



INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP

Marine Resource Sustainability

Challenges in Southern Africa
and the West Indian

"Promoting the interface between
ocean science, society, and policy
for sustainable blue economies in Africa"

29 - 30 JUNE 2023

@ NELSON MANDELA UNIVERSITY
OCEAN SCIENCES CAMPUS

B- Block Conference Hall, Ocean Sciences Campus
Gomery Avenue, Summerstrand, Port Elizabeth, South Africa

MARINE RESOURCE SUSTAINABILITY CHALLENGES IN SOUTHERN AFRICA AND THE WEST INDIAN OCEAN

Promoting the interface between ocean science, society and policy for sustainable blue economies in Africa

Background

Sustainable blue economies are an increasingly important policy objective that aims to promote the conservation and sustainable use of the ocean and marine resources for sustainable development. Southern Africa's coastal and marine areas and the West Indian Ocean are least studied and understood despite that they are home to more than 60 million ocean-dependent people. Many coastal countries are classified as least developed and heavily indebted countries. The region is experiencing excessive rapid ocean warming, increasing frequency/intensity of marine heat waves, and intensified frequency of tropical cyclones. They reflect climate-induced tipping points in the Indian ocean Dipole and interacting El Niño and La Niña. The primary productivity in the Southern Africa's marine and coastal areas and the West Indian Ocean has declined by 30% due to the changes in ocean biogeochemical and marine food webs. They cause adverse impacts on local livelihoods, culture and create hardship as there is an increasing competition in meagre-land resources. The decline in primary productivity is considered as causes for conflicts, malnutrition, migration and human plight. Sufficient attention has not yet given to the fast creeping 'hidden' catastrophe, and is unnoticed by the international community. Local societal responses are limited due to the inadequate human and science capital and deficient science infrastructure that entrenches the continuous depletion of marine and coastal resources.

Sustainable blue economies and their potentials in Africa were underlined at the global Sustainable Blue Economy Conference (SBEC) held in November 2018 in Nairobi and reiterated at the 2nd UN Ocean Conference held in Lisbon in June 2022. It was also underlined at the 8th Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD 8) and its related event held in Tunis in August 2022. In the light of the potential that South Africa and the other countries in southern Africa and the West Indian Ocean in benefiting from the promotion of sustainable blue economies, the Workshop aims to make an assessment of the situation in Southern Africa's marine and coastal areas and the West Indian Ocean and examine the role of the enabling policies, regional cooperation and international partnership in forging marine resource sustainability and abating the erosion of resources. It is proposed to pursue the development of partnership between South Africa and Japan through the collaboration between the Mbeki Foundation, Nelson Mandela University and the Ocean Policy Research Institute of the Sasakawa Peace Foundation.

MARINE RESOURCE SUSTAINABILITY CHALLENGES IN SOUTHERN AFRICA AND THE WEST INDIAN OCEAN

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Format

It is proposed to convene the International Workshop on Sustainable Blue Economies – Stakeholder Empowerment and Partnership Development at the Nelson Mandela University Port Elizabeth and George/ Gquberha, South Africa from 29 – 30 June 2023. The experts and practitioners will address achievements, potentials and challenges in promoting sustainable blue economies in Africa and exchanging some good practices and innovative approaches including those contemplated in Japan and other countries. The participants will address the state of ocean, marine ecosystem conservation, sustainable fisheries, aquaculture, blue tourism, climate change impacts, renewable energy, illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing elimination, marine substance and plastic pollution elimination, maritime security, human resource development, blue financing and capacity development.

Based on the outcome of the workshop, it is proposed to convene the International Forum on Sustainable Blue Economies – Opportunities and Challenges, Pretoria, 4 July 2023. It is expected that the high level representatives and experts will address the Forum.

Modalities

The Workshop and Forum will be co-organized by the Nelson Mandela University, the Mbeki Foundation and the Ocean Policy Research Institute of the Sasakawa Peace Foundation (OPRI-SPF). The OPRI-SPF will cover the financial cost of convening the Workshop and Forum in line with its work plan.



