University of Nairobi

2ND REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON WOMEN, CHILDREN AND NATURE'S RIGHTS IN ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE IN AFRICA

DATE: THURSDAY, 22ND OCTOBER, 2026

TIME: 2:00 PM – 8:35 PM EAT

Conference Programme

Format: The programme opens with welcome and opening remarks, the official opening and a keynote address, followed by paper presentations: an online session (4 minutes per presenter) and three further sessions (5 minutes per presenter). Each session closes with faculty comments and reviews.

Schedule at a Glance

Time	Activity	Presenters
2:00 PM – 2:30 PM	Welcome, opening remarks, official opening and keynote	
2:30 PM – 3:50 PM	Online session: paper presentations	20
3:50 PM – 4:00 PM	Faculty comments and reviews	
4:00 PM – 4:55 PM	Session 1: paper presentations	11
4:55 PM – 5:00 PM	Faculty comments and reviews	
5:00 PM – 6:35 PM	Session 2: paper presentations	19
6:35 PM – 6:45 PM	Faculty comments and reviews	
6:45 PM – 7:00 PM	Prayer break	
7:00 PM – 8:10 PM	Session 3: paper presentations	14
8:10 PM – 8:20 PM	Faculty comments and reviews	
8:20 PM – 8:35 PM	Q & A and closing	

THURSDAY, 22ND OCTOBER 2026: CONFERENCE PROGRAMME			
Theme: *Promoting Sustainable Development by Greening, Decolonizing and Engendering Environmental Governance.*			
Time	**Presenter**	**Paper / Presentation**	**Affiliation**
Opening Session: *Welcome, Opening Remarks, Official Opening and Keynote Address*			
2:00–2:05	Welcome Remarks		Prof. Sarah Muringa Kinyanjui
2:05–2:15	Opening Remarks		Dr. Ngcime, Dr. Paida, Prof. Julie Stewart & Prof. Anne Hellum
2:15–2:20	Official Opening		Prof. Winifred Wambui Kamau
2:20–2:30	Keynote Address		Prof. Ruth Aura

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Online Session: *Paper Presentations (2:30–4:00 PM)*			
Session Moderators: *Prof. Julie Stewart & Prof. Sarah Muringa Kinyanjui*			
2:30–2:34	O1. Rufo Gano Jillo	*Women's Participation in Rangeland Governance in North Horr Sub-County: Challenges and Prospects*	University of Nairobi, Kenya
2:34–2:38	O2. Ireen Eterinah Mwenelupembe Ngomano	*Exploring Women's Participation in Community Forestry Management Structures: Doroba and Mphinga Villages, Karonga District*	Karonga District Council, Malawi
2:38–2:42	O3. Sekererani Fortune Baloyi	*Beyond Representation: Women's Substantive Participation in Community Forest Governance in Malawi*	University of Nairobi (WCNREG), Malawi
2:42–2:46	O4. Jacob Wilson Linde	*Pathways to Strengthen Rural Women's Leadership in Watershed Management Programmes in Malawi*	Total LandCare, Malawi
2:46–2:50	O5. Euphrasia Nazombe	*Climate Justice and Equity in Water Governance: Borehole-Based Interventions in Naiwale Village, Zomba*	University of Nairobi (WCNREG), Malawi
2:50–2:54	O6. Memory Makuyana	*Women as Environmental Rights-Holders: Participation, Natural Resource Governance and Access to Environmental Justice in Rural Zimbabwe*	University of Zimbabwe
2:54–2:58	O7. Maureen Victory Kachala	*Beyond Vulnerability: Women as Architects of Community Resilience in Disaster Risk Management in Malawi*	University of Nairobi (WCNREG), Malawi
2:58–3:02	O8. Mercy Wanjiru Njiriri	*From Olosho to County By-Laws: Integrating Maasai Indigenous Governance into Climate Change and Natural Resource Governance in Kajiado County*	University of Nairobi (WCNREG), Kenya
3:02–3:06	O9. Prof. Ucheawaji G. Josiah	*Re-centring African Indigenous Ecological Knowledge in Environmental Governance*	Babcock University, Nigeria
3:06–3:10	O10. Gloria Aigbadon et al.	*Women, Climate Change and Indigenous Rights: Examining State Responsibilities in Rural African Communities*	Nigeria
3:10–3:14	O11. Dr. Eleazar E. Ufomba	*Eco-Anxiety and Nature's Rights in Pauline Green Texts: A Biblical Response to Climate Change Governance*	Adeleke University, Nigeria

