised concerns about ‘ocean resource grabbing’, and impacts on human rights and/or the livelihoods of coastal communities. These evolutions raise issues about the interface between a body of international law that is primarily geared towards protecting commercial interests, and the norms protecting the environment and human rights. This presentation will share preliminary findings from ongoing research about the place of international investment law in the policy and practice of the blue economy.



Thierry Berger

(presented by Prof. Elisa Morgera)

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Title of Talk

Human rights in the blue economy: the relevance of international investment law

Keywords

Blue economy; investment treaties; investor-state arbitration; sustainable development

Biography

Thierry Berger is a qualified solicitor and French lawyer. He is an associate at the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) and affiliated with Strathclyde Centre for Environmental Law & Governance (SCELG). His work focuses on law and sustainable development. Prior to his collaboration with IIED and SCELG, Thierry worked for global law firms for ten years, specializing in international arbitration. Thierry has a DESS (LLM) in International Arbitration and Alternative Dispute Resolution from the Université Paris II

Panthéon Assas, as well as an LLM in Global Environmental and Climate Change Law from the University of Edinburgh.

Abstract

International investment law – the international law norms that govern the admission and treatment of foreign investment – is a key part of the legal frameworks relevant to the blue economy. It mainly consists of a global network of investment treaties that typically allow investors to bring claims against the host state before an arbitral tribunal. Blue economy developments have raised concerns about ‘ocean resource grabbing’, and impacts on human rights and/or the livelihoods of coastal communities. These evolutions raise issues about the interface between a body of international law that is primarily geared towards protecting commercial interests, and the norms protecting the environment and human rights. This presentation will share preliminary findings from ongoing research about the place of international investment law in the policy and practice of the blue economy.



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Title of Talk

Inclusive and equitable development

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Biography

Lena Gipperth is a professor in Environmental law at the University of Gothenburg. Her research interests are primarily related to Marine governance, Water management, Chemical pollution and Biodiversity, focusing on legal implementation of environmental quality objectives. She has been involved in numbers of multidisciplinary and transdisciplinary research projects and international collaborations. Since 2015 she is appointed as Director for the Center of Sea and Society at the University of Gothenburg, a cross-faculty center supporting marine/maritime research and education at the University of Gothenburg. She is also the

chair of the newly started initiative Kristineberg Marine Research and Innovation Centre.

Abstract

A growth of the ocean-based economy is today argued to be one way to achieve the 17 sustainable development goals, at the same time as global population heads at 8,6 billion in 2030. However, further exploitation of already stressed marine ecosystems risk causing detrimental harm to the marine environment but also to human wellbeing, in particular the most vulnerable groups and areas. Despite political objectives of an inclusive and equitable development, benefit sharing and ecosystem approach to governance, national and international law, are today in general not designed to achieve these goals. This presentation gives examples on how legal frameworks divide resources and burdens deriving from negative impact on the marine environment, among stakeholders and their legal possibilities to take part of an inclusive governance. It also gives input to the discussion on necessary conditions for a blue economy to be environmentally sustainable and socially equitable.





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