CONTACT

Masanori Kobayashi, Senior Research Fellow, Ocean Policy Research Institute of the Sasakawa Peace Foundation (m-kobayashi@spf.or.jp)

Workshop Agenda

Day ONE [29 JUNE 2023]

SESSION 1 OPENING (10 MIN TALKS)

Chair: Mr Odwa Mtati (SAIMI CEO)

9h00	Representative of the Nelson Mandela University	Dr Derrick Swartz
	Representative of the Thabo Mbeki Foundation	Mr Max Boqwana
	Representative of the Ocean Policy Research Institute of the Sasakawa Peace Foundation	Dr Hide Sakaguchi(virtual)
	African Union Development Agency-NEPAD	Dr Bernice Mclean
09h40	Introductions, approaches, agenda Co-Benefits and Synergies of Sustainable Blue Economies	Prof Massanori Kobayashi (Sasakawa Foundation)

SESSION 2 LARGE-TRANSBOUNDARY MARINE ECOSYSTEMS (20 MINS TALKS)

10h00	Overview: The Agulhas Current Large Marine Ecosystem (LME) and importance to neighbouring countries	Prof Mike Roberts on behalf of Prof Sauer
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10h20 REFRESHMENT BREAK (20 MIN)

10h40	Seaweed aquaculture in South Africa and its positive environmental impact	Dr Sebastiaan de Vos (SeaH4)
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11h00	Coastal/Marine Environments of Southern Africa: Conservation,	Dr Brian Mubiwa(UNEP)
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11h20	State of the ocean environment (including ocean warming/ Climate Change)	Prof Mike Roberts (NMU)
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11h40	Discussion/Questions & Answers (20 min)	
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12h00 LUNCH (60 MIN)

SESSION 3 CHALLENGES IN SUSTAINABLE OCEAN AND MARINE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT IN SOUTHERN AFRICA AND THE WEST INDIAN OCEAN (20 MIN TALKS)

Chair: Ms Vanessa Davidson (Saldanha Bay IDZ)

13h00	Setting the scene: Regional geographical and socio-economic characteristics, EEZs, coastal populations, GDPs	Prof Rose Boswell (SARChI Research Chair in Ocean Cultures and Heritage)
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13h20	Sustainable blue economies policies	Ms Yvonne Waweru (Western Indian Ocean Governance Initiative)
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13h40	IUU fishing elimination and geopolitical risks	Prof Hennie van As (NMU) Dr Jack Dyer (Oceans Research Consultant, virtual)
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14h20	Sustainable fisheries and socio-economic impacts	Dr Sven Ebo Kerwath
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14h40	Sustainable aquaculture — the solution for food security/blue economy	Dr Charlene Da Silva
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15h00 REFRESHMENT BREAK (20 MIN)

15h20	Discussion and synthesis (40 min)	
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16h20 DAY PROCEEDINGS CLOSE

NETWORKING DINNER

Facilitator: Dr Tanaka Mugabe (SAIMI)

15h20	Welcome drinks and Jazz Band performance	
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15h20	Opening and Welcome	Mr Odwa Mtati (CEO SAIMI)
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15h20	Word of Support towards International Partnerships	Mr Bongani Kupe (The Thabo Mbeki Foundation)
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15h20	Word of Support towards Sustainability of Oceans	Prof Tommy Bornman (SAEON)
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15h20	Keynote for collaboration	Prof Massanori Kobayashi (Sasakawa Foundation)
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15h20	Dinner and entertainment	
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Workshop Agenda

Day TWO [30 JUNE 2023]

SESSION 3 (CONT'D) INNOVATIVE APPROACHES TO COASTAL AND MARINE RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT

Chair: Prof Massanori Kobayashi (Sasakawa Foundation)

9h00	Blue carbon conservation - incentive schemes for seagrass restoration and seaweed farming	Dr Atsushi Watanabe, (Ocean Policy Research Institute of the Sasakawa Peace Foundation)
09h20	Sustainable fisheries and aquaculture and community empowerment in Africa	Mr Mitsuhiro Ishida, (Senior Expert, Japan International Cooperation Agency)
09h40	Potential and challenges of offshore wind renewable energy	Mr Takashi Harada, Director-General, Toda Cooperation

