

SYMPOSIUM

ON CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION IN LATIN AMERICA

Peru, Lima, | 20-21 February 2019





BACKGROUND

Similar to what is seen in other parts of the world, there are clear signs of the impacts of climate change to Latin American countries. The region, where a substantial portion of the world's biological diversity can be found, hosts a wide range of ecosystems including rainforests (especially, but not only in the Amazon region) and semi-arid zones. The disruption of natural ecosystems is one of the main causes of biodiversity and ecosystem losses in Latin America, a proportion of which is due to human-induced climate change.

According to the Fifth Assessment Report (AR5) produced by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), climate change in Latin America is likely to contribute towards altering coastal and marine ecosystems, with mangrove degradation being observed on the north coast of South America, for instance.

In addition, AR5 mentions the fact that significant trends in precipitation and temperature have been observed in Central America (CA) and South America (SA) and that changes in climate variability and in extreme events have severely affected the region.

The above state of affairs illustrates the need for a better understanding of how climate change affects the Latin American region, and for the identification of processes, methods and tools, which may help the countries in the region to adapt. There is also a perceived need to showcase successful examples of how to cope with the social, economic and political problems posed by climate change in Latin America.

It is against this background that the “**2nd LATIN AMERICAN SYMPOSIUM ON CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION**” is being organized by the Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú, the Research and Transfer Centre “Sustainable Development and Climate Change Management” of the Hamburg University of Applied Sciences (Germany) and the International Climate Change Information Programme (ICCIP). The Symposium will be a truly interdisciplinary event, mobilizing scholars, practitioners and members of governmental agencies, undertaking research and/or executing climate change projects in Latin America.

The “**2nd LATIN AMERICAN SYMPOSIUM ON CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION**” will focus on “Fostering Climate Resilience in Latin America, meaning that it will serve the purpose of showcasing experiences from research, field projects and best practice to foster climate change adaptation among countries in the region, which may be useful or implemented elsewhere. The event will pay a special emphasis to the need to foster climate change resilience, a key topic in Latin America.

SYMPOSIUM

ON CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION IN LATIN AMERICA



AIMS

Consistent with the need for more cross-sectoral interactions among the various stakeholders working in the field of climate change adaptation in the Latin American region, the aims of the “**2nd LATIN AMERICAN SYMPOSIUM ON CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION**” are as follows:

- I. Provide research institutions, universities, NGOs, government agencies and enterprises from Latin America with an opportunity to display and present their works in the field of climate change adaptation;
- II. Foster the exchange of information, ideas and experiences acquired in the execution of climate change adaptation projects, especially successful initiatives and good practice across the region;
- III. Discuss methodological approaches and experiences deriving from case studies and projects, which aim to show how climate change adaptation may be implemented in practice;
- IV. Network the participants and provide a platform so they can explore possibilities for cooperation.

Finally yet importantly, a further aim of the event will be to document and disseminate the wealth of experiences available today. To this purpose, the **book “Integrating Climate Change Adaptation and Sustainable Development in Latin America”** will be published, with all accepted papers. This will be a further volume of the award-winning book series “Climate Change Management” published by Springer, which, since its creation in 2008, has become the world’s leading book series on climate change management. The decision of the editors as to which papers may be selected and undergo peer review for the book is final.

ORGANISERS

Co-Chairs

- Professor Walter Leal, Hamburg University of Applied Sciences (Germany) and Manchester Metropolitan University (UK)
- Professor David Chávez Muñoz, Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú (Peru)

SYMPOSIUM

ON CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION IN LATIN AMERICA



Scientific Committee

- Maria de Fátima Alves, CFE, Coimbra University, Portugal
- Dr. Nelson Amaro, Galileo University, Guatemala
- Georgina Calderón Aragón, Universidad Autónoma de México, México
- Prof. Ulisses Miranda Azeiteiro, University of Aveiro, Portugal
- Christovam Barcellos, Oswaldo Cruz Foundation, Brazil
- Dr. Juan Carlos Belausteguigoitia, Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México, Mexico
- Flavia Moraes Lins-de-Barros, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- Prof. Harry Diaz, University of Regina, Canada
- Leonardo Freitas, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro and Oswaldo Cruz Foundation, Brazil
- Edmundo Gallo, Oswaldo Cruz Foundation, Brazil
- Luiz Augusto Cassanha Galvão, Pan American Health Organization, Brazil
- Mauro de Lima Gomes, Oswaldo Cruz Foundation, Brazil
- Carlos Machado, Oswaldo Cruz Foundation, Brazil
- Marcos Mendonça, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- Prof. Gustavo Nagy, UdelaR, Uruguay
- Ana Luiza Coelho Netto, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- Guilherme Franco Netto, Oswaldo Cruz Foundation, Brazil
- Letícia Parente Ribeiro, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- Carolina Munhoz Rojas, University of Chile, Chile
- Dr. Víctor Sánchez-Cordero, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Mexico

