

THE *Alison L. Des Forges* MEMORIAL COMMITTEE INVITES YOU TO

AN INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON

Climate Change and Africa: Impacts and Responses



FREE EVENT

**WEDNESDAY
APRIL 10, 2019**

9AM – 4PM

**107 CAPEN HALL
NORTH CAMPUS
UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO**



Human beings originated in Africa about 100,000 years ago and have developed societies during the last 100 years that have contributed to climate change, which risks making the globe uninhabitable for our species and many others. This symposium will examine manifestations of global warming in Africa, its differential impacts on African populations, and the successes and failures of African and international institutions as they attempt to mitigate the climate change process, develop sustainable economies, and ensure social resilience.

Schedule of Events

9:00 REGISTRATION AND WELCOMING REMARKS

9:30-11:45 HUMAN IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

**Insecurity and Climate Change in Dryland West Africa:
Disentangling the Dynamics in the Countryside**

Leif V. Brottem, Grinnell College

Niger Delta, Climate Change, and Trauma of the Future

Cajetan Iheka, University of Alabama

**Xenophobia under a Changing Sky: Emigration from the
Sahel to Europe**

Jesse Ribot, American University

12:00-1:00 LUNCH

1:00-2:30 POVERTY AND POLITICS: ENERGY AND FOOD RESOURCES

**Regreening: Recent Progress in Africa and Opportunities to
Improve Crop Production and Restore Resilience to Climate
Change**

Robert Winterbottom, EverGreening Global Alliance

**Cultural Politics of Energy and Unity in Post-Genocide Rwanda:
Methane Extraction on Lake Kivu**

Kristin Doughty, University of Rochester

2:30-4:00 HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

**Effects of Kenya's Mega Infrastructure Projects on
Environment in the Coastal City of Lamu and the Plight
of Environmental Activists**

Otsieno Namwaya, Human Rights Watch

**Climate Change and Security: Displacement, Scarcity and
Increasing Competition for Natural Resources**

Marcos Orellana, Human Rights Watch

4:00-4:30 WRAP-UP GENERAL DISCUSSION

SPONSORS: Alison Des Forges Memorial Committee; University at Buffalo Baldy Center for Law and Social Policy; UB Department of Civil, Structural and Environmental Engineering; UB Department of Comparative Literature; UB Department of History; UB Gender Institute; UB Humanities Institute; UB James Agee Chair in American Culture; UB RENEW Institute; UB Department of Political Science; UB Sustainability; UB Office of the Vice Provost for International Education.

This symposium honors the life and work of human rights activist Alison Des Forges (1942-2009).

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