10h00 Discussion and synthesis

10h20 REFRESHMENT BREAK (20 MIN)

SESSION 4 SCIENCE-SOCIETY-POLICY INTERFACE (20 MIN TALKS)

Chair: Ms Vanessa Davidson

10h30	National ocean policies, institutional frameworks, and programs	Mr Dumisani Ntuli (Department of Transport)
10h50	Blue tourism	Dr Lynn Jonas (NMU)
11h20	Discussion and synthesis	

SESSION 5 SCIENCE-SOCIETY-POLICY INTERFACE (20 MIN TALKS)

Chair: Prof Stephen Hoskings

11h20	Ocean based renewable energy	Prof James Joubert
11h40	Ocean based renewable energy	Prof Moctar Doucouré (NMU)
12h00	Marine plastic elimination	Sustainable Sea Trust (SST)
12h20	Legal aspects of national and sub-regional ocean governance in the south-western Indian Ocean	Prof Patrick Vrancken (SARChI Research Chair in Law of the Sea)
12h30	Human resource/leadership development	Mr Odwa Mtati (SAIMI)
12h45	Blue financing and start-up support	Prof Stephen Hoskings (SAIMI)
13h15	Discussion and synthesis	

WORKSHOP CLOSE

13h30 LUNCH (60 MIN)

14h30	CAMPUS TOUR AND NMU CAMPUS PRESENTATION	Mr Imtiyaaz Malick (SAEON) Mr Graham Gouws Presentation of NMU (NMU)
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Speaker BIOS

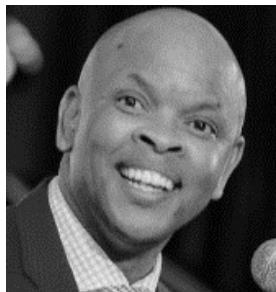
Day ONE [29 JUNE 2023]

SESSION 1 OPENING



**MR MASANORI
KOBAYASHI**

Mr. Masanori Kobayashi is Senior Research Fellow, Ocean Policy Research Institute (OPRI) of the Sasakawa Peace Foundation (SPF) in Tokyo, Japan. He undertakes research work on ocean and sustainability policy including sustainable blue economies, marine resource management, sustainable fisheries and marine renewable energies. He worked on sustainability issues at the Ocean Policy Research Foundation, the Yokohama National University, the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies, the United Nations (New York, Geneva and Bonn) and the Permanent Mission to the United Nations in New York of the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He holds LL.M (University of Georgia School of Law), M.A. (International Christian University), LL.B. (Chiba University), and completed the doctor course without degree on life and agricultural sciences (University of Tokyo). Kobayashi, M. et al (2022) Capitalizing on Co-Benefits and Synergies to Promote the Blue Economy in Asia and the Pacific". In: Morgan, P. et al. eds. Blue Economy and Blue Finance – Toward Sustainable Development and Ocean Governance. Asian Development Bank Institute, pp. 150 – 189., Kobayashi, M. (2022) "The COVID-19 impacts and challenges to achieving sustainability in Japan's fisheries and aquaculture". Marine Policy, 143, pp. 1-10., Kobayashi, M. (2017) Sustainable Development Goal 14 for Conservation and Sustainable Use of Oceans and Resources: Strategies and Challenges for Pacific Small Island Developing States" Journal of Japan Society of Ocean Policy and Kobayashi, M. (2014) Participatory Sustainability Research for Risk Management and Leadership Development" Springer, 2014



**MR XOLANI
MAXWELL BOQWANA**

(Thabo Mbeki Foundation)

Max is an accomplished lawyer with a stellar international reputation. With 27 years of experience, he has held leadership positions in both domestic and foreign legal practices. Max began his career as an Articled Clerk and quickly rose to become a director at a prominent law firm. He later established his own successful firm specializing in corporate consulting, particularly in the fields of oil and gas and international law. Throughout his career, Max has worked on high-profile cases and transactions, representing a diverse range of clients, including high-net-worth individuals, multinational corporations, and government departments. He has also played a significant role in the growth and development of the legal profession, mentoring numerous young lawyers and leading various legal bodies. Max's expertise and extensive network have allowed him to present papers and lectures in multiple countries and serve on international expert panels. In recognition of his achievements, he has received prestigious honors and awards, including being rated among the top 100 lawyers in South Africa.

