DEPARTMENT OF LAW & CRIMINOLOGY, ABERYSTWYTH UNIVERSITY

2ND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON JUST TRANSITION AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

THEME:

Emerging Developments & Implications for a Just Transition

DATE: 10th – 11th September 2026
VENUE: Medrus Conference Centre, 1ST Floor, Penbryn Building, Penglais Campus

About the Conference

The 2nd International Conference on Just Transition and Environmental Justice builds upon the Maiden Conference which took place in July 2023 at the University of Bradford, England titled 'Just Transitions and Environmental Justice: Principles, Practice and Implementation Strategies for a Post-oil Future.'

The inaugural Conference on Just Transition offered key insights on strategies for the implementation of a just transition for all towards realising environmental sustainability at

international, regional and national levels. The focus of this 2nd Conference is therefore on emerging developments on just transition, including the geopolitics and tensions around interpretations of the benefits and costs of decarbonization, and strategies to advance just transition concerns at global levels. This conference will also interrogate the implications of global political alignments on energy sector divestments, the potential of multistakeholder dialogues to counter pushbacks against decarbonization, and issues around access to climate financing for just transition based on the outcomes of the UNFCCC Conference of Parties (CoP) 30 in November-December 2025.

Objective of the Conference

The conference aims to bring together key stakeholders including leading experts from various communities of practice and professions, including academia, civil society organisations, technocrats, businesses, regulators, and other stakeholders. Participants will deliberate on the successful implementation of strategies for just transition and environmental justice in a post-oil future since 2015, and current global developments for a just transition. The deliberations will engage with critical concerns such as the broader implications of the transition for climate justice and financing, the impacts of climate change on communities in the African region, existing political alignments and implications for natural resources divestment; current adaptation and mitigation approaches in a post-oil future, access to justice for vulnerable and affected communities, and effective governance, legal, regulatory and fiscal frameworks encompassing these issues.

The conference also provides a forum to identify diverse pathways for implementing just transition, emerging developments and implications for a just transition, and the role of effective legal frameworks for access to environmental justice at global levels.

Conference Keynote and Plenary Speakers

Professor Damilola S. Olawuyi, SAN *(Independent Expert, UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights, Professor of Law and UNESCO Chair, Hamad Bin Khalifa University in Qatar)*
Mr Dan Leader (*Barrister and Partner, Leigh Day Solicitors UK)*
Professor Anna Zalik (*York University, Canada*)
Professor Engobo Emeseh (*Professor of Environmental & Energy Law)*
Dr Emomotimi John Agama (*Director-General, Securities & Exchange Commission SEC, Nigeria*)
Professor Anna Mdee (*University of Leeds, UK*)
Mr Olanrewaju Suraju (*Chairman, Human and Environmental Development Agenda (HEDA) Resource Centre*)
Dr Pedi Obani (*UKRI Fellow & Associate Professor, University of Bradford*)
Dr Babatunde Ajayi (*Lagos State Environmental Protection Agency LASEPA, Nigeria*)
Dr Emem Okon (*Kebetakche Women Development & Resource Centre*)
Vanessa Gray (*University of Toronto*)
Professor Olanrewaju A. Fagbohun, SAN (*Partner, Xentia LP & Founder, Environmental Law Research Institute*)
Dr Isaac Osuoka (*Coordinator, Social Action International*)
Dr Kathryn Nwajiaku-Dahou (*Director Politics & Governance, ODI Global*)
Dr Irekpitan Okukpon (*Assistant Professor, University of Bradford)*

PROGRAMME

DAY ONE – 10th September 2026	
TIME	**ACTIVITY**
9.00am-9.30am	Arrival/ Registration
9.30 – 9.40am	**1. Opening Ceremony**
9.40 – 9.50am	**2. Introduction to the Conference –** Professor Engobo Emeseh
9.50 – 10.05am	**3. Welcome Address** by Professor Mathew Jarvis, Associate Faculty Pro-Vice Chancellor (Research), Faculty of Humanities, Aberystwyth University
10.05 – 10.35am	**4. Keynote Address: Emerging Developments and Implications for a Just Transition** by Professor Damilola S. Olawuyi, SAN
10.35 – 10.45am	**Comments/Questions and Observations**

