

AFRI-CLIMETHICS

2022 CALL FOR PAPERS

Lectures begin: June 24, 2022

Abstract submission deadline: May 15, 2022

The Environmental Law Center (ELC) of the University of Cologne is accepting abstracts for papers to be presented in 2022 at a series of lectures on the topic of Climate Ethics in Africa.

The series of lectures, titled "Climate Ethics: Structuring a Standard for African Trade and Development," will build from the success of the 2021 conference "Environmental Justice in Africa: Cultural and Economic Impacts on the Legal Systems." (Dennis Agelebe, ed., Pretoria University Press, 2022), which was hosted by the ELC, with generous support from the University of Cologne's Global South Studies Center (GSSC). This lecture series invites scholars and experts in climate change law, environmental science, international development, trade, and infrastructure planning, focusing on Africa. The best papers from the lectures will again be published as a book. The presentations will be virtual and, if possible, include physical presence at the ELC in the Summer and Winter semesters of 2022.

As the Global North retreats from climate change mitigation to adaptation and now resilience, it is increasingly evident that integrating any of these options into trade and development plans at national and regional levels is imperative for sustainable development. Unfortunately, there are differing interests in the Global North and a waning interest in the Global South for ethical trade and development

practices needed to reduce the effects of climate disruption and preserve desirable Earth for future generations. The drive for economic development in the North and South is still at a level that pitches the economy against the environment and may remain so until the world agrees on an international ethical standard that will reflect our concern for the fragility of our global climate. Africa is a resource-rich continent but under severe pressure to curtail its high development deficit. A major initiative by the continent is the Agreement establishing the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), which, when it comes into effect, will cover a market of 1.2 billion people and a gross domestic product of \$2.5 trillion across all 55 member states of the African Union. According to projections, the active participation of the majority of the member states will contribute to steady economic development in African countries and increased investment in development projects. But this drive for Africa's economic prosperity may further worsen the situation for Africa if trade and development projects are implemented without regard for ethical climate practices.

Abstracts of 250 words should be sent to Dr. Dennis Agelebe, Senior Research Fellow at the ELC and an Associate Member of the GSSC, at environmental-law-center@uni-koeln.de before midnight Central European Time, May 15, 2022. First lectures will take place on June 24, with subsequent dates to be announced.

Contact Environmental Law Center

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