Speaker BIOS

Day ONE [29 JUNE 2023]

SESSION 1 OPENING

MR LUKHANYO NEER

(Thabo Mbeki Foundation)

Lukhanyo Neer is currently Programmes and Projects Lead for the Thabo Mbeki Foundation and helps to drive the Foundation's mission of achieving Africa's renaissance by developing and implementing projects and programmes aimed at solving the political, social and economic challenges that Africa faces.

In 2019, he was Convenor of the Thabo Mbeki Foundation's Working Group on Education in the Age of the 21st Century, a multi-stakeholder working group comprised of educators, academics, civil society, business, policymakers and thought leaders to tackle the complex question of what practical steps South Africa needs to take in order to lay the foundation for a successful transition to a new epoch in education.

Additionally, Lukhanyo is chairperson of the Heavy Chef Foundation, an education nonprofit focused on inclusive entrepreneur education that aims to provide access to learning for disconnected entrepreneurs.

DR. BERNICE MCLEAN

(NEPAD)

Lukhanyo Neer is currently Programmes and Projects Lead for the Thabo Mbeki Foundation and helps to drive the Foundation's mission of achieving Africa's renaissance by developing and implementing projects and programmes aimed at solving the political, social and economic challenges that Africa faces.

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Speaker BIOS

Day ONE [29 JUNE 2023]

SESSION 2 LARGE-TRANSBOUNDARY MARINE ECOSYSTEMS

DR BRIAN MUBIWA

(UNEP)

Dr Brian Mubiwa (PhD) is a versatile academic, regional urban planner and compassionate environmentalist. Academically, he holds qualifications in Geography, Applied Remote Sensing and GIS, Environmental Studies, and a PhD in 'Urban Development, Transport and Energy'. He has been involved in various commissioned projects in policy development, strategy formulation, project management/coordination, joint work planning (JWP), as well as project/programme monitoring and evaluation (M&E) and reporting. Those opportunities and experiences have proved valuable platforms to deepen his knowledge in: sustainable development; natural resource management (NRM); biodiversity (ecosystem) conservation, restoration and rehabilitation; climate change vulnerability assessments (CCVA); amalgamated climate action (mitigation and adaptation); disaster risk management, and pollution/waste management. Dr Brian has been working for the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) since 2019, when he joined the UN family in South Africa.



PROF MIKE ROBERTS

(Nelson Mandela University)

Prof Michael Roberts holds a UK-SA Bilateral Research Chair between the National Oceanography Centre (NOC), the University of Southampton (UoS) in the UK and the Nelson Mandela University (NMU) in Port Elizabeth, South Africa. The Chair is co-funded through the UK Newton Fund and the National Research Foundation (NRF), and is focused on Ocean Science and marine Food Security in the Western Indian Ocean. Prof Roberts has over 30 years of experience doing oceanographic and marine ecosystem functioning research in this region covering coastal, slope and deep ocean domains. He has led 6 large international multi-disciplinary, ship-intensive, research projects in the WIO and is well connected to regional and international researchers and institutions. A fundamental component of the Chair is to grow research capacity in WIO using an "Innovation Bridge" approach between NOC, UoS and major research institutions in the Western Indian Ocean.

Speaker BIOS

Day ONE [29 JUNE 2023]

SESSION 3

CHALLENGES IN SUSTAINABLE OCEAN AND MARINE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT IN SOUTHERN AFRICA AND THE WEST INDIAN OCEAN



PROF ROSE BOSWELL

(SARChI Research Chair in Ocean Cultures and Heritage)

Prof. Rose Boswell is an anthropologist, author and poet who is passionate about human diversity, social justice and gender equality. She is presently employed as a National Research Foundation Chair in Ocean Cultures and Heritage, in South Africa. Her current research is focused on the investigation of coastal cultural heritages in five African countries: South Africa, Namibia, Mozambique, Tanzania and Kenya.