Scientific Support

- Svenja Scheday, International Climate Change Information Programme (ICCIP)

Cooperating Organisations

- United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- World Health Organisation (WHO)
- World Meteorological Organisation (WMO)
- International Climate Change Information Programme (ICCIP)
- International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI)

SYMPOSIUM

ON CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION IN LATIN AMERICA



PROFILE OF PARTICIPANTS

Delegates attending the “2nd LATIN AMERICAN SYMPOSIUM ON CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION” will come from a cross-sectoral range of areas. These are:

1. Members of NGOs working with climate change;
2. Researchers at universities and research centres;
3. Teaching staff at universities;
4. Representatives from companies;
5. Representatives from UN and national development and aid agencies working with climate change adaptation and funding/ executing projects on the ground;
6. Project officers and consultants;
7. Other people interested in the topic.

The participation of doctoral students is warmly encouraged and supervisors/advisers are kindly requested to facilitate their participation. The sort of international exposure and the rich content of this Symposium will be beneficial to their training and to their future careers.

It is believed that this wide range of participants will help to outline the need for and the usefulness of integrated approaches towards climate change adaptation in Latin America and hence contribute to the further consolidation of this thematic area.

STRUCTURE OF THE EVENT

The “2nd LATIN AMERICAN SYMPOSIUM ON CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION” will be organised in two main strands:

Strand 1: the poster sessions

Participants and organisations will be able to put-up posters describing their works and projects and to distribute the relevant information to the audience. The posters will be an important part of the event and will allow close, one-to-one contacts between the participants and the exhibitors.

Strand 2: the presentations

A set of presentations, divided into six main themes will be organised, distributed over parallel sessions dealing with some of the issues of strategic value in the field of climate change adaptation. These are:

Session 1: Implementing Climate Change Adaptation in Rural Areas and Communities, Cities, Countries and via Outreach Programmes

Session 2: Climate Change Adaptation, Resilience and Hazards (including droughts/floods)

SYMPOSIUM

ON CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION IN LATIN AMERICA



Session 3: Climate Change and Agriculture

Session 4: Information, Communication, Education and Training on Climate Change

Session 5: Climate Change and Health

The plenary and parallel sessions, as well as the social events, will provide participants with an outstanding opportunity to interact, network and learn about the latest ideas, projects and practices, mainstreaming climate change adaptation in the Latin American region.

DEADLINES

Deadline for submission of abstracts: 10th August 2018

Deadline for submission of full papers: 30th October 2018

Deadline for full, revised papers: 30th November 2018

Deadline for registrations: 30th November 2018

Since the conference book is expected to be launched shortly after the event, the deadlines need to be followed.

FEES AND CHARGES

A discounted fee of Euro 250 (professionals) or Euro 125 (for students) plus 19% VAT, will be charged to those who register until 30th August 2018 (early bird registration). After that, delegates will need to pay the full fee of Euro 300 /Euro 150 respectively (plus 19% VAT). The fee includes lunches and coffee breaks on 20th-21st February 2019, as well as the evening reception on 20th February 2019. Furthermore, the fee includes a **on-line copy of the book “Integrating Climate Change Adaptation and Sustainable Development in Latin America”**, to be made available to those authors whose papers have been peer-reviewed and accepted.

SYMPOSIUM

ON CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION IN LATIN AMERICA



Interested people and organisations are encouraged to register by completing the application form provided. **This is a self-funded event and the organisers are unable to pay any travel or accommodation costs** of any kind. They are however happy to issue letters of invitation to support delegates to request funding for their participation.