ELRI Gender Inclusive Climate Change Governance Championing climate justice through gender equality HEDA RESOURCE CENTRE JUST CLEAN-UP IWG environmental & urban change YORK UNIVERSITÉ UNIVERSITY LEIGH DAY Association of Environmental Law Lecturers in Middle East and North African Universities جمعية محاضري القانون البيئي في جامعات الشرق الأوسط وشمال إفريقيا

10.45am – 10.55am	Introduction and Launch of the Society for Just Transition and Environmental Justice
10: 55am -11:00am	**Health Break**
11.00 – 11.50am	**Plenary 1: Financing Just Transition- Chair Prof. Lanre Fagbohun** **Speaker: Dr Emomotimi Agama**
11.50am - 12.00noon	Health Break
12noon – 1pm	**Panel I: From the Frontlines: Lived Experiences of Communities in ' JustTransition' (Canada, Nigeria, Wales)** **Presenters:** Vanessa Gray Emem Okon Niamh Maria McNally Kathryn Nwajiaku-Dahou
1.00 – 2.00pm	**Lunch Break**
Plenary 2: Geopolitical Governance and Just Transition- Chair Dr Isaac Osuoka	
2.00 – 3.00pm	Panellists: • Professor Anna Zalik (*University of York, Canada*) • Professor Anna Mdee (*University of Leeds, UK*)
BREAK-OUT SESSIONS	

3.00pm – 4.00.pm	**Breakout Session 1** **Chair:** Dr Erebi Ndoni/Dr Irekpitan Okukpon *(University of Bradford)*	**Breakout Session 2** **Chair:** Dr Dakota Ward	**Breakout Session 3** **Chair:** Dr Ovo Imoedemhe *(University of Bradford)*
	Governing by Whom and for Whom? The Geopolitics of Urban AI Governance and its Implications for Equitable Transition Desmond Lartey *(Mary Immaculate College)*	*Environmental Justice in Indonesia's Solar Transition: Comparative Lessons from India and China* Mohammed Rifky Riqqullah & Shabira Damarti *(Jawa Barat, Indonesia)*	*The Unjust Transition from Coal in Wales: Impact to Communities and its Environmental Risk Legacy* Niamh Maria McNally (*Aberystwyth University*)
	The Paradox of the Informal Sector: The Implications of Oil Theft and Artisanal Refining on Just Transition Policy in Nigeria Leton K Marcus (*University of Bradford)*	*Artificial Intelligence, Technological Warfare and Just Transition in a Post-oil Future* Rajat Shandilya & Mohd Yusuf *(Jindal Global Law School, O.P. Jindal Global University, Sonipat, Haryana, India)*	*Whose Knowledge Counts? Intergenerational Governance for a Just Transition in Botswana* Tebogo Modisagape (*Val Impact Foundation)* & Bonolo Segale (*Climate & International Development Policy, Botswana)*
	Legitimate Expectations, Climate Justice and Governance in Nigeria: Enforcing State Climate Promises for a Just Decarbonisation Dr. Uduimho Walter Imoedemhe *(University of Benin)*	*Trusted Stakeholder Convenings as a Foundation for an International Just Transition* Hina West & Gaia Campanelli [*Climate Strategies]*	*Whose Consent, Whose Land? The Belem Action Mechanism, and the Unfinished Business of a Global Just Transition* Denye Toju Amadi [*Aberystwyth University]*
4.10pm – 5.00pm	Regroup/Final Modalities for Day 1		