Over the past 20 years she has conducted field research on cultural heritage and identity in the southwest Indian Ocean region (Mauritius, Madagascar, Seychelles, Zanzibar). She is author of *Le Malaise Creole: Ethnic Identity in Mauritius* (Oxford, Berghahn Books), *Challenges to Identifying and Managing Intangible Cultural Heritage in Mauritius, Zanzibar and Seychelles* (Dakar, CODESRIA), *Representing Heritage in Zanzibar and Madagascar* (Addis Ababa, Eclipse) and was lead editor of *Postcolonial African Anthropologies* (Pretoria, HSRC Press). Her latest outputs are an edited book: *The Palgrave Handbook of Blue Heritage* (2022) and a poetry anthology *Between Worlds* (2022) on climate change and ocean sustainability. Rose's research teams work across disciplines in Africa and beyond. She is a member of the NRF CoP Ocean Account Framework led by Patrick Vrancken (NMU) and Ken Findlay (CPUT).



MS YVONNE WAWERU

(Western Indian Ocean Governance Initiative)

Yvonne Waweru works as Senior Advisor for the Western Indian Ocean Governance Initiative (WIOGI) project, a partnership project between the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development and the Nairobi Convention Secretariat. She is a lawyer by training and has worked in the Western Indian Ocean region for the last 10 years in research and advisory roles, and inter-governmental policy and legal processes. She has vast experience on regional ocean governance in the Nairobi Convention Area and is mainly engaged in technical and policy aspects of the WIOGI project supporting the development of the Regional Ocean Governance Strategy and Information Management Strategy for the WIO region. This process has enriched her experience on how governments across sectors and various stakeholders can engage in dialogue to collectively work together to conserve and manage their shared coastal and marine resources.

Speaker BIOS

Day ONE [29 JUNE 2023]

SESSION 3

CHALLENGES IN SUSTAINABLE OCEAN AND MARINE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT IN SOUTHERN AFRICA AND THE WEST INDIAN OCEAN



Hennie van As is a Professor of Public Law and Director of the Centre for Law in Action at Nelson Mandela University in South Africa. He is an advocate of the High Court and has extensive experience in constitutional law and fisheries-related crimes. He has established Fisheries Crime Law Enforcement Academies in various African countries with the support of the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Additionally, he is an Honorary Senior Fellow at the Australian National Centre for Ocean Resources and Security.

PROF HENNIE VAN AS

(Nelson Mandela University)



Dr Jack Dyer is a specialist in climate change, development, and blue/ocean economics. He has worked on numerous blue economy projects worldwide, focusing on areas such as aquaculture, marine renewable energy, and sustainable financing mechanisms. He has also been involved in research and consultancy related to ports, logistics, and maritime affairs. Dr Dyer has contributed to the development of sustainable and profitable blue economies, addressing challenges such as climate change and disruptions, and has founded platforms to promote these goals. His expertise spans various regions, including Africa, the South Pacific, and Commonwealth countries.

DR JACK DYER

Speaker BIOS

Day ONE [29 JUNE 2023]

SESSION 3

CHALLENGES IN SUSTAINABLE OCEAN AND MARINE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT IN SOUTHERN AFRICA AND THE WEST INDIAN OCEAN



DR SVEN EBO KERWATH

Sven Kerwath holds post graduate degrees from Friedrich -Alexander University in Erlangen, Germany (MSc), and Rhodes University (PhD). He works as a Specialist Scientist for the Fisheries Research and Development Chief Directorate at DFFE and holds Extraordinary Professorships at Stellenbosch University and UCT where he has supervised 30 students towards their postgraduate degrees. He is an NRF-rated Scientist and has authored more than 80 scientific papers, some of which in high-ranking international journals such as Nature Communications and Nature Ecology and Evolution. He is a passionate field researcher, SCUBA diver with >300 dives in South African waters alone, ROV pilot and boat skipper, and has led and participated in research expeditions from tropical- to Antarctic waters. Prof. Kerwath is the Chair of the Large Pelagics and Sharks Scientific Working Group and a member of the IUCN Snapper, Seabream and Grunt Specialist Group, the National Biodiversity Working Group and the Linefish Scientific Working Group. He regularly provides scientific input and advice on a wide range of topics related to sustainable exploitation of marine living resources. He has represented South Africa internationally as head of scientific delegation to ICCAT, IOTC and CCSBT and headed the international expert panel for the review of South Africa's National Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks.

