

OSUN STATE UNIVERSITY OSOGBO, NIGERIA

THE GLOBAL AFFAIRS AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE (GASDI)



in collaboration with the

African Network of Environmental Humanities (ANEH)

and

Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society (RCC),

Ludwig Maximilian University, Munich, Germany

invites you to its annual

International Sustainable Development Dialogue ISDD-2023

theme

MAKING AND UNMAKING AFRICA: GLOBAL DEVELOPMENTS AND ENVIRONMENTAL HUMANITIES



CO-CHIEF HOST

Prof. Dr. Christof Mauch

DIRECTOR, RACHEL CARSON CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIETY, LUDWIG MAXIMILIAN UNIVERSITY, MUNICH, GERMANY



CHIEF HOST

Prof. Odunayo Clement Adebayo

VICE-CHANCELLOR - OSUN STATE UNIVERSITY



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Prof. Sandra Swart

PROFESSOR OF HISTORY, STELLENBOSCH UNIVERSITY, SOUTH AFRICA



LEAD SPEAKER

Prof. Sophia Kalantzakos

GLOBAL DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR IN ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES AND PUBLIC POLICY, NEW YORK UNIVERSITY, USA



CHAIRMAN, LOCAL ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Prof. John Agbonifo

PRESIDENT, ANEH, & DIRECTOR, GLOBAL AFFAIRS AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE

TUESDAY - FRIDAY 27-30 JUNE 2023 09:00 AM

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CALL FOR PAPERS

The Anthropocene, beyond the threat it poses to the global environment, constitutes an existential threat to humanity. It describes an era where human beings inflict the greatest negative impacts on the planet earth. Human activities and actions, including fossil fuel burning, for over the last 200 years, have significantly shaped the rise of atmospheric CO2 concentrations to levels that greatly exceed any in recorded history. This epoch, designated as the Anthropocene by scientist and geographers, has come to be accepted and critiqued in the humanities. The epoch marks an era characterised by a misguided anthropocentric mentality, which discounts the interdependence of the human and non-human worlds. Industrial cultures or capitalist mindset approach nature and culture as unrelated entities, resulting in the anthropocentric desire to assert control and dominance over nature.

The global drive to modernisation or development, including depletion of forest resources, the exploitation of hydrocarbon, and mechanised agricultural practices, has led to catastrophic environmental transformations (global warming, species' extinction and environmental crises). Environmental alterations have, in turn, negatively transformed human societies - an outcome to which we pay too little attention. Wholesale alterations of the environment precipitate changes in microbial ecological niches, increase host-microbe contact, catalyse microbial adaptation to human host, and potential infections in humans. The coronavirus, and its variants, remind us about the complexity of the human condition and the 'wicked' problems that shape it.

Human alteration of the environment in Africa is however not new. Indigenous peoples had altered the environment for millennia, even before the arrival of the Europeans. In a world structured by power relations, it is pertinent to determine more specifically the forces instigating major environmental transformations across the continent. In Africa today, we are witnesses to the clash of two varying logics of territorialisation: the technological and moral. The moral logic is indigenous and predates the technological, but the latter colonises the landscape and is the dominant force of environmental transformations. It is, therefore, apposite to ask: who are the actors that determine environmental alterations in Africa? What are the comparative levels of African culpability in ecological alterations against those of the West? How has ecological alteration reordered local economies, and with what implications for local and national development?

What does environmental alteration mean for land and water dependent local communities? What are the implications of imposed environmental alterations for cultural memory and realisation of the sustainable development goals in Africa? And what are the imports of colonial legacies for environmental humanity scholarship?

We invite interested scholars, activists, policymakers, practitioners and students to Osun State University, Nigeria. We look forward to hosting participants from a wide range of research perspectives, methods, professions and regions to engage in innovative conversations with one another. While being indicative only, we welcome papers on the following subjects:

1. Predatory postcolonial developments and environmental humanities in Africa
2. Colonial materiality of ecological alterations in Africa
3. Health, religion and environment
4. Music, drama, dance and the SDGs
5. Pandemics, vaccinationism and sustainable development
6. Struggles over meaning - anthropological approaches to the environment
7. Feminist approaches to nature, environment and sustainable development
8. Climate change
9. Land grabbing, and environmental social movements
10. Biofuels, agrarian change and rural livelihoods
11. Energy access - fuel, subsidy and protests
12. Urban water - the metabolism of cities
13. Environmental conflicts, forests and security
14. Environmental governance and ungoverned spaces
15. Parks, people and poverty: the challenge of conservation and development in Africa
16. Extractive economies: Mining, livelihoods and local communities
17. Shrinking fiscal space, social service delivery and sustainable development

Deadline for submission of abstracts is 15th November 2022.

Abstract of 150 words maximum, in fonts size 12, and single line spacing, should be emailed to gasdi@uniosun.edu.ng

Participation fee:

Local participants N20,000.00

Graduates N10,000.00

Undergraduates FREE!

Foreign participants \$100

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