



Invitation to the Webinar

African Initiated Churches as Actors for Ecological Sustainability in Limpopo, South Africa

to be held on the 5th of November 2021

The theological Faculty at University of Basel, the Faculty of Theology and Religion at University of Pretoria, the Research Programme on Religious Communities and Sustainable Development (RCSD) at Humboldt University Berlin and the University of Limpopo will host the **webinar 'African Initiated Churches as Actors for Ecological Sustainability in South Africa'** on the **5th of November 2021** at University of Pretoria. You are cordially invited to participate online in the highly interesting programme joining together the perspectives of church practices and sciences on climate change and ecological sustainability in South Africa.

South Africa and especially the province of Limpopo are adversely affected by climate change. Droughts and agricultural losses, as well as air and land pollution can be felt in the everyday lives of citizens. The webinar discusses to which extent religious communities and especially African Initiated Churches in the region are influential actors for ecological sustainability today and which future steps could be taken to increase environmental awareness and protection. The webinar features keynotes on eco-theologies, latest scientific insights on the effects of climate change on public health in South Africa and empirical research on the understanding of climate change in AICs in Limpopo and their ecological activities. Please find the programme outline attached on page 2 of this invitation.

Kindly register for participation and to receive the webinar link with Juliane Stork (juliane.stork@hu-berlin.de) or Luc Kabongo (kablut@gmail.com).

Best regards from the organizers

Prof. Andreas Heuser, Dr. Tanya van Wyk, Dr. Philipp Öhlmann, Prof. Jan Hlongwane, Dr. Luc Kabongo and Juliane Stork

Programme outline

(For all participants joining us from Europe: Kindly note that all times are indicated according to South African Standard Time, which equals UTC+2. This means the webinar will start at 08:10hrs Central European Time!)

PART I – Online webinar

Welcome Note Dr. Tanya van Wyk, University of Pretoria; Prof. Dr. Andreas Heuser, Universität Basel; Dr. Philipp Öhlmann, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin; Prof. Dr. Jan Hlongwane, University of Limpopo	09:10hrs
Keynote – African Eco-Theologies Prof. Dr. Ezra Chitando, University of Zimbabwe	09:30hrs
BREAK	10:45hrs
Keynote – The Impact of Climate Change on Health in Limpopo Shreya Shrikhande and Jacqueline Buehler, Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute	11:00hrs
Response – Theological Reflections from an African Pentecostal on the Impact of Climate Change on Health Dr. Mangaliso Matshobane, Community Church	11:45hrs
BREAK	12:30hrs
African Initiated Churches as Actors for Ecological Sustainability in Limpopo Dr. Luc Kabongo, University of Pretoria and Juliane Stork, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin	14:00hrs
Summary of the Morning and Words of Farewell Dr. Tanya van Wyk, Prof. Dr. Andreas Heuser, Dr. Philipp Öhlmann, Prof. Dr. Jan Hlongwane	14:45hrs
PART II – In-Person Workshop for AIC Leaders at the University of Pretoria	15:15hrs 120'