DR CHARLENE DA SILVA

(DFFE)

Dr Charlene da Silva currently holds the position of Acting Director of Inshore Fisheries Research at the Department of Forestry, Fisheries, and the Environment (DFFE) in South Africa. Within the same department, she serves as a dedicated researcher focusing on shark resources. Her primary area of expertise lies in conducting research on sharks, rays, and chimaeras that are captured by South African fisheries. She actively engages in various scientific working groups that are responsible for providing recommendations on shark management. Moreover, she is a member of the IUCN Shark Specialist Group and serves as the Vice-Chair of the Working Party for Ecosystems and By-catch for the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC), an organization entrusted with the management of sharks and other ETP species caught in tuna fisheries.

Speaker BIOS

Day TWO [30 JUNE 2023]

SESSION 3 (Cont'd)

CHALLENGES IN SUSTAINABLE OCEAN AND MARINE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT IN SOUTHERN AFRICA AND THE WEST INDIAN OCEAN



MR DUMISANI NTULI

(Department of Transport)

An international expert specialising in maritime transport affairs. He served as Head of Maritime Division at the Department of Transport from 2000-2004. Appointed as Alternate Permanent Representative of South Africa to IMO in 2005 and served as its Vice Chairman from 2005 to 2015. Contributed extensively in the work of the IMO and chaired the Council Working Group on Strategic Plan and Risk Management. Also chaired the Marine Environment Protection Committee's Capacity building and Technology Transfer Working Group. On return to SA in 2015 has written the Comprehensive Maritime Transport Policy (CMTP) for South Africa which was approved by Cabinet in 2017; Currently driving the maritime legislation review and alignment with the CMTP and champions the International Maritime Transport Centre 2030 project. He is currently the Chief Director for Maritime Policy and Legislation at the Department of Transport.

He holds BA (Hons) International Relations (London Metropolitan University) (2008); LLM International Law (2009)- London Metropolitan University; MA: Christian Theology (2014)- University of London and LLM: Shipping Law (2018)- University of Cape Town.



DR LYNN JONAS

(Nelson Mandela University)

A Tourism enthusiast with a keen interest in the ocean economy and understanding how tourism fits within this space. As a lecturer in Coastal and Marine Tourism subjects, she encourages students to see tourism as an integral part of the ocean economy and she is constantly striving to ignite a passion in students for protecting the ocean and understanding its immense value to our existence. She obtained a PhD Education with a focus on Coastal and Marine Tourism education at Nelson Mandela University and in order to expand knowledge and understanding of the industry, she is currently in the process of completing a Masters degree in Maritime Studies.

Speaker BIOS

Day TWO [30 JUNE 2023]

SESSION 3 (Cont'd)

CHALLENGES IN SUSTAINABLE OCEAN AND MARINE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT IN SOUTHERN AFRICA AND THE WEST INDIAN OCEAN



PROF JAMES JOUBERT

James is a qualified Civil Engineer with an MSc in Coastal Engineering and a PhD in Mechanical Engineering - all degrees completed at Stellenbosch University. His love of the ocean and passion for sustainable development solutions guided him to pursuing postgraduate studies in wave energy conversion, where he also gained valuable consultancy experience.

Since then, the desire to find practical ways to implement measures that reduce the impact of development on the natural environment has led him to the sustainable- and green building industry. First as a project manager for an eco-residential property developer and currently applying his problem-solving engineering skills to sustainable development at Ecolution Consulting.

He also presents a post-graduate masters short course in hydro and ocean energy at Stellenbosch University's Mechanical Engineering Department and the Centre for Renewable & Sustainable Energy Studies.



PROF MOCTAR DOUCOURÉ

(Nelson Mandela University)

Moctar Doucouré is Consulting Academic in SAIMI, and is co-founder and managing director of AEON - Africa Earth Observatory Network.