6.00pm	Conference Dinner Dress code: Business Casual
DAY TWO – SEPTEMBER 11TH 2026	
9.00 – 9.15am	Recap of Day One/Tea + Coffee
9.15am – 10.00am	**Keynote Speaker: Mr Dan Leader (Leigh Day Solicitors, UK) – Environmental Justice Litigation**
10.00 – 11.00am	**Plenary 3** **Oil Industry Divestment and the Future of Just Transition in the Global South** **Chair**: Prof. Anna Zalik Panellists: • Professor Engobo Emeseh • Dr Isaac Osuoka • Dr Kathryn Nwajiaku • Mr Olanrewaju Suraju

<table>
<tr><td>11.00am – 11.55pm</td><td colspan="3">Plenary 4: Climate Litigation and Environmental Justice

Chair: Dr Pedi Obani

Panellists:
• Professor ‘Lanre Fagbohun (Environmental Law Research Institute)
• Dr Babatunde Ajayi (Lagos State Environmental Protection Agency)
• Dr Irekpitan Okukpon (University of Bradford)</td></tr>
<tr><td>11.55am – 12.00noon</td><td colspan="3">Health Break</td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="2">12.00pm – 1.00pm</td><td>Breakout Session 4

Chair: Dr Stephanie Diri (Arden University)</td><td>Breakout Session 5

Chair: Dr Eghosa Ekhator (Univ. of Derby)</td><td>Breakout Session 6

Chair: Dr Pedi Obani (Univ. of Bradford)</td></tr>
<tr><td>Data Colonialism and the Unjust Transition: Environmental Surveillance, Indigenous Rights, and the Case for Data Justice

Durdana Chowdhury (University of Dhaka)</td><td>Climate Litigation and the Just Energy Transition: Rights-Based Remedies for Coal-Affected Communities in Mpumalanga, South Africa

Matilda Chukuemeka (Ismal Mahomed Centre for Human and Peoples’ Rights)</td><td>Towards a Just Regulatory Framework for Resumption of Oil Exploration and Environmental rights Protection of Host Communities in Nigeria

Ebiemere Osaro [Rivers State University, Nigeria]</td></tr>
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	Prevented Futures: Strengthening Public Trust and Legitimacy for a Just Transition through Retrospective Efficacy Communication Aderopo Ayodele Egbeleke (*Belfast, Ireland)*	*An Assessment of Environmental Justice and Human Rights in Nigeria: A Health Perspective* Agbo Friday Ojonugwa [*Veritas University, Abuja, Nigeria]*	*Climate Litigation and Just Transition in the Global South - India's Emerging Pathway for Climate Justice and Decarbonisation* Rohit Bhatachaarya (*University of Warwick)*
	Intersectional Climate Justice and Sustainable Mobility in Rural Ireland Lorraine Lally **(***Independent Researcher, Ireland*)	*Intellectual Property Governance and Environmental Justice: Integrating Indigenous Knowledge in Global Frameworks* Tshimangadzo Donald Mukevho (*North-West University, South Africa)*	*From Extraction to Exit: Host Community Participation as a Cornerstone of Just Transition in Oil Industry Divestment* Deborah Kobani (*Liverpool Hope University*)
			Environmental Health Risks, Health Outcomes Community Experiences, and Healthcare Access in Oil-Producing Low- and Middle-Income Countries: A Scoping Review Akeibomo Penuel (*University of Aberdeen),* Lucia D'Ambruoso (*Umea University*) & Pamela Abott (*University of Aberdeen)*

1pm – 2pm	Lunch Break
2.00pm – 3.00pm	**Plenary 5: Gender Dimensions, Community Voices & Indigenous Peoples Chair**: Professor Anna Mdee Panellists: • Dr Emem Okon • Vanessa Gray • Dr Pedi Obani
3.00pm – 3.20pm	**Key Outcomes from the Conference:** **Moderator:** Dr Ovo Imoedemhe/Ms Denye Toju Amadi
3.20pm – 3.30pm	**Plenary Report Back/Presentation of Conference Communique –** Dr Stephanie Diri
3.30pm – 4.00pm	Closing Remarks/Formal Closing of Conference