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3:14–3:18	O12. Dr. Ejii Promisen Nwaka	*One Health, Environmental Justice and the Rights of Creation: Reimagining Governance for Women and Children in Africa*	Babcock University, Nigeria
3:18–3:22	O13. Chinga Govhati	*Towards an African Model Framework for Inclusive Child Participation in Natural Resource Governance*	Zimbabwe
3:22–3:26	O14. Harriet Kaunda	*Examining Child Inclusivity and Responsiveness in Urban Green Spaces Governance, Blantyre City*	University of Nairobi (WCNREG), Malawi
3:26–3:30	O15. Funmilayo Precious Adejumo	*Environmental Degradation and the Erosion of Girlhood in the Niger Delta: An Ecofeminist Reading*	Adeleke University, Nigeria
3:30–3:34	O16. Dr. Martha Joda	*Mining and Health Implications on Women and Children in Plateau State, Nigeria*	Federal University Wukari, Nigeria
3:34–3:38	O17. Prosper Jambwa	*Heavy Metal Levels in Oreochromis niloticus from Lake Manyame, Lake Chivero and Mazowe Dam, Zimbabwe*	University of Zimbabwe
3:38–3:42	O18. Oluwatosin Kate Olanrewaju-Elufowoju	*Evaluating Policy Implementation: Regulation, Compliance and Enforcement of Solid Waste Management at Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife*	Redeemer's University, Nigeria
3:42–3:46	O19. Bridget Malita Kumwenda	*The Effects of Informal Urbanisation on Native Livelihoods and the Environment in Area 50, Lilongwe*	Independent Complaints Commission, Malawi
3:46–3:50	O20. Oridamilola Adaba Ijiwoye	*From Blue Economy to Blue Justice: Reimagining Ocean Governance for the Protection of Women, Children and Nature in Africa*	Redeemer's University, Nigeria
3:50–4:00 PM: Faculty Comments and Reviews			
Session 1 (4:00–5:00 PM): *Paper Presentations*			
Session Moderators: *Prof. Anne Hellum & Dr. Agnes Kemuma Meroka*			
4:00–4:05	1. Loice Ameyo	*Evaluating the Role of Olwisukha Language, Women's Indigenous Knowledge, and the Rights of Nature in Resolving Artisanal Mining Conflicts in Musoli Village, Kakamega County*	University of Nairobi (WCNREG)

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4:05–4:10	2. Emily Kamau	*When a Community Water Scheme Becomes a Formal Utility: The Case of the Murugi Mugumango Water Service Provider, Tharaka Nithi County, Kenya*	University of Nairobi (WCNREG)
4:10–4:15	3. Chimwemwe Mwenyekonde	*Wisdom from the Shore: Women's Traditional Knowledge and the Customary Governance of the Men-Only Mbenje Island Ecosystem*	University of Nairobi (WCNREG)
4:15–4:20	4. Ukhevi J. Samson	*Women Smallholder Farmers' Navigation of Formal, Informal and Customary Governance Systems for Climate-Adaptive Seed Selection in Navakholo Sub-County, Kakamega County, Kenya*	University of Nairobi (WCNREG)
4:20–4:25	5. Kondwani Molly Mkandawire	*Assessing the impacts of liquid waste pollution on children's well-being in flood prone areas: an analysis of political obstacles in the Lower Shire Valley, Malawi*	University of Nairobi (WCNREG)
4:25–4:30	6. Shantal Saru Lenjo	*Children at the Water's Edge: An Intersectional Analysis of Ocean Equity in Port Reitz, Mombasa*	University of Nairobi (WCNREG)
4:30–4:35	7. Mugambi Tamalid Kendi	*A Critical Assessment of Governance Gaps in Regulating High-Rise Apartments in Kilimani, Lavington and Westlands towards Safeguarding Ecological Integrity in Nairobi County*	University of Nairobi (WCNREG)
4:35–4:40	8. Urslah Wedoh Ngala	*Beyond Subsidies and Incentives: What About "Sweat Equity" in Clean Cooking Carbon Markets in Homa Bay County, Kenya?*	University of Nairobi (WCNREG)
4:40–4:45	9. Mtende Kamwangala	*Examining Sections 88 and 89 of the Water Resources Act 2013 in Addressing Recurring Sewage Pollution of the Likangala River, Zomba Malawi*	University of Nairobi (WCNREG)
4:45–4:50	10. Tsitsi Thelma Mashandudze	*Examining the Protection of Women's Rights to Land, Water and Agricultural Livelihoods in Goromonzi, Zimbabwe*	University of Nairobi (WCNREG)
4:50–4:55	11. Gloria Mwatiwamba	*Fragmented Environmental Governance in Mulanje District*	University of Nairobi (WCNREG)
4:55–5:00 PM: Faculty Comments and Reviews			
Session 2 (5:00–6:45 PM): *Paper Presentations*			

