

May 7, 2020 | 6-8pm EDT

Africa Climate Action Initiative Launch Programme



- 6:00pm** Aliénor Rougeot, Coordinator of Fridays for Future Toronto - Open, Welcome and Land Acknowledgment
- 6:03pm** Lyn Adamson, Co-Chair, ClimateFast – Setting the Scene, the Global Climate Crisis & Introduction Video
- 6:12pm** Claire Holloway Wadhvani, Executive Director, Canada Africa Partnership (CAP) Network – Welcome on Behalf of the CAP Network
- 6:19pm** Sarah Kamau, Coordinator, Africa Climate Action Initiative – Climate Change and Forced Migration in Eastern Africa
- 6:29pm** Dr. Isaac 'Asume' Osuoka, Executive Director, Social Action International – Climate Change and Conflict in the Lake Chad Region of West Africa
- 6:39pm** Vanessa Lanteigne, National Coordinator, Canadian Voice of Women for Peace – Climate Change Impacts on Women's & Girls Empowerment
- 6:44pm** Oyeyinka Oyelowo, Human Rights Lawyer & Board Member, Canadian Voice of Women for Peace – Climate Change, Agriculture, Health in Africa
- 6:52pm** Emmanuel Jal, International Recording Artist, Activist, Entrepreneur & Former Child Soldier – Musical Performance
- 7:00pm** Surveyor Efik, Former Coordinator, Climate Change Network Nigeria – Reality of Climate Change in West Africa
- 7:10pm** Katie Fettes, Director of Communications, The Rainmaker Enterprise – Climate-Smart Water Infrastructure & Agriculture for Food Security
- 7:17pm** Kwame Anane Frempong, Founder & Lead, Pan African Centre for Climate Policy – Policy and Education for Climate Action in Africa
- 7:24pm** Paul Stevers, Founder & President, Think Renewables Group – Increasing Food Security and Education in Africa Through Climate Action
- 7:34pm** Video from ACAI Partner – ChildFund Kenya – Tackling Waste Through Education, Collaboration and Hands-On Action in Kenya
- 7:37pm** Question and Answer Session
- 7:55pm** Toast and Conclusion

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Aliénor (Allie) Rougeot is an Economics and Public Policy student at the University of Toronto. She has been an environmental and human rights activist since the age of 10, and has been passionate about sustainability and climate justice since high school. In January 2019 she took on the role of lead coordinator for the Fridays for Future movement in Toronto. Fridays for Future is a worldwide movement where students have been striking and protesting to demand bold climate action from all levels of government. Allie has been recognized for her work by the Canadian Voice of Women for peace with the Kim Phuc Youth Award, Toronto Post Magazine in "20 under 20", Corporate Knights, and has received a Youth Climate Award at the Climate Arts Awards 2019. She is bilingual, french being her mother tongue, and lived in South of France before coming to Canada.



Lyn Adamon, Co-Chair of ClimateFast and Co-Chair of Canadian Voice of Women for Peace. She has been a life long advocate for peace and environmental justice. Lyn is a Quaker and a mother and grandmother.



Claire Holloway Wadhwani has been the Executive Director of the CAP Network since 2010. She brings over 16 years' experience working with NGOs in Canada, East Africa and India focused on reducing inequality, advancing food security, promoting health, and livelihoods (with a focus on vocational training, entrepreneurship and, more recently, climate-smart enterprise development). Claire has a passion for grassroots participation and the efficacy of community-based initiatives as both a means of advancing community development goals and effectively engaging with community partners.



Sarah Kamau is a change agent and social entrepreneur. She is passionate about championing for the rights of the less privileged through advocacy and community development. While living in Kenya, she graduated with a Bachelors of Education (Arts) from the University of Nairobi and worked in various national and international organizations in refugee camps and in the humanitarian field. Through these experiences, Sarah has witnessed firsthand loss of lives and livelihoods, and forced migration due to climate change. This inspired her to start up the Africa Climate Action Initiative.

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Dr. Isaac 'Asume' Osuoka is the Director of Social Action International - an organization promoting resource democracy, climate justice, human rights and livelihoods of marginalized communities in West and Central Africa. Social Action is leading advocacy about the links of climate change and impoverishment, displacement and conflict in the Lake Chad Basin and supports the integration of emergency responses and climate change adaptation measures. Osuoka previously served as Coordinator of Oilwatch Africa, a network of organizations supporting communities impacted by the petroleum industry in the continent. He has participated in several international conferences and has been a panellist at the United Nations' Expert Group Meeting on the Use of Non-Renewable Resource Revenues for Sustainable Local Development. Osuoka holds a doctorate in Environmental Studies from York University in Canada where he has been a member of faculty and visiting scholar.



