



# Africa Network on Health and Human Rights

in collaboration with the Groningen Centre for Health Law (GCHL)

## Webinar on Health, Climate Change and Human Rights

Friday, 21 April 2023

4:00pm - 5:30pm East Africa time

*How can the law, particularly human rights law, be applied to shield humans from changes brought about by climatic and environmental factors?*

The Africa Network on Health and Human Rights brings together academics, researchers, and practitioners in the area of health, law and human rights focused on Africa generally.

**Facilitators** Dr Naomi Njuguna, Faculty of Law, University of Nairobi, Kenya  
Maurice Oduor, School of Law, Moi University, Kenya

### Agenda

4.00 - 4.15 pm

#### **Welcome**

Introduction of webinar theme

Introduction of participants

Facilitator: Maurice Oduor

4.15 – 4.25 pm

#### **Speaker 1: Emmaquate Kemunto Morang'a: 'Carbon exchange and human rights in Africa'**

Emmaquate Kemunto Morang'a is an Advocate of the High Court of Kenya and a Certified Professional Mediator. She is a Master of Laws (Environmental Law) Candidate at the University of Nairobi. Currently, her work spans business and human rights, environmental justice, climate change, and energy transition. She has experience working with indigenous communities in enhancing their capacity to assert their human rights in climate change, energy transition, and natural resource governance.

Emmaquate is the Founder of the Climate Change Lawyers Café (CCLC), a pan-African platform on a mission to enhance the role of law and lawyers in just climate action for Africa. She has worked as a Campaigner at the Kenya Civil Society Platform on Oil and Gas and was previously an Environmental Justice Legal Fellow at Natural Justice. Emmaquate is a visionary, a lifelong student, and a changemaker who is passionate about human rights-

based approaches to sustainable development and climate action.

Facilitator: Dr Naomi Njuguna

4.25 – 4.35 pm

Plenary/discussion

4.35 – 4.45 pm

**Speaker 2: Vincent Mutai: 'Environmental justice and the right to health'**

Vincent Kiplangat Mutai is a lecturer at the Moi University School of Law and an Advocate of the High Court of Kenya. Presently he is undertaking his doctoral studies at the University of Pittsburgh on the research area of improving access to medicine through utilization of the TRIPS Agreement exceptions in international trade. He is a frequent commentator on health law issues in Kenya.

Facilitator: Dr Naomi Njuguna

4.45 – 4.55 pm

**Discussion/plenary**

4.55 – 5.05 pm

**Speaker 3: Prof Collins Odote & Susan Yara: 'Implications of climate change on Health: Focus on Zoonotic Diseases'**

Collins Odote is an Advocate of the High Court of Kenya with a Doctor of Philosophy in Law from the University of Nairobi. He is currently an Associate Professor of Law and the Associate Dean at the Faculty of Law and Research Director of the Centre for Advanced Studies in Environmental Law and Policy (CASELAP) both at the University of Nairobi. He is also an arbitrator and a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators and a member of the Law Society of Kenya. Professor Odote also serves as the Chairperson of the Association of Environmental Law Lecturers in Africa (ASELLAU). His teaching and research instruments include land law, environment and natural resource management and governance.

Susan Yara is an Advocate of the High Court of Kenya and a PhD candidate (Environmental Law) at the Faculty of Law, University of Nairobi. Her doctoral research is interdisciplinary in nature, focusing on ecosystem disruptions and zoonotic diseases; looking at the link between human health, animal health and environmental health for sustainability. Susan currently teaches at the School of Biological Sciences, Department of Biology at the University of Nairobi. She is also a researcher at the Committee on Fiscal Studies (CFS) based at University of Nairobi. Her main areas of research and teaching include environmental governance, natural resource management and tax law.

Facilitator: Dr. Naomi Njuguna

5.05 – 5.20 pm

**Discussant: Dr Robert Kibugi**

Dr. Robert Kibugi is a Kenyan environmental lawyer who holds Doctor of Laws (LL.D) degree from the Faculty of Law, University of Ottawa. He also holds a Bachelor of Laws (LL.B) and Master of Laws (LL.M – environmental law) from the University of Nairobi. Dr. Kibugi is currently a Senior Lecturer in Law at the Faculty of Law, University of Nairobi where he teaches various undergraduate, Master and PhD courses. This include Law of Torts, Land Use Law (LL.B & LL.M), Climate Change Law (LL.B & LL.M), Environmental Liability (PhD Environmental Law), Environmental Law and Institutional Frameworks (PhD Environmental Governance). Dr Kibugi also supervises LL.B Student Writing projects; LL.M Research Projects; and Theses for MA and PhD candidates, and has successfully supervised many graduate (LL.M, MA and PhD) students to completion. Dr. Kibugi is a legal and policy researcher working, inter alia, on legal, policy and institution aspects of climate change adaptation and mitigation; water sector legal and institutional reforms; climate resilience in the water sector; public participation in natural resource governance; land reform on the use of law to realize sustainable land, and implementation of constitutional provisions on land law.

## **Discussion**

5.20 - 5.30 pm

**Summary and closure**