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Session Moderators: *Dr. Constance V. Wangeci Gikonyo & Dr. Ngcime*			
5:00–5:05	12. Joshua Nyamondo	*Children's Right to Clean and Healthy Air: Effectiveness of the Environmental Governance Framework in Ruaraka Sub-County, Nairobi City, Kenya*	University of Nairobi (WCNREG)
5:05–5:10	13. Tionge Chivunga	*Assessing the role of formal and informal laws in hindering rural women's access to safe and clean water in Nathenje, Lilongwe*	University of Nairobi (WCNREG)
5:10–5:15	14. Mitchelle Ruth Oduor	*Urban Rights of Nature as a Framework for Protecting Urban Forests from Encroachment: A Case Study of Karura Forest*	University of Nairobi (WCNREG)
5:15–5:20	15. Gracious Bello	*Exploring Institutional and social processes shaping adolescent aged 13-17 in climate adaptation planning in T/A Ngabu Chikwawa*	University of Nairobi (WCNREG)
5:20–5:25	16. Faina R. Mutikani	*Gendered Knowledge, Local Authority, and Biodiversity Governance: Women as seed custodians in Tsholotsho, Zimbabwe*	University of Nairobi (WCNREG)
5:25–5:30	17. Brian Otieno Deya	*Widowed Women's Participation in Climate-Smart Agriculture Governance, Kisumu County*	University of Nairobi (WCNREG)
5:30–5:35	18. Bernadette Ochieng	*Women in the ClimateWorX Mtaani river clean up programme in Kibra, Nairobi*	University of Nairobi (WCNREG)
5:35–5:40	19. Evaclaire Munyika Wamitu	*In Her Voice: Exploring Community Benefit Governance through Women's Lived Experiences at the Kipeto Wind Power Project, Kajiado County, Kenya*	University of Nairobi (WCNREG)
5:40–5:45	20. Thomson Vinjenje	*Children's play spaces in informal land markets: Perceptions of local chiefs and land buyers in Kasungu District*	University of Nairobi (WCNREG)
5:45–5:50	21. Sharon Mutende	*Women's Right to Meaningful Participation in Environmental Decision-Making: Flood Governance in Mukuru Kwa Reuben, Nairobi*	University of Nairobi (WCNREG)
5:50–5:55	22. Biasha Mohamed Khalifa	*Invisible Voices: Gendered Participation of Non-Speaking Autistic Children in Coastal Climate Governance across Plural Systems in Mombasa, Kenya*	University of Nairobi (WCNREG)