Vanessa Lanteigne has worked in a variety of roles in non-profits after completing her studies from the University of Victoria in political science. In Tanzania, she worked at a children's rights organization whose main areas were to improve gender equality by preventing child marriage, unwanted teenage pregnancy and female genital cutting/mutilation. In Ghana, she trained over a thousand youth in employment and entrepreneurship programs and helped roll out the first Innovation Fund which was then replicated in five other countries to give entrepreneurs seed capital. In Canada, she has worked and volunteered with multiple organizations in the environmental, political and youth education fields.



Oyeyinka Oyelowo is a human rights lawyer advocating to help individuals access justice and fight injustice at work. She has a penchant for effective advocacy, using all of her skills, knowledge, and experience to advocate for workers' legal and other interests. She has worked with the Ontario Justice Education Network and developed, coordinated, and delivered justice education information and programs to students and others. Yinka continues to be involved in social security initiatives, and currently sits on the Board of Directors for the Voice of Women for Peace.



Emmanuel Jal started his life as a child soldier in the war-torn region of Southern Sudan in the early 1980s. He was eventually rescued by a British aid worker and brought to Kenya where he overcame a huge number of struggles to become a successful and acclaimed recording artist and peace ambassador. Now based in Toronto, Canada Emmanuel has released six award nominated studio albums & has collaborated by performed alongside Lauryn Hill, Xavier Rudd, Peter Gabriel, Nelly Furtado, Ed Sheeran, Alicia Keys and more! Emmanuel speaks and performs from high-level forums to school classrooms about reconciliation and peace. He co-starred with Reese Witherspoon in the motion picture *The Good Lie*, is a recipient of the Vaclav Havel International Prize for Creative Dissent 2018, Desmond Tutu Reconciliation Award 2017, The Hunt Humanitarian Award and others. Emmanuel is also the creator of Jal Gwa, the founder of Gwa Africa charity with supports South Sudanese refugee youth education, and the creator and director of *My Life is Art*. Please welcome Emmanuel.

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Surveyor Efik is an Environmentalist and a Climate Change Specialist, with experience of well over 10-years as former National Coordinator of Climate Change Network Nigeria – a national civil society coalition in Nigeria. He is a Fellow of the Centre for Development Innovation of the Wageningen University and Research in the Netherlands, a Fellow of DiploFoundation Institute, the Climate Action Network International and the UN-Habitat's World Urban Campaign. Efik served as a civil society representative in Nigeria's National Negotiating Team for the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (2009-2011), the National Inter-Ministerial Committee on Climate Change (2009 –2011) and National Technical Committee on REDD+ (2010-2014). He is a renowned Speaker on various issues of climate change, including at the 64th Annual UNDP Conference in Bonn, Germany.



Katie Fettes is the co-founder and Director of Communications at the Rainmaker Enterprise, a non-profit organization dedicated to implementing climate-smart water infrastructure in regions impacted by conflict and climate change. Katie has a masters degree in Conflict, Security & Development and previously worked with the Olive Branch for Children in Tanzania.



Kwame Anane Frempong is the Founder and Lead of the Pan African Centre for Climate (PACC) Policy. Mr. Frempong is also founder of Kwakaf International a company with contacts and affiliates across Africa, North America, Asia, Europe and the Middle East that provides services in Education Consulting and West Africa Market Entry Solutions and Tourism Development. He holds a Post Graduate Certificate in Public Health from University of Roehampton, London UK. Kwame is a Serial Entrepreneur and Climate Solution Enthusiasts with over 15 years of experience in Africa development focused policy formulation, project management and organizational development and coordination. Kwame has worked for the Government of Ghana Youth & Employment Ministry. He was part of the United Nations Interagency Expert Group Meeting on Goals and Targets for Monitoring the Progress of Youth in the Global Economy New York, May 2007. In 2016, Cuso International appointed Kwame in a capacity as an Organizational Development and Coordination Specialist to work on a Global Affairs Canada funded YOULEAD Project in Calabar, Cross River State, Nigeria.



Paul Stevers is a Canadian engineer, inventor, and the founder of several for-profit and non-profit businesses, including Impax Incorporated, Bio-Oxidation Inc., and Oxidation Technologies Inc. After the tragic events that unfolded on September 11, 2001, Paul decided to change direction and explore how to best help counter violent extremism by combining available technologies and renewable resources, initially in Afghanistan and now also in parts of Africa. In 2004, Paul founded CharityHelp International to facilitate long-term financial support for children in developing countries. In 2010, he founded Think Renewables, Inc. in the US to develop a series of computer-related products that are designed to operate in challenging environments such as Afghanistan and parts of Africa and in 2014, he founded Think Renewables Group. In 2019, he co-founded Climate Solutions Advancement Network (ClimateSAN), which facilitates investment in Climate Solutions and creates multimedia campaigns to encourage climate action. ClimateSAN is supporting the Africa Climate Action Initiative's effort to increase food security and education in Africa, especially for girls.

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