He was associate-professor in geophysics at Nelson Mandela University (from 2012 to 2021) where he managed the Karoo shale gas baseline research programme. He previously held the positions of chief operating officer of AEON at the University of Cape Town (UCT; Dec.2008-Dec.2011), and principal specialist geophysicist at De Beers Group Exploration. Prior to these positions, he was senior researcher in geosciences at UCT (1995-2001) and postdoctoral Melon fellow at the Bernard Price Institute of Geophysical Research at Wits University (1989-1994).

Moctar Doucouré has an engineering degree in exploration geophysics from the Hydrocarbon Institute of Algiers (1981) and a doctorate in global geophysics from Université Paris VII, France (1986).

Speaker BIOS

Day TWO [30 JUNE 2023]

SESSION 4 SCIENCE-SOCIETY-POLICY INTERFACE



Professor Patrick Vrancken is the incumbent of the South African Research Chair in the Law of the Sea and Development in Africa, which is funded by the South African National Research Foundation and hosted at Nelson Mandela University, where he is a professor in the Department of Public Law. He also recently became the Deputy Director of the Institute for Coastal and Marine Research.

PROF PATRICK VRANCKEN

(SARChI Research Chair in Law of the Sea)



Odwa Mtati is the Chief Executive Officer of the South African Maritime Institute (SAIMI). He played an instrumental role as a consultant in the establishment of SAIMI in 2014 and formed part of the core team who envisioned and pioneered an entity with the critical task of unlocking the socio-economic potential of South Africa's - and Africa's - maritime environment. Mtati has wide-spread experience in various industries, in particular the blue economy, for which he holds a special passion. He previously also followed a career in the non-governmental organisational sector, higher education, government and the private sector. He holds a Master's Degree in Development Studies from the Nelson Mandela University.

MR ODWA MTATI

(SAIMI)

Speaker BIOS

Day TWO [30 JUNE 2023]

SESSION 4 SCIENCE-SOCIETY-POLICY INTERFACE



DR STACEY WEBB

(Sustainable Sea Trust (SST))

Dr Stacey Webb is the Executive Director of Sustainable Seas Trust (SST). Stacey holds a PhD in Zoology from Nelson Mandela University; her research focus was the elucidation of moult and energetics in Euplectes species (avian physiology). Her career in the NPO sector started as the Eastern Cape Regional Manager at the Southern African Foundation for the Conservation of Coastal Birds (SANCCOB). After working in the rehabilitation environment and seeing the devastation that the ocean and its marine life are subject to, she became concerned with the state of our oceans. The threats that marine birds, other marine mammals and indeed we are faced with, are part of larger global issues. The knowledge of this and the desire to affect change led her to join SST which is an organisation the aims to create "a future where the people of Africa and her seas flourish together". In her present role, she leads a dynamic passionate team of researchers, educators, communicators, economists, and environmental activists, in a drive to solve and create awareness about, complex issues that affect the oceans. SST's largest project is focused on the reduction of plastic waste entering the environment piloted in the Nelson Mandela Bay Area in South Africa, but with a far-reaching impact through collaboration with other African countries on both the East and West Coast of Africa.

DR MATEKENYA WELISWA

(Nelson Mandela University)

Dr. Weliswa Matekenya is a dedicated researcher and academic with expertise in the field of Economics, specializing in various areas such as ocean economics, maritime transport, and seaport management. She has an impressive academic background and a strong commitment to conducting impactful research and contributing to the field of economics. Dr. Matekenya holds a Doctor of Philosophy in Economics from Nelson Mandela University, where her research focused on investigating the macro-economic impact of Ocean Economic financing in South Africa. With experience in academia and research, Dr. Matekenya has been serving as a Lecturer in the Department of Economics at Nelson Mandela University. Dr. Matekenya is actively involved in several ongoing research projects, collaborating with esteemed colleagues on various research areas in the field of Economics. Driven by her passion for understanding economic phenomena and their implications for societal development, Dr. Weliswa Matekenya continues to actively pursue research and engage in scholarly activities that advance knowledge in the field of economics.