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5:55–6:00	23. Rosemary Chikafa-Chipiro	*Insecure Land Tenure and Women's Agency in Environmental Governance in Peri-urban Harare: A Study of the Magamba, Jadabvu and Bhagi Settlements*	University of Nairobi (WCNREG)
6:00–6:05	24. Linda Mtali	*An investigation into negotiations and navigations of smallholder women farmers across customary and formal law to gain access to indigenous seeds for climate adaptation in Zimbabwe*	University of Nairobi (WCNREG)
6:05–6:10	25. Carolyne Kanyiha Chege	*Women's Participation in Climate Adaptation Governance in Isiolo County*	University of Nairobi (WCNREG)
6:10–6:15	26. Joyce Kanze Nzovu	*Harnessing Young Women's Knowledge in Community-Level Waste Management to inform environmental governance policy formulation and implementation*	University of Nairobi (WCNREG)
6:15–6:20	27. Tsiidzai Matsika	*Archives that Flow: Mutare River as Witness to Ecological and Governance Entanglements in Mining-Affected Communities of Penhalonga, Zimbabwe*	University of Nairobi (WCNREG)
6:20–6:25	28. James Mussah Hamuzah	*Exploring the Potential of Digital Technologies to Encourage Women's Participation in Environmental Governance in Urban Zomba, Malawi*	University of Nairobi (WCNREG)
6:25–6:30	29. Harriet Onyiego	*Whose Voices Count? Women's Participation and Ecological Interests in the Menengai Geothermal ESIA, Nakuru County, Kenya*	University of Nairobi (WCNREG)
6:30–6:35	30. Gossy Mudambu	*Women's Participation in Climate Change Adaptation, Muzarabani District*	University of Nairobi (WCNREG)
6:35–6:45 PM: Faculty Comments and Reviews			
6:45–7:00 PM: Prayer Break			
Session 3 (7:00–8:35 PM): *Paper Presentations*			
Session Moderators: *Dr. Paida & Prof. Garton Kamchedzera*			
7:00–7:05	31. Kevin Muiruri	*Women, Sacred Springs and the Law: Reconciling Endorois Customary Water Governance with Kenya's Statutory Water and Climate Adaptation Framework in Baringo County*	University of Nairobi (WCNREG)
7:05–7:10	32. Abdinasir Elmi Mohamed	*Women's Experiences and Participation in Rangeland Resource Governance in Bute town, Wajir County*	University of Nairobi (WCNREG)

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7:10–7:15	33. Mascot Zinamo	*Negotiating Survival: Effluent Pollution Governance and Women's Livelihoods Adaptation in the Shoreline Communities of Lake Chivero, Zimbabwe*	University of Nairobi (WCNREG)
7:15–7:20	34. Blandina Grace Nankondwa	*Women Inclusion in Land Governance in Post-Cyclone Resettlement in Mulanje*	University of Nairobi (WCNREG)
7:20–7:25	35. Veronica Chipamaunga	*Women Informal Waste Recyclers and waste management Governance in the recent Harare's Public-Private Waste Management System: A Case Study of Geo Pomona*	University of Nairobi (WCNREG)
7:25–7:30	36. Priscilla Mtawe Mwafusi	*One Neuro-Health in Environmental Governance: A Neurolaw Analysis of Industrial Neurotoxicity and Children's Rights in Mombasa County, Kenya*	University of Nairobi (WCNREG)
7:30–7:35	37. Sithembiso Sweswe	*Exploring Formal and Informal Seed Governance in Indigenous Seed Commercialisation for Gender-Responsive Climate Adaptation and Rural Women's Economic Empowerment in Murereka Village, Makonde District*	University of Nairobi (WCNREG)
7:35–7:40	38. Nobukhosi Ngwenya	*Policy in Practice: A Critical Evaluation of Human-Wildlife Conflict Governance and Policy Evolution Bordering Hwange National Park, Zimbabwe*	University of Nairobi (WCNREG)
7:40–7:45	39. Chiedza Musakwa	*Assessing Solid waste Management Governance Gaps in Overspill Epworth, Zimbabwe: implications to women's access to information and participation in environmental decision making*	University of Nairobi (WCNREG)
7:45–7:50	40. Tinashe Muchuri	*Examining How Women's Small-Grain Seed Community Governance Contributes to Food Security in Mazvihwa Chiefdom*	University of Nairobi (WCNREG)
7:50–7:55	41. Chikondi Kibulo Banda	*Children's Participation in Environmental Decision-making: A Case of Liwonde-Matawale Road Project in Traditional Authority Nkula in Machinga District, Malawi*	University of Nairobi (WCNREG)

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7:55–8:00	42. Moses Mwema Ngaya	*Regenerating the River, Re-ordering the Valley: Environmental Reproductive Justice in the Nairobi River Regeneration Programme – A Socio-Legal Study of Adolescent Girls and Young Women in the Mathare-Korogocho River Corridor*	University of Nairobi (WCNREG)
8:00–8:05	43. Thokozani Amanda Chiwandira	*Women Farmers' Indigenous Knowledge in Village-Level Climate Adaptation Governance: A Study of Chiradzulu District*	University of Nairobi (WCNREG)
8:05–8:10	44. Yusra Abdi	*Women's Experiences and Participation in Flood Disaster Risk Management in Kibera, Nairobi, Kenya*	University of Nairobi (WCNREG)
8:10–8:20 PM: Faculty Comments and Reviews			
8:20–8:35 PM: Q & A and Closing			