TIME-TABLE

The “LATIN AMERICAN SYMPOSIUM ON CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION” will be held on 19th-21st February 2019 in Lima, Peru. Lima is a major city, and has many international connections. The schedule is as follows:

19 th February 2019	20 th February 2019
<p>Afternoon: Arrival and set-up of displays</p> <p>Evening: informal get-together of participants for informal chats and networking</p>	<p>All day: Exhibition and visit to displays</p> <p>Morning: Plenary and Sessions</p> <p>Afternoon: Plenary and Sessions</p> <p>Evening: Reception</p>
21 st February 2019 (morning)	21 st February 2019 (afternoon)
<p>Morning: Plenary and Sessions</p> <p>Exhibition and visit to displays</p>	<p>Afternoon: Plenary and Sessions</p> <p>Exhibition and visit to displays</p> <p>Round-table with key experts & Conclusions with the hand over of the Awards for the best papers</p>

SYMPOSIUM

ON CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION IN LATIN AMERICA



In order to ensure an efficient use of the time, delegates are kindly asked to organise their travel in a way that allows them to arrive in Lima in the course of 19th February and travel back on or after the 21st February 2019, so they can fully take part in the Symposium.

REGISTRATION AND CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION

Registrations are now open and are possible until the 30th November 2018. Regrettably, logistical limitations mean that registrations after the deadline may not be possible. Since the space for posters and the time for presentations is limited, **delegates are advised to register as soon as possible**. The organisers will notify any interested delegate or organisation in case there are any limitations with time for presentations or space for displays. Registered delegates will then receive further details on the payment of the fees and updated information on the preparations for the event. The decision as to which papers will be accepted for presentation will be taken by the Chairpersons, following consultation with the organising committee. Participants registering to the event will do so under the condition that they will cover their own travel, accommodation and incidental costs (e.g. visa fees) related to their trip to Rio de Janeiro. **This is a self-funded event and the organisers are unable to pay any travel or accommodation costs of any kind**. Letters of invitation to enter the Republic of Peru can only be sent to bona fide, registered delegates, who have paid their fees and need a document to show their employers. For cancellations of registrations up to 45 days before the event, a 50% refund may be made. For cancellations afterwards, no refunds will be possible. Registrations are now open and may be made on-line at: <http://www.haw-hamburg.de/en/ftz-nk/veranstaltungen/latinamerica2019.html>

CONTACT POINTS FOR SCIENTIFIC INPUTS AND STRATEGIC COOPERATION

All questions related to scientific inputs and strategic partnerships, as well as the book, should be sent to:

Walter Leal (BSc, PhD, DSc, DPhil, DEd, DLitt, FSB, FRGS, FLS)
Professor of Environment and Technology
Hamburg University of Applied Sciences (Germany) and Manchester Metropolitan University (UK)
E-mail: info@iccp.net

and/ or

Prof. David Chávez Muñoz
GTR – PUCP, Chairman
Department of Engineering
Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú
E-mail: dchavez@pucp.edu.pe

SYMPOSIUM

ON CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION IN LATIN AMERICA



CONFERENCE ADMINISTRATION AND CONTACT POINT FOR FURTHER DETAILS

Svenja Scheday
International Climate Change Information Programme
E-mail: svenja.scheday@haw-hamburg.de

HOW TO SUBMIT AN ABSTRACT

An abstract should be up to 200 words, it should describe the rationale and aims of the paper, and some of its results. General descriptions of broad contexts should be avoided. The full contact details about the author(s) need to be provided. Abstracts should be written in the third person and not in the first or second one (e.g. I, me, or my paper). Please see below a sample abstract. Authors whose abstracts have been accepted, will receive further details about how to submit their full papers, and further logistical information. Send your abstract to Svenja Scheday at: svenja.scheday@haw-hamburg.de



Promoting Climate Change Adaptation in Developing Countries: breaking misconceptions and addressing information needs

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Abstract

The impacts of climate change to natural ecosystems, infra-structure and livelihood, means that the implementation of climate change adaptation strategies in developing countries has become a pressing issue. Among other factors, the undertaking of adaptation strategies is made difficult by the general lack of awareness and spread misconceptions about the real impacts of climate change which, in turn, slow down the execution of the adaptation initiatives needed, and which may ameliorate them.

This paper presents an analysis about the misconceptions related to the implementation of climate change adaptation strategies, and describes the most widespread ones, as well as their implications. A special emphasis is given to the problems and barriers caused by misinformation, which – in turn – prevent the promotion of adaptation initiatives at local level. Finally, some concrete steps which may be taken in order to break the misconceptions and foster a more systematic view of adaptation strategies, are outlined. Experiences gathered in this paper will be useful to people and organisations interested in the different levels of responses given to climate changes threats, and on some of the tools which may be used to encourage specific action to adapt to changing climate conditions.