



earth science
cafes
Connecting Science to Society



LAUNCH OF THE EARTH SCIENCE CAFES - 50th ANNIVERSARY OF EARTH DAY 22ND APRIL 2020.

The Network of Africa Women Environmentalists (NAWE) is launching a new initiative called the Earth Science Cafes as an online conference event on the fiftieth (50th) Anniversary Earth Day, April 22nd 2020. Each café event will be theme based with an overall objective of “Connecting Science to Society” based on recognised and respected scientific reports, evidence and background data. We also recognise the importance of indigenous knowledge systems, culture keepers and traditional wisdom in preserving the balance of nature.

DATE: 22nd April 2020, Earth Day

TIME: 10:00am EAT

ONLINE: Register at <http://nawe.group/> for conference link

THEME: Deforestation, Disruption and Pandemics

This first event will focus on launching the model, inviting participants to "adopt" a Landscape and examining the link between deforestation, disruption and pandemics. Two respected Kenyan scientists will contribute expert analysis on the link between the degradation of nature, zoonosis (the risks of animal to human transmission of coronaviruses and others dangerous viruses) and why restoration matters now more than ever for degraded spaces. The aim therefore is stimulate dialogue, commit to restoration on landscapes where we live or work and envision a future that we would like to see for these landscapes. This will be open to the public for their engagement, questions and comments.

10 - 10:15AM - OPENING COMMENTS

- 10Mins - Opening Comments by Inger Andersen, ED – UNEP and other Institutional leaders and Partners of NAWE [Pre-Recorded Messages]
- 2 Mins – Why The Earth Science Café at the time of CoViD19 Lockdown – Musonda Mumba (UNEP)

10:15 - 11:30AM - FACILITATED DISCUSSIONS FOLLOW

- 5 Mins - Discussion about the Earth Science Cafe Model and Introduction to the Landscape Mentors and Guardians.
- 10Mins - Presentation by the Scientists
- 10mins - Discussion on the event theme.
- 20mins - Landscape Mentors and Guardians invited to share future visions for their Landscapes
- 10mins - Online audience invited to comment and discuss
- 5 Mins - Final comments and thanks

Event Facilitator - Dr Sheila Ochugboju

(Recording of the event will be circulated after the event and posted online)

OPENING COMMENTS BY INSTITUTIONAL PARTNERS OF NAWE

- Inger Andersen, Executive Director for UNEP – will do official opening of the Earth Science Café since NAWE is hosted by the agency (2 minutes)
- Juliette Biao, Head of Africa, UNEP
- Achim Steiner, Administrator and Head of UNDP
- Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, Executive Director, UN Women
- Qu Dongyu, Director General, FAO
- Head of Partners for Resilience/Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Center
- Wanjira Maathai, Board Chair, The Wangari Maathai Foundation.

THE SCIENTISTS

- Dr Sheila Cecily Ommeh, Senior Research Fellow - Animal Biotechnology Group, Institute For Biotechnology Research (IBR), Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT), Nairobi, Kenya.
- Mr Bernard Agwanda, Research Scientist & Curator of Mammals at National Museums of Kenya

Specific presentations will be made by two leading Kenyan scientists, Molecular Geneticist Dr Sheila Ommeh and Kenyan Zoologist Bernard Agwanda, about the link between deforestation, bats and Coronavirus. This is based on a study funded by Kenyan Government since 2015 under the National Museums of Kenya (NMK) and currently on-going. Contributions will also be invited from historians, social scientists or local elders taking part in the expert discussion before the event opens up to a question and answer session with the online audience.

THE CULTURE KEEPERS

- HRH The Nnabagereka, The Queen of Buganda, Sylvia Nagginda, Kingdom of Buganda (soon to be Patron of NAWE). Uganda – CONFIRMED.
- Professor Bettina Ng'weno, African American Studies, Cultural Anthropology, University of California, Davis (UCDavis), USA.

LANDSCAPE MENTORS

- Dr Musonda Mumba: Chief of Terrestrial Ecosystems at UN Environment in Nairobi, Founder of the Network of African Women Environmentalists, NAWE. Kenya
- Dr. Rose Mwebaza, the Climate Technology Center and Network (CTCN), NAWE Founding Member. Denmark
- Ms Thandie Mwape Villadsen, Humanitarian Diplomacy Coordinator at Netherlands Red Cross, Partners for Resilience Programme (PfR). South Africa
- Dr Sheila Ochugboju - Africa Knows Consultancy Practice. NAWE Founding Member. UK/Nigeria
- Ms Norah Nora Berrahmouni, Senior Forestry officer, Focal point for RAF, Climate Change/ Green Climate Fun, Secretary to the African Forestry and Wildlife Commission, FAO Regional Office for Africa (RAF). Ghana
- Ms Cécile Ndjebet, Founder and President of African Women's Network of Community Management of Forests (REFACOF) in Cameroon.
- Ms Elsie Attafua - UNDP Resident Representative Uganda. NAWE Founding Member. Uganda

LANDSCAPE GUARDIANS

- Vanessa Nakate: Young Environmental Activist, internationally recognised based in Uganda. UGANDA. CONFIRMED

- Siyabulela Siya Sokomani: South African Restoration Leader and also a youth Ambassador for AFR100 – SOUTH AFRICA. CONFIRMED
- Elizabeth Wathuti: Wangari Maathai Scholarship recipient, Young Environmental Activist, finalist UNEP Earth Champion 2019, Kenya. CONFIRMED.
- Allen Ottaro, Executive Director for Catholic Youth Network for Environmental Sustainability in Africa (CYNESA). Kenya. CONFIRMED.
- Oladosu Adenike a young Eco-Feminist working on the Restoration Agenda around Lake Chad and the Sahel – Nigeria. CONFIRMED.

AUDIENCE

The online audience would then be invited to a vibrant question and answer sessions. Some questions will be gathered before the event and final key messages will be developed from a live polling event based on three critical questions, which will become the basis of the future monitoring framework for the **Take Home Messages** would be:

- *What is the future we want for our landscape by 2030?*
- *How will we get there?*
- *What will you contribute to this challenge?*

OUTPUTS

- Videos, photography, audio files prepared for the launch event featuring different landscapes around the world.
- Inaugural Landscape Guardians and Mentors identified for and new partnerships forged for ongoing advocacy, investments and policy action during the decade of restoration.
- Earth Science Cafe platform and model launched for future engagement.
- Youth4NAWE and NAWE membership drive increased

INTENDED OUTCOMES

- Increased capacity for African Women and young people to join in the landscape restoration challenge.
- Enhanced networks to engage in informed global conversations about climate change and ecosystems conservation and restoration.

NAWE Partners

