



INVITATION

Capacity Building Webinar

“Religious Communities and Ecological Sustainability in Southern Africa”

Tuesday, 1 September 2020 9 am – 1:30 pm (GMT +2)

The Research Programme on Religious Communities and Sustainable Development at Humboldt University Berlin is hosting a **webinar** on “**Religious Communities and Ecological Sustainability in Southern Africa**” in partnership with the Water, Environment and Climate Action (WE CARE) Work Stream of the International Partnership on Religion and Sustainable Development (PaRD).

We cordially invite all, religious leaders, staff of development organisations, academic researchers, PaRD members and individuals engaged with ecological sustainability to participate in the event.

The webinar focuses on the role of religious communities for ecological sustainability in Southern Africa. Topics include water management, climate change, agriculture and eco-feminism. The webinar will provide insights into **ecological sustainability from a theological perspective** as well as into the **engagement of religious leaders and faith-based organisations**. It seeks to equip the participants with knowledge and tools for effective engagement with ecological sustainability.

The webinar will feature expert inputs as well as interactive discussions on the specific themes. Speakers and facilitators include: **Rev. Rachel Mash**, Green Anglicans South Africa; **Dr. Tanya van Wyk**, University of Pretoria, South Africa; **Dr. Loreen Maseno**, Maseno University, Kenya and **Dr. Mohammad Gallant**, University of the Western Cape, South Africa.

On the basis of the webinar inputs and discussions, a comprehensive report will be drafted by the organizers. Participant’s contributions will be greatly appreciated and will be included in the report.

Kindly register for the webinar until the 28th of August by sending an email to theorcsd@hu-berlin.de. We kindly ask you to indicate your name, country, position, organisation, and field of activity/interest.

Preliminary Programme

9:00 - 9:15	<p>Welcome <i>Philipp Öhlmann</i>, Head of the Research Programme on Religious Communities and Sustainable Development, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin</p>
9:15 - 10:15	<p>Keynote: “Restricting global warming under the Paris Agreement: benefits and the consequences of failure for Africa and the world” N.N. Response “Climate change and ecological sustainability – a religious leaders’ perspective” <i>Apostle Mangaliso Matshobane</i>, Community Church, South Africa, University of Pretoria, South Africa Discussion</p>
10:15 - 10:30	Break
10:30 - 11:40	<p>Working Groups</p> <p>i. <u>Eco-theology:</u> <i>Dr. Loreen Maseno</i>, Senior Lecturer at the Department of Religion, Theology and Philosophy, Maseno-University, Kenya</p> <p>ii. <u>Eco-Feminism:</u> <i>Dr. Tanya van Wyk</i>, Senior Lecturer in Spirituality, University of Pretoria, South Africa</p> <p>iii. <u>Local multi-faith action:</u> N.N. Southern African Faith Communities Institute (SAFCEI), South Africa</p> <p>iv. <u>Water:</u> <i>Dr. Esper Ncube</i>, Water Quality Specialist at Rand Water, South Africa</p> <p>v. <u>Sustainable Agriculture:</u> N.N. Organization of African Instituted Churches, Kenya</p> <p>vi. <u>The protection of the environment from a Muslim perspective:</u> <i>Dr. Mohammad Gallant</i>, Lecturer in Islamic Studies, University of Western Cape, South Africa and founder of the Environmental Affairs Department of the Muslim Judicial Council (SA)</p>
11:40 - 12:00	Break
12:00 - 12:20	<p>Presentation of learning material on ecology for religious leaders in Southern Africa by the Green Teaching and Learning Community (Green TLC) <i>Dr. Tanya van Wyk</i></p>
12:20 - 13:05	<p>Panel discussion: How can religious actors become active for ecological sustainability in their contexts? <i>Rev. Rachel Mash</i>, Environmental Coordinator at the Anglican Church of Southern Africa, member of the Anglican Communion Environmental Network steering committee <i>Dr. Robekkah Ritchie</i>, Post-Doctoral Researcher in Buddhist Studies at Freie Universität Berlin N.N. Bahá’i Community South Africa N.N. Organization of African Instituted Churches, Kenya <i>Archbishop Siboniso Ngobese</i>, Gilgal Bible Church, South Africa</p>
13:05 - 13:30	Concluding remarks, feedback and way forward

Please note: This webinar will be recorded for distribution through various outlets of Humboldt University and PaRD. By participating in the webinar, participants consent to the possibility of appearing in these recordings.