

Concept Note for Side Event: Human Rights in the Implementation of the Convention and Paris Agreement

Tuesday, December 10, 2019

16:45-18:15

Room 5

Human rights based climate responses contribute to more effective climate action and ensure synergies with social policies.

The past decade has seen increasing linkages between climate change and human rights as well as the recognition that human rights are impacted by climate change and human rights can drive effective and ambitious climate action. These linkages have been reflected outside of the UNFCCC in human rights bodies, courts, and UN Special Procedures mandate holders, among others. This trend also has been reflected in the UNFCCC as over the last decade an increasing number of decisions taken by the Parties have included reference to human rights and human rights principles. And importantly, this growing recognition has also been reflected by countries in their domestic policies and international reporting.

As Parties move to develop their new nationally determined contributions (NDCs), human rights should offer a valuable lens through which to create your NDCs. Human rights and participatory processes that include wide-ranging consultations with local communities, indigenous peoples, and women, among others, lead to more ambitious climate action.

On this International Human Rights Day, panelists including representatives from governments, human rights institutions, and NGOs will reflect on the increasing recognition between human rights and climate change and will look to the future for how human rights can be better integrated to drive climate action.

Panelists:

- Carole Dieschbourg, Minister for the Environment, Climate and Sustainable Development, Luxembourg
- H.E. Dr. Satyendra Prasad, Fiji's Permanent Representative to the United Nations
- David Boyd, UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights & Environment
- Soledad Garcia Muñoz, Inter-American Commission's Special Rapporteur on Economic, Social, Cultural, and Environmental Rights
- Commissioner Roberto Cadiz, Commission on Human Rights of the Philippines
- Angele Alook, Member, Big Stone Cree Nation; Assistant Professor at York University
- Moderator: Erika Lennon, Senior Attorney, Center for International Environmental